



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/43/906 ✓  
S/20305  
30 November 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-third session  
Agenda items 72, 129, 133 and 136  
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN  
STATES  
REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE  
DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
AGAINST THE RECRUITMENT, USE, FINANCING  
AND TRAINING OF MERCENARIES  
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF  
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-third year

Letter dated 23 November 1988 from the Permanent Representative  
of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from His Excellency  
Mr. Abdul Wakil, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan  
addressed to Your Excellency (see annex).

I would greatly appreciate if this letter could be circulated as an official  
document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 72, 129, 133 and 136, and of  
the Security Council.

(Signed) Shah Mohammad DOST  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan  
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Republic of Afghanistan as a member of the Organization of the United Nations has consistently expressed its adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. We attach great significance to the mandate bestowed upon the United Nations by the sovereign nations of the world. The present international situation makes it most imperative for this world assembly to unite efforts through an international mechanism to maintain international peace and security, to take effective collective measures to remove the existing threat to world peace, to find peaceful means for the settlement of international and regional disputes that might lead to a breach of peace. Furthermore, this delicate situation makes it imperative for the States to unite and resolutely embark on specific actions to achieve international co-operation in solving problems of economic, social, cultural and humanitarian character.

While fully recognizing Your Excellency's role and endeavours as the Secretary-General of the United Nations in safeguarding and realizing the historic principles of this Organization, and with due respect and gratitude to your role in finding a peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, I hereby communicate to you the following proposal of the Republic of Afghanistan, aimed at bringing an end to the fratricidal war and at establishing permanent peace in Afghanistan and in the region. In our opinion, this proposal can also take into consideration the interest of the neighbouring countries and that of the big Powers.

With due acknowledgment of our responsibility to establish peace and stability and to prevent any future armed conflict in Afghanistan and in this region, while recognizing the geostrategic and geopolitical character of Afghanistan and the need to rebuild Afghanistan's economy, which has been greatly damaged by war, the Republic of Afghanistan proposes that an international conference on Afghanistan's neutrality and demilitarization be held under the aegis of the United Nations. This proposal was recently declared in the joint session of the parliament by President Najibullah of Afghanistan.

It is our profound understanding that the conclusion of a treaty on neutrality and demilitarization of Afghanistan will be an historical contribution to the safeguarding of peace and stability in Afghanistan and in South-West Asia in general and that furthermore, Afghanistan, as Switzerland and Austria in Europe, can become a centre of stability in this part of Asia. To this end, Afghanistan believes that the participants in such a conference should be Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries and the international guarantors of the Geneva Agreements, i.e., the United States of America and the Soviet Union.

This being a historic decision, the Government of Afghanistan considers that all sections of the Afghan nation today participating in conflict should be involved. To this end, the speedy formation of a broad-based coalition government of Afghanistan is a vital step.

At the same time, we are of the opinion that, after the determination of the neutral and demilitarized status of Afghanistan through a treaty, in the second stage a vast international conference should be convened with the participation of different countries, governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, different economical, financial and international monetary institutions where they can deliberate upon the modalities of economic assistance for the reconstruction of the war-ridden economy of Afghanistan and review humanitarian issues in Afghanistan. This can also have a significant and positive impact on the already existing extraordinary economic and humanitarian assistance programme of the United Nations relating to Afghanistan.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the peace-loving people of Afghanistan, while once again wishing to evaluate highly your role and endeavours in restoring peace in Afghanistan, believe that your contribution and efforts towards convening of this international conference on neutrality and demilitarization of Afghanistan under the aegis of the United Nations will be yet another step towards peace in Afghanistan, in the region and in the world at large.

I assure Your Excellency of my Government's fullest co-operation.

Abdul WAKIL  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Afghanistan

-----