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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF SOUTH AFRICA
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 20 March 1984 from the Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward a copy of the final documents of the Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta from 26 to 30 January 1984, with the request that these be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 18, 31, 33 and 74 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. KRISHNAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations

* A/39/50.

DECLARATION OF THE JAKARTA CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS
OF INFORMATION OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In pursuance of the decision of the Seventh Conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi from March 7 to 12, 1983, the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries met in Jakarta from 26 to 30 January, 1984, in order to consolidate and develop mutual cooperation among Non-Aligned Countries in conformity with the objectives and principles of the New International Information and Communication Order, to assess the impact of technological developments in this field and to determine the criteria for, and proceed with the constitution of the Inter-Governmental Council which would serve till the next Conference of Ministers of Information.

2. (a) The following members of the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries took part in the Conference:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, P.L.O., Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen Arab Republic, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

(b) The following attended as observers:

(i) The following countries:

Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Mexico.

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(ii) The following organizations:

League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity, Pan African Congress of Azania, AAPSO.

(c) The following attended as guests:

Austria, Dominican Republic, Finland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Holy See, FAO, United Nations Committee on Decolonization, United Nations Council for Namibia, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIDO, WHO, ITU, Chairman of the Non-Aligned Countries News Agencies Pool (NANAP) and Chairman of the Broadcasting Organizations of Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC).

3. At its inaugural session, the Ministers of Information were privileged to hear an inspiring keynote address delivered by His Excellency Mr. Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia. In his address, President Soeharto called on member nations to rely on their own strength and build an information and communication system to further unify the Non-Aligned Movement and to enable its members to work shoulder to shoulder. He further called on the Conference to take steps to create a more balanced flow of news between the developed and developing nations by catching up with modern technology and information management.

4. The address of the President of Indonesia was welcomed by all participants as a significant contribution to the deliberations and to the final success of the Conference. The Conference decided unanimously to adopt the address as its official document.

5. The Ministers received a message from the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, Her Excellency Madame Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India. In her message, the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement declared the genuine desire of the Non-Aligned Countries to foster friendship and closer cooperation with both blocs. Friendship and cooperation demanded a better balanced flow of information and that was why Non-Aligned Countries had pioneered and effectively promoted the cause of a New International Information and Communication Order.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi further said that the developing nations could learn more from one another's experience than from that of affluent societies. For this purpose, the Non-Aligned Movement had devised useful instru-

ments such as NANAP and BONAC, through which its member countries could exchange information. Despite considerable organizational and financial burdens, the arrangements had contributed to the decolonization of information.

6. The Ministers expressed their deep appreciation for the message of the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement and unanimously decided to adopt it as an official document of the Conference.

7. The Ministers took note with satisfaction of the report by the Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Council on the activities it has undertaken, and expressed their appreciation of its work in establishing a framework for cooperation at Georgetown in May 1981, and the practical measures of cooperation set out in the Programme of Action adopted at Valletta in June 1982.

8. The Ministers evaluated the recent developments of the cooperation among the Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries in the field of information toward the establishment of a new, more just and more effective international information and communication order. They also made a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for cooperation in the field of information including the News Agencies Pool, the Broadcasting Organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries, strengthening of the national agencies, exchange programmes of media representatives, the promotion of the development of communication infrastructures, tariff rates, training needs, print media, film media and other related questions.

II. REVIEW OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION

9. The Ministers of Information stressed that the right to communicate is a fundamental human right and that information is a vital resource, central to the exercising of political, economic and cultural power.

They expressed their continuing concern that the international system of communication and information dissemination serves to perpetuate the dominance of world trade, commerce and exchange by the developed nations.

The Non-Aligned and other developing countries are adversely affected by the fact that the international mass communication media are dominated by the transnational news agencies and corporate structures which exercise a

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monopoly over the world's major communication media, and consequently command a monopoly over the international distribution of the news.

This has given rise to imbalance quantitatively, in the flow of news between developed and developing countries and among developing countries and, qualitatively, in the interpretation of news to the disadvantage of the developing countries.

The Ministers, therefore, considered it essential for the Non-Aligned and other developing countries to rectify this situation in order to ensure the decolonization of information and to advance the establishment of the New International Information and Communication Order.

10. The Ministers of Information reiterated that the decolonization of information is a central factor in the struggle of the Non-Aligned Countries to establish the New International Information and Communication Order (NIICO).

They agreed that the promotion of international dialogue and understanding would be greatly facilitated by a diversification of sources of information and the elimination of inequalities in the international flow of information.

11. The Ministers agreed that the persistent and pervasive imbalance in the international flow of information demands closer cooperation among the media and information services of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries. They further agreed that areas of cooperation must be consistently expanded to cover other means of mass communication.

12. The Ministers agreed that information and communication in the Non-Aligned Countries should serve to support development programmes and priorities of member countries, while respecting the principles of freedom, national independence, sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

In this regard, the Ministers also agreed that each country must be able to develop its own public communications policies and systems, free from external interference or intervention, in accordance with its history, its social values, its cultural traditions, its political and development priorities.

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III. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION

13. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction that the Non-Aligned countries were successfully contributing to the dissemination of more accurate and objective international news coverage and reporting of the Non-Aligned countries by the implementation of the Action Programme and by taking new initiatives directed towards cooperation amongst themselves. In this connection, the Conference noted the endorsement by the Valletta meeting of the IGC for the Coordination of Information and Mass Media among Non-Aligned Countries of the recommendation of the Expert Group meeting, held in New Delhi, February 22 and 23, 1982.

14. The Ministers welcomed recognizable progress in the development of national information media of Non-Aligned countries on the basis of self-reliance and close mutual cooperation.

15. Bearing in mind the significance of planned activities in accelerating the process of decolonization of information, the Ministers called upon member countries to actively participate, as their means permit, in the fulfilment of the Action Programme.

16. Having considered the fact that most Non-Aligned Countries have suffered from inadequate and inappropriate information and communication infrastructures inherited from the colonial era, the Ministers agreed on the need for Non-Aligned countries to free themselves from dependence upon transnational news agencies by cooperating in the reorganization and development of their communication infrastructures. They also expressed the need to share more of their experiences in mass media activities by organizing the exchange of visits of news agency specialists and exchanging radio and TV programmes, films and books. By this means the Ministers expressed the hope that such exchanges would enhance the awareness of mutual accomplishments.

17. The Ministers felt it would be desirable to explore the possibilities of creating a mechanism to give member countries access to information about technologies and help them select and acquire equipment required for upgrading of communication and media technologies.

18. The Ministers of Information stressed that the present dependence of their information and communication infrastructures and systems on those of

the industrialized countries continued to constitute a serious threat to the preservation of their respective cultures and indigenous life-styles. As a consequence, they emphasized the urgency of joint action directed towards improving their information systems and infrastructures and establishing new facilities in countries where they do not exist.

The Ministers noted especially the need to strengthen the access of member countries to communication satellites, modern electronic information systems, informatics and advanced communication facilities including their ability to monitor and influence transnational utilization of such facilities.

They also stressed the importance of efforts currently in progress under the auspices of UNESCO to promote bonds of friendship among people based on equality and respect for their cultural, political and economic identities.

19. The Ministers emphasised the importance of the principles of collective self-reliance and mutual cooperation being followed by Non-Aligned countries which constitutes a concrete contribution on their part towards correcting the imbalances of the international flow of information and disparities in communication capabilities and establishing equal and democratic relations in this field.

IV. RELATIONS WITH UN SYSTEM

20. The Ministers of Information emphasized the need for the Non-Aligned Countries to coordinate their activities at the United Nations to pave the way for the implementation of the principles of the New International Information and Communication Order (NIICO).

The Ministers agreed that this effort would constitute an effective instrument in redressing current imbalances in the international flow of information and communication.

21. The Ministers agreed that the international organizations within the UN system must intensify their efforts to support the rapid development of national information systems and infrastructures in the Non-Aligned Countries and that every effort must be made by the Non-Aligned Countries to achieve this objective.

The Ministers agreed to support the UN-DPI in the field of information,

particularly in expanding publication and audio visual coverage of facts and of developments pertaining to the question of Palestine and the struggle of the Palestinian people to attain and exercise its inalienable rights under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of its people.

The Ministers found it necessary to contribute towards increasing awareness by the international community of the economic and social burdens borne by the Palestinian people as a result of the continued Israeli occupation and its negative effects on the economic development of the West Asian region as a whole.

22. The Ministers recognized and expressed their appreciation of the positive role played by UNESCO in helping the Non-Aligned Countries to establish the NIICO, to the UNDP for providing technical assistance to the Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries for the improvement of their information infrastructures, and to the IPDC for the implementation of projects submitted by the Non-Aligned Countries in support of the development of information and communication infrastructures and systems.

The Ministers further requested UNESCO and its IPDC, the UNDP and ITU to continue their invaluable assistance to the Non-Aligned Countries.

23. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the successful coordination displayed by the Non-Aligned Countries in their activities in the Committee on Information of the UN as well as at UNESCO, and its IPDC and ITU. The Ministers agreed that these efforts have resulted in a significant contribution to advancing the struggle for the NIICO.

The Ministers called upon all members of the Non-Aligned Movement to intensify their joint efforts to support completion of the study on the policies and activities of the UN in the field of information by the Committee on Information of the UN. The Ministers also called for support of the IPDC for increased assistance in the development of regional and national information and communication infrastructures, systems and training programmes. In this regard, the Ministers recalled Resolution 37/94 of the General Assembly on the IPDC.

24. The Ministers expressed their regret at the efforts to erode the universality of and denigrate the United Nations System, UNESCO in particular.

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This is against the interests and rights of the Movement of Non-Aligned and developing countries. In this regard, the Ministers expressed their confidence in UNESCO, its Director General and the Secretariat. They supported UNESCO's Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989), the Programme and Budget (1984-85) and in particular Major Programme III (Communication in the Service of Man) adopted by consensus. They reiterated that active cooperation with UNESCO is needed to sustain its objectives and their aspirations.

The Ministers agreed that all countries, particularly members of NAM, should not spare any effort in support of UNESCO in order to ensure the full implementation of its programme, especially in times when there are pressures to force the said organization to submit to particular interests.

V. ACTION PROGRAMMES ON MEDIA COOPERATION

25. Recalling the decision of the Seventh Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries which commended the work undertaken by the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) and the Broadcasting Organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC), the Ministers urged these agencies to continue their efforts in support of the decolonization of information and in countering tendentious and inaccurate reporting directed against the Non-Aligned Countries and National Liberation Movements.

The Ministers recommended that members of the Movement encourage their mass media to increase news coverage and information dissemination of and about member countries.

They also recommended that pool members increase contact with end-users in an effort to achieve better uses of their material.

26. The Ministers noted the pervasive hostile propaganda by developed industrialized countries, especially through the electronic media, against Non-Aligned Countries and the Non-Aligned Movement as a whole. They called on member countries to refrain from permitting the exploitation of their media facilities for such purposes.

The Ministers expressed their solidarity with any Non-Aligned Country which is exposed to a sustained media campaign against it and resolved to

help such a member country through all possible means in the ITU and other international arenas.

27. The Conference of Ministers of Information took note of the proposal to establish a fund for Media Development in the Non-Aligned Countries and decided that this proposal be studied in detail by the IGC, to be presented to the next Conference of Ministers for consideration and adoption.

28. The Ministers, while expressing their satisfaction with the final report of the Expert Group Meeting of the IGC, New Delhi, February 22 and 23, 1982, adopted the following Action Programme on Media Cooperation:

1. NEWS AGENCIES POOL

- (1) To implement the Tunis Action Programme calling for mobilization of resources for creating and strengthening infrastructural facilities for news agencies, the Coordinating Committee of the Pool is listing countries in need of such help, while also indicating the impediments to the creation of properly equipped news agencies, studies might be undertaken in stages covering the basic requirements for setting up news agencies and for their progressive participation in the Pool. These studies could provide the basis for securing international assistance as well as cooperation on the principles of collective self-reliance and mutual help within the movement.
- (2) The Coordinating Committee might draw up complementary programmes of seminars and workshops on a regional and inter-continental basis to exchange experience and discuss common professional problems; a budget might be drawn up and assistance sought from IPDC and UNESCO, and UNDP for funds to organize such seminars and workshops.
- (3) The Coordinating Committee of the Pool, in cooperation with BONAC and other interested agencies, might organize annual international seminars to assess the potentials for growth of the media in the Non-Aligned Countries and to identify the factors inhibiting such growth; it would be desirable for these seminars to have the participation of, not only news agencies, but of the print and electronic media. This would help in a detailed assessment of the

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inadequacies of the existing network for information exchange and the possibilities of intermedia cooperation within countries and within the Non-Aligned community. The seminars should be held at national and regional level to strengthen inter-media cooperation and to ensure that Pool material gains wider acceptance within the national frontiers.

- (4) The Coordinating Committee of the Pool might encourage participating agencies, in particular the redistribution centres, to provide their services in as many languages as were enumerated in the Pool Statute. For this purpose, the Committee should offer help in preparing feasibility studies.
- (5) The Monitoring Group set up by the Coordinating Committee of the Pool should energetically review the actions that had been taken so far in the fulfillment of various decisions made by the Pool since 1976, to find means to speed up the flow of news, improve quality and provide feedback on the use made of Pool news so that remedial editorial and administrative action might be taken to enhance acceptability of Pool news.
- (6) The Pool might consider establishing a network connecting the main centres of the Pool members with a view to economizing on transmission costs and to expediting the dispatch of news reports. Satellite as well as cable link-ups should be established by as many Pool members as possible. The forthcoming General Conference of the Pool to be held in Havana, in 1985, will be a good occasion to analyze the fulfillment of the Action Programme adopted by the Third General Assembly in Tunis and this Conference of Ministers of Information.

2. BONAC (Broadcasting Organizations of Non-Aligned Countries)

- (1) For opening up new perspectives and possibilities for cooperation in this sector, the Conference proposes the following action programmes for cooperation among Broadcasting Organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries:
 - (a) Based on the experience gained so far on the activities of

BONAC, it appeared necessary to frame formal arrangements among the participating broadcasting organizations to exchange and broadcast programmes on a regular basis. For this, it might become necessary to set apart slots for use of exchange programmes and co-productions.

- (b) To share resources and know-how for planning and undertaking co-production, highlighting the problems and issues of relevance to Non-Aligned and developing countries.
- (c) To encourage bilateral and multilateral arrangements by members of the Non-Aligned Movement and other developing countries for the purpose of setting up regional broadcasting services for the dissemination of information on current events as well as political, economic, social, scientific and cultural programmes of direct interest to the Non-Aligned Movement and other developing countries of their respective regions.
- (d) A development linked programme should be evolved with appropriate technology which could involve the existing institutes of software development and production techniques.
In effect, the primary purpose of development of television capabilities should be to safeguard independence instead of unconsciously perpetuating or enhancing dependence on alien resources for software.

(2) Training

- (a) on-the-job training should be promoted at bilateral and later extended to sub-regional level;
- (b) broadcasting personnel should be trained in order to enable national broadcasting organizations to meet their growing needs, and to assume their role in the realization of the common aims of achieving self-reliance;
- (c) Indonesia announced during the Conference the availability of places at its Multi-Media Training Centre for the training of radio and TV personnel of the Non-Aligned Countries. Other

BONAC countries also have offered places in their training institutions. These include Cuba, Nigeria, Yugoslavia, India, Algeria, Egypt, Bangladesh and Malaysia.

(3) Cooperation in the Field of Radio and TV Programmes

- (a) Televisions news exchange should embrace not only "hard news" but should also cover a wide range of "soft news" or timeless stories on cultural, social and economic development, in view of the fact that Non-Aligned Countries have still much to learn from each other in these fields.
- (b) The exchange of cultural and sports programmes between broadcasters should be encouraged and undertaken on a reciprocal basis, free of charge as far as possible.
- (c) An exchange of information is needed, for the establishment of a coordinated exchange system, which should include information on facilities available within each member organization.
- (d) Collaborative efforts should be undertaken in the exchange of Radio and TV programmes and expertise as well as in the use of advanced technology.
- (e) BONAC may continue to organize Radio-Television Festivals especially for programmes produced by members.
- (f) BONAC may continue to arrange Pool coverage of international events of special significance to the Non-Aligned Movement.
- (g) BONAC may undertake the pooling of documentary films submitted by members.

(4) Coordinating Centres

BONAC may study the desirability of setting up coordinating centres for the collection of information and exchange of programmes and other related activities.

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(5) **Satellite Tariffs**

BONAC may collaborate with ITU and UNESCO to realize the aspirations of members for the lowering of tariff rates, and to prevail on members to persuade their national telecommunications authorities to achieve this aim.

(6) **International Cooperation**

(a) BONAC may strengthen its cooperation with UNESCO and regional broadcasting unions since it is a realistic and effective way to implement the aspirations for the development of the broadcasting organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries.

(b) BONAC may liaise with UNESCO and IPDC in getting assistance to implement projects by its members.

(7) **Radio Frequencies**

BONAC may pursue vigorously its Action Programme regarding the equitable distribution of radio frequencies.

3. TRAINING NEEDS

(1) The needs of training personnel in the news agencies, radio, television stations and media training institutions within the Non-Aligned Countries need assessing. The member countries of the Pool and BONAC should indicate their respective needs in this regard for the next three years.

(2) There is a need for effective cooperation among the different training centres available in Non-Aligned Countries. Exchange of training material including books, syllabi and other material as well as exchange of faculty members to bring about improvement and uniformity in standards should be stressed.

(3) The training institutions should organize seminars and discussions among the news agencies, the newspapers or broadcast media on such topics that would help improve the quality of news and the rate of acceptance of the news items by the media.

- (4) The existing training centres should provide appropriate training courses to personnel working for news agencies and in the broadcast media, i.e. radio and television in the gathering of news and in preparation of news for publication and broadcast purposes. The training centres, in addition, should offer to their students appropriate courses of orientation on the ideals and philosophy of the NIICO.
- (5) The programme of technical training should seek to familiarize personnel in the broadcast media with the use of new skills and modern communication equipment. Such training courses might be updated from time to time.
- (6) Documentation centres might be located as part of the training centres wherever they exist, since these training centres should also aim at giving orientation courses in the concept of news relevant to the Non-Aligned Countries. The documentation centres might work in close cooperation with and get the assistance from the Documentation Centre of Sri Lanka.
- (7) The training institutions might create a nucleus of professionals of their own or under the auspices of the Pool to facilitate exchange of experience, teaching material and to plan joint production of textbooks and other relevant material for training. This nucleus should constantly keep under review the syllabus and adopt or modify the syllabus to suit the needs which might change from time to time with technological advances.
- (8) On-the-job training programmes should be promoted within the sphere of bilateral arrangements which could be extended at later stages to cover inter-regional and inter-continental arrangements as well.
- (9) The training of broadcasting personnel in the respective member countries should be encouraged to enable broadcasting organizations to meet their growing needs of skilled personnel, and in order to place these countries in a better position to assume their roles in the realization of the common aim of Non-Aligned Countries which is self-reliance in the conduct of their own affairs.

4. TARIFF RATES

The Ministers recalled the directive of the Seventh Conference of Heads of States or Government in New Delhi in 1983, to lower communication tariffs and confirmed accordingly, that (i) tariff concessions for print and electronic media be introduced in 1984, (ii) such concessions in the first instance, be extended to member countries and (iii) a joint meeting be held of Ministers of Information and Ministers of Telecommunications of countries hosting redistribution centres of NANAP to work on a practical proposal in conformity with the text in "Annex 1" of this Declaration (DOC.NAMI/Conf.1/Res.9)

5. PRINT MEDIA

(1) Newsprint

- (a) Intensify inter-regional cooperation within the Non-Aligned Countries themselves for locating and exploiting suitable alternative sources of raw materials and for the preparation of feasibility studies for production as well as collaboration in setting up joint ventures for increasing the availability of newsprint.
- (b) Investigative studies such as holding seminars, surveys and joint discussions could be undertaken if necessary with UNESCO's assistance on a timebound framework to assess the potentialities of member countries, on the availability of raw materials, development of appropriate technology for newsprint production, investment possibilities and sharing of expertise, and also to increase the production capacity of newsprint mills wherever they exist in the Non-Aligned Countries.

(2) Cooperation among Newspapers

To develop activities among journalists, newspapers, printers, and publishers of the Non-Aligned Countries through the creation of an ad-hoc group in the IGC, on bilateral, regional and multi-lateral level contributing to the promotion of cooperation in the field of the

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print media. Encourage direct cooperation between the newspapers, periodicals, etc. of Non-Aligned Countries in the exchange of journalists, features, articles, documentation, etc.

(3) Book Production

- (a) The Members of the Non-Aligned Movement should encourage production of books on the communication media and matters of common interest.
- (b) The programme of book production could be undertaken on a planned priority basis and the work shared among member countries having necessary expertise and resources. A committee might be set up to identify centres of training in member countries where such activity could be initiated.
- (c) Similarly, for the purpose of exchange of information on various aspects of communication, documentation centres need to be established on a regional basis, at least one in each of the four continents of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. These centres might collect and redistribute among Non-Aligned Countries information regarding the present state of communication and future directions of growth of communication activities. A beginning could be made by expanding the activities of such documentation centres which already exist among the member countries.

The Ministers agreed on the desirability of compiling and publishing a book of basic facts and data on the Non-Aligned Countries for the use of media personnel.

6. FILM MEDIUM

- (1) Film Festivals in Non-Aligned and developing countries as well as Film Weeks for particular countries might be organized in other countries, coinciding preferably with the meetings of Non-aligned bodies.
- (2) Cooperation and exhibition of films including instructional films among the member countries might be encouraged.

- (3) The existing commercial channels in various countries might be persuaded to exhibit more films of the Non-Aligned and developing countries. In respect of documentaries and newsreels, advantage might be taken of the greater scope for collaboration in the non-commercial circuits of Non-Aligned Countries.
- (4) BONAC might be requested to include films within its sphere of activities.
- (5) Non-Aligned Countries having film (cinema) institutes are invited to "encourage" admission of students from other Non-Aligned Countries. UNESCO and UNDP were invited to support such services by all the possible means.

29. Having adopted the Action Programmes on Media Cooperation, the Ministers entrusted the IGC with the task of working out the details of the programmes to cover specific rules to make the mechanism of cooperation work.

30. Recalling the decision of the Summit Meeting in New Delhi on the problems of the geostationary orbit and the regulation of the electronic magnetic spectrum, the Ministers, after giving careful consideration to the implication for national sovereignty and economic development of developing countries posed by these problems, decided to request BONAC to undertake a thorough study of various relevant aspects of these problems and submit its report to the first IGC Meeting to be held following its reconstitution.

31. The Conference further took note of, and welcomed the preparations which were now in progress for the convening of the Second Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics (SPIN II) which was scheduled to be held in Havana some time this year (1984).

In view of the growing importance of informatics as one of the latest technological developments in the communication process, the Conference appealed to member countries to jointly work for the eventual success of SPIN II by sending as many representatives as possible to Havana to actively participate in the Meeting.

32. The Ministers noted with interest the possibilities of satellites for Non-Aligned and developing countries and requested the International

Telecommunication Union (ITU) and UNESCO, IPDC to work out proposals in this regard.

Experts of Non-Aligned Countries should participate in the consideration of the numerous technical proposals, taking into account also the existing satellites of the Non-Aligned and developing countries such as Insat, Palapa, Africast, Arabsat etc.

VI. INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN IN THE FIELD OF DECOLONIZATION

33. The Conference recalled the significant role played by the mass media in the Non-Aligned Countries by the United Nations and in particular its Special Committee of 24, in the field of decolonization, and called upon the members of the Movement to encourage the press and mass media in their respective countries to intensify their campaign in further disseminating and emphasizing the rights of peoples to self-determination and independence within the context of Resolution 1514 (XV) of 1960.

VII. INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST APARTHEID

34. (a) The Ministers of Information recalled the relevant provision of the Political Declaration of the Seventh Summit regarding the strengthening of Non-Alignment in the contemporary world.

The Non-Aligned Countries had a common commitment to world peace, justice and cooperation, to the elimination of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, to the eradication of apartheid, racism, including zionism, and all forms of foreign domination, aggression, intervention, occupation and pressures, to the acceleration of the process of self-determination of peoples under colonial and alien domination and consolidation of the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and to the social and economic development of their peoples.

The Ministers of Information stressed that the news media of Non-Aligned Countries must work relentlessly and strengthen cooperation among themselves in order to give effect to the principles and policy of the Non-Aligned Movement.

(b) The Ministers acknowledged with appreciation the message from the UN Special Committee against Apartheid on the situation in South Africa, on the activities of Non-Aligned Countries for sanctions against South Africa, on support of the South African liberation struggle, and on the commendable initiatives taken by the Non-Aligned Countries on this matter.

The Ministers noted the explanations by various delegates on the deteriorating situation in Southern Africa and shared their concern over the military build-up and nuclear weapon capability of the South African racist régime which posed a threat to peace and security of the entire region. The Conference further condemned South Africa's acts of military aggression in the region in general and against Angola, Mozambique and Lesotho in particular. The Ministers condemned the selective economic sanctions that South Africa continues to apply against these countries. These acts of destabilization have led to a grave crisis in the Southern African region.

The Ministers vigorously condemned South Africa's military occupation of part of Southern Angola in violation of the national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Popular Republic of Angola. The Conference also condemned the South African army's repeated invasions of Angola and considered the occupation of Angolan territory as an act of aggression against the Non-Aligned Countries' Movement. It likewise demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the troops occupying Angola's territory and decided to reiterate its support of and solidarity with the people and the government of the Popular Republic of Angola in order to consolidate its independence and safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Ministers were of the view that all those committed to freedom in Southern Africa should educate public opinion and consider possibilities of new levels of action commensurate with the growing crisis in order to provide effective support to the liberation struggle which has made great advances in recent years.

For this reason, the Conference called on member governments to

encourage the information and mass media in their respective countries to contribute effectively to the international campaign against apartheid as well as the international campaign to eliminate all forms of racism and racial discrimination including zionism.

- (c) The Ministers of Information observed with concern the existence of continuous tensions in Central America, the Caribbean and South Atlantic.

Also, in analyzing the situation in the region, considered that Central America suffers a serious political, social and economical crisis occasioned in most of the cases by the traditional structures of repressive power and by the national economic structures, which generate poverty and inequality, aggravated by the interventions against these countries since the end of the last century.

- (d) The Ministers also agreed that all mass media of Non-Aligned Countries be encouraged to use whenever the word "Israel" is to be cited, instead the "racist zionist régime", taking into account the freedom of the Press.

VIII. CRITERIA OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL

35. The Conference welcomed with gratification the completion of the work to draw up the revised Criteria of the Inter-Governmental Council as called for by the Summit Conference in New Delhi.

Having deliberated at length on the matter, the Conference adopted the document after bringing in the necessary amendments. The revised Criteria of the IGC was attached to this Final Declaration and formed an inseparable part of it.

IX. PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS OF INFORMATION OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

36. Responding with appreciation to the offer made by the Government of Zimbabwe, the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries decided that the next Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries would be held in Zimbabwe. The Ministers strongly believed that the

convening of the next Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries would not only create greater opportunities for media cooperation but would, above all, serve to reaffirm the principles and objectives of the New International Information and Communication Order.

To ensure the success of the Conference, the Ministers entrusted the IGC with the task of coordinating the necessary preparations for that Conference, in close cooperation with the Government of Zimbabwe, the host country. For that purpose, the IGC, in its capacity as the Preparatory Committee for the next Conference of Ministers of Information, would undertake further consultations among its members.

X. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF INDONESIA

37. The Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries held in Jakarta, from January 26 to 30, 1984:

Noting with high appreciation the smooth manner and friendly atmosphere in which the Conference was held;

Convinced that the excellent arrangements made, and the facilities provided by the Host Government as well as the warm reception and friendly attitude of all the people of Indonesia contributed in large measure to this result;

Expressed its deep gratitude and admiration to the Government and people of Indonesia for their warm welcome and, in particular, to the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Mr. Suharto, for his inspiring inaugural address before the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries;

Commended the Chairman of the Conference, His Excellency Mr. Harmoko, Minister of Information of Indonesia, for the wisdom and skill with which he guided the deliberations of the Conference.

38. The Conference also expressed its gratitude for and appreciation of the sincere efforts of all the Indonesian staff who worked tirelessly to facilitate its work.

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**XI. VOTE OF APPRECIATION TO THE FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE IGC
SERVING IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1980-1984**

39. The Conference expressed its appreciation and satisfaction for the sterling work and leadership given to the IGC by its distinguished Chairman, the Minister of Culture and Information of Iraq, His Excellency Mr. Latif Nasayif Jassim during the period of his stewardship.

JAKARTA APPEALS TO THE MASS MEDIA

The Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 26 to 30 January 1984,

Recalling the principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement and its efforts towards advancing just, equitable and democratic relations in the field of information and communication in the world;

Taking note of the important role of the Mass Media world-wide in maintaining and strengthening peace and international understanding and promoting justice and equality, particularly in the current climate of political conflict and economic disorder in a world gripped by a pervasive sense of insecurity and vulnerability;

Expressing satisfaction at the constantly expanding cooperation among the Mass Media of the Non-Aligned Countries which contributes to the redressal of the existing inequalities and imbalances in the fields of information and communication and overcoming monopolies;

Reiterating the need for continued united efforts and action in this sphere with a view to early implementation of the principles of the New International Information and Communication Order;

Appreciating the expanding role of the Non-Aligned Countries' News Agencies Pool (NANAP) and the Broadcasting Organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC) and their significant contribution towards a free, wider and better balanced dissemination of information;

Recalling the Seventh Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi in March 1983 which expressed grave concern about the situation resulting from the arms race and also from the world economic crisis, and expressed anxiety about the sharp deterioration in the present world environment;

The Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries, in actively seeking to provide a positive alternative to such a world situation, appeals to the Mass Media all over the world:

- i) to intensify their participation in international efforts directed towards resisting the sharp polarization of the world into hostile and armed camps in easing international tension in the cause of a just and lasting peace;
- ii) to explore all possible avenues of more equitable international cooperation in the field of information and communication in order to build on the international consensus already achieved for the establishment of a New International Information and Communication Order;
- iii) to promote collective self-reliance and mutual cooperation among the Non-Aligned Countries, emphasizing in this regard the pioneering role of the Non-Aligned Countries' News Agencies Pool (NANAP) and the Broadcasting Organizations of the Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC);
- iv) to eschew tendentious reporting in all its manifestations and to desist from propagating materials, which directly or indirectly may prove detrimental or prejudicial to the interest of any member country of the Non-Aligned Movement;
- v) to stress that the Mass Media should respond in a positive way to the unprecedented opportunities now available to them to influence the conduct of international relations in order to open new vistas of progress for the world community; especially the Non-Aligned and Developing Countries;
- vi) to strengthen their cooperation with the United Nations and other agencies within the UN system, particularly in the field of information and communication, so as to support the UN system as an instrument for lasting and universal progress, inspired by a nobility of purpose transcending our immediate concerns.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Recalling the activities and systematic efforts promoted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) towards the realization of a New International Information and Communication Order,

Noting that the aims and objectives of the Medium Term Plan (1984-1989) in the field of information and communication, the Programme and Budget (1984-85), approved by consensus at the 22nd General Conference of UNESCO and in particular the Major Programme III (Communication in the Service of Man) are in accord with the needs and aspirations of the Non-Aligned Movement to develop broader infrastructures and accelerate two-way information flow,

Considering that these steps forward which have been initiated by the Non-Aligned countries in the struggle for decolonization of information in international relations are being opposed by certain vested interests,

Taking into account the recommendation "On the Defense of UNESCO and NIICO" adopted at the Fifth Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Council of the Non-Aligned Countries for Coordination of Information and Mass Media (Georgetown, Guyana, May 20-22, 1981), and other relevant recommendations and resolutions adopted at meetings of the IGC,

Noting with concern that systematic attempts to discredit UNESCO and render it ineffective have been made for years with the purpose of obstructing the realisation of a New International Information and Communication Order,

Believing that these threats against an international organization are unacceptable and against the objectives of development established by the Movement since the Algiers Summit Conference in 1973 and the will of the international community as reflected in UNESCO,

Convinced that the support for UNESCO's universality and its continued effectiveness accords with the principles and objectives of the Movement,

THE CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS OF INFORMATION :

1. Expresses its solidarity with UNESCO and rejects firmly threats and pressures directed against the Organization.
2. Affirms the need to uphold the universal character of UNESCO.
3. Expresses full support for and confidence in UNESCO's Director General under whose direction action programmes have been drawn up in full compliance with the mandate given by the Organization's Member States.

RESOLUTION ON THE REDUCTION OF COMMUNICATION TARIFFS

The Conference of the Ministers of Information of the Non-Aligned Countries, held in Jakarta, January 26-30, 1984;

In keeping with the Declaration of the Seventh Conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi in 1983 calling for the lowering of telecommunication tariffs, and in keeping with the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Council (IGC) in Tunis in 1977, in Havana in 1978, in Lome in 1979, in Baghdad in 1980, in Georgetown in 1981 and in Valletta in 1982;

Resolved that member countries take urgent steps to implement in 1984 the reduction of telecommunication tariffs and achieve more efficient and shared utilization of telecommunication facilities and networks.

Recalled the recommendation of the meeting of experts of UNESCO held in Paris in December 1981, which considered feasible a DPBS tariff of US\$ 200 per month at each end for a 24 hour duplex teleprinter circuit and a concessional rate of US\$ 1000 for a full time telephone-type channel with provision for further proportionate concessions for channels of shorter duration:

1. **Agreed** that in order to stimulate the exchange of information among and activities of national news and broadcast agencies of member states, and give support to NANAP and BONAC, the reduction of telecommunication tariffs should be made available, in the first instance, to member countries.
2. **Further agreed** to propose a joint meeting of Ministers of information and Ministers of telecommunications of countries acting as redistribution centres of NANAP to work out practical proposals on tariffs. This meeting could follow in Cairo the scheduled technical meeting of the Pool there in March 1984 which is to discuss improving the communication network for accelerated exchanges.

3. **Took note** of UNESCO's willingness to support this initiative and coordinate it with UNESCO plans to convene in 1984 two regional meetings of Ministers of Information and Telecommunications in Manila and Dakar to discuss problems of tariffs for the print and electronic media.

RESOLUTION ON THE NEWS AGENCIES POOL OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

Recalling the Non-Aligned Summit's appreciation of the pool as a system for a regular exchange of news between these countries;

Noting the pool's remarkable progress and its constant efforts to improve the quality of its news copy and to create conditions conducive to direct communication among its member agencies;

Concerned by the lack of news agencies in some of the Non-Aligned countries and by the shortage of technical equipment in some agencies, which are thus prevented from taking effective part in the pool;

Recognising the considerable efforts made by the pool with regard to vocational training to improve the pool's news quality;

Appeals to news agencies of the Non-Aligned countries to work in unison to implement the Tunis Action Programme as recommended by the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit;

Calls upon the pool's better endowed member agencies, in a spirit of cooperation and solidarity, to give their support to the less developed agencies of the Pool, in the form of technical or financial assistance;

Calls upon the media and journalists of member countries to make greater use of the news and information transmitted by the Pool as reaffirmation of their commitment to promote plurality of sources of information, objective views and better understanding of each other and collective self-reliance in general, particularly in the sphere of information;

Appeals to member countries to set up an integrated communications network which is to be discussed at a meeting of technical directors in Cairo in 1984 in order to improve the Pool operations;

/...

Reaffirms the need to continue the programme of agency staff training as called for by the Tunis Action Programme and to work jointly within the framework of UNESCO and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) to secure assistance on a priority basis for the training programmes submitted by the Pool.

RESOLUTION ON THE USE OF RADIO AS AN INSTRUMENT OF HOSTILE
BROADCASTS AGAINST THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

The Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned countries meeting in Jakarta from 26-30 January 1984,

Taking into account the principles which gave origin to the Movement, the international standards accepted in the field of communication and the postulates of the New International Information and Communication Order,

Considering that the Non-Aligned countries have, since the establishment of their movement, highlighted the principles of the struggle for peace, international cooperation and equality among nations together with the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, zionism and against all forms of aggression,

Taking into account that struggle for the New International Information and Communications Order was originally and continues to be founded on the postulates and principles of Non-Aligned Movement, that it extends the right for the use of radio and television to all countries for the purposes of peace, international cooperation and for strengthening the ties of friendship among peoples, with absolute respect for national information policies which preserve national sovereignty and independence,

Considering that the use of radio as an instrument of hostile broadcasts aggravates the international atmosphere, makes dialogues impossible and threatens to transform radio waves into a new area of dangerous confrontation with unpredictable consequences for world peace,

Knowing the existence of a plan to set up a medium-wave radio station with the aim of broadcasting against Cuba and subverting the internal order of this non-aligned country which constitutes a dangerous precedent and one which could be used at a later date against any other member of the Movement,

Considering the agreements and resolutions adopted by the conferences of heads of state and government based on the principles which gave life to the Non-Aligned Movement:

1. **Deplores** the use of radio as an instrument of hostile broadcasts of one state against another whether members of the Non-Aligned countries or otherwise as this constitutes an act contrary to the fundamental principles of the movement, to the New International Information and Communication Order and in violation of international standards and rules in the broadcasting field as set down in the United Nations Charter and International Law;
2. **Considers** the use of radio frequencies for hostile broadcasts declared as the state policy of one country against another to be a gross provocation and interference in the internal affairs of any country;
3. **Manifests** that the plan being implemented to set up a radio station to broadcast against Cuba, under the name of the illustrious Cuban patriot José Martí, is an offence to the Cuban people and an inadmissible precedent with regard to international radio communications; and
4. **Demands** the immediate termination of any kind of radio broadcast directed against the national interest of another country whether member of the non-aligned movement or otherwise and calls on all member states, the United Nations, UNESCO and other Governmental agencies to deplore such an undertaking in violation of the principles of International Law and the standards established by the International Telecommunications Union.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

Address by His Excellency Mr. Soeharto, President of the
Republic of Indonesia, at the opening of the Conference
of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries
at Jakarta on 26 January 1984

Original: Arabic/English/
French

Honourable Chairman;
Excellencies, Heads of Delegations;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

The next few days are important for the Non-Aligned Movement, because the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries are gathered here to consult and formulate a cooperative framework so that the flow of information and communication will play a greater role in improving the well-being of the Non-Aligned Countries.

In this present era, as well as in the future, information and communication are necessities. It can almost be said that modern man cannot live well without information.

For all of us, who are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, information and communication are significant because they represent the sources for a better life, which is the common goal we all have in our struggle.

For this reason, we, the Indonesian nation, are highly pleased and distinctly honoured to be the host of this important conference. Hopefully we can create a quiet and cordial atmosphere, to enable all the conference participants to adopt resolutions, whose benefits are eagerly anticipated by the peoples we are representing in this forum.

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Ladies and Gentlemen;

There is no doubt that during these next few days the eyes and ears of the world will be focused on Jakarta. The peoples we represent are waiting anxiously for the resolutions that you are going to adopt.

The focus of attention at present is indeed on information and communication. But what is more important and deeply significant is the fact that this meeting is actually part of the spirit and image of our Non-Aligned Movement.

This is the reason that the most profound spirit and aspirations of the Non-Aligned Movement must first of all radiate from the proceedings of this conference.

Therefore, it would be greatly beneficial if we look back at the history of the birth, growth and development of the Non-Aligned Movement.

More than two decades ago, the first Non-Aligned conference was held in Belgrade. There, with the highest sense of responsibility and with sincerity, we laid the foundations and stated aspirations of our movement, namely the creation of a new world, which is more peaceful, more prosperous, more equitable and more imbued with humanitarianism than the one we have enjoyed thus far.

Long before the Belgrade conference, more than three decades ago, the Ten Principles of Bandung came into being, as a result of the First Afro-Asian Conference. There is a very close historical link between Bandung and Belgrade, as well as with successive conferences of the Non-Aligned Movement.

And now, if we look at the long historical journey of our movement, we can feel greatly encouraged that the foundations we laid before are now becoming stronger and our aspirations are nearing fruition. But still even with such encouragement, we must remain realistic. We must admit that what we are aspiring to has not yet totally become a reality. We have achieved just a portion of it; maybe in the scale of history, it is just the beginning. But it has definitely been a very significant beginning.

During the first conference in Belgrade the Non-Aligned Movement had a membership of only 25 countries; today the number has multiplied considerably. At the first Belgrade conference, colonialism was still strongly implanted in various parts of the world. Now there are just the last few cases of this sort waiting to be abolished forever by history and it will not be possible for this to emerge again. Before, the emergence of the Non-Aligned Movement was greeted with scepticism and underestimation. Now the world is seriously watching it and, in fact, frequently hoping for the success of our movement for the good of the world.

However, we are well aware that the progress made by the Non-Aligned Movement since its inception has not been unhindered. As a new movement that emerged in the midst of an old world order, which we want to remedy, this movement has not infrequently suffered from blows and tugs from right and left, particularly from major world powers which are confronting each other and struggling for the spheres of influence.

I personally regard the experiences and progress of the Non-Aligned Movement as a test that essentially has made the attitude of our movement more mature and enlightened.

It is also normal that even between ourselves sometimes there are differences of opinion. The reason is because each of us represents a sovereign state, which is of equal standing, on equal footing. Yet, our presence together here in the Non-Aligned Movement also demonstrates our common determination not to aggravate the differences prevailing amongst us, but, on the contrary, to unite ourselves towards the attainment of the goals we regard as noble. This is the reason, that, despite the repetitive tests we have encountered, our movement has survived up to the present, and will continue to survive forever.

Our unity is indispensable in order to shoulder great tasks that will go down in history.

The new world, which we aspire to, is still far from reality. The danger of a nuclear war is not diminishing; on the contrary, it is developing to a serious level.

The global economic recession has not shown any definite signs of when it will end.

All the inequalities, injustices and instability in the world are rooted in the old order which no longer suits our civilization and the demands of life of the human race today.

As far as Indonesia is concerned, to be a part of the Non-Aligned Movement constitutes a conviction, because the Preamble to the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia solemnly declares to the Indonesian nation to "participate in the creation of an orderly world based on freedom, eternal peace and social justice".

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The new world order that we are aspiring to will only materialize if we act concretely to change the old order which we consider as unjust and which does not ensure the non-aligned countries and the developing countries the ability to develop themselves.

In efforts to make such radical changes, we must adopt a realistic attitude, without losing the direction of our original ideals. What is no less important is to safeguard our movement as a moral force, which according to experience has demonstrated, it is a force with immeasurable strength. We have become a moral force because our path is guided by the inner wisdom of man, who incessantly craves for tranquillity, peace, prosperity and justice. He walks on the path of history of the human race, which is continuously being guided by the inner wisdom of the whole of the human race. The Non-Aligned Movement does not rely on any of the major superpowers, but it relies on its own conviction and strength.

In an effort to reorganize the world order in the political and economic fields, an essential element is the establishment of a New International Information and Communication Order, which is being discussed by all of you in these next few days.

There have been many discussions by individuals, experts and seekers of the goodness of the world, about the need for this New International Information and Communication Order.

At a glimpse, it indicates some inequalities, which are part of the general pattern of inequalities in all sectors of the world. Even in this field,

the advanced industrial countries occupy a superior position, which, unfortunately, does not always mean in the positive sense. We must frankly admit their superiority in technology as well as in the field of information and communication management and we must use this as an impetus to catch up and not be left behind.

Apart from this, what we regard as unjust is the fact that with such technological and managerial superiority, we are being flooded with news which, on the one hand, benefits only the interests of the advanced industrial countries and, on the other, harms the image of our countries which we are developing.

Even more serious is the spreading of a kind of crisis that leads to a lack of confidence and faith in ourselves among developing countries.

We, in Indonesia, have the experience of the bad influence of the unbalanced flow of information, because it had been dominated by news agencies of the advanced industrial countries. For this reason, therefore, we in Indonesia are developing a free and responsible press. In the context of assuring the successful completion of national development, we have in fact intensified press activities and the role of the mass media, which inspire the spirit of dedication and the struggle of the nation, consolidate national unity, enhance the sense of national responsibility and discipline, popularize the national culture and identity, and stimulate the participation of the community in development.

During this conference, among fellow-members of the Non-Aligned Movement, it would be extremely useful to exchange experiences. We must learn from our respective successes, as well as from our failures.

What we are thinking about, what we desire and the direction we are aiming at, we already formulated clearly by ourselves at the beginning at the Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung, followed by Non-Aligned Conferences in Belgrade, Cairo, Lusaka, Algiers, Colombo, Havana and New Delhi.

I believe what we need today is to formulate common programs, which are concrete, realistic and can be carried out by us together. Irrespective of how small these common steps are, they will serve as unique contributions to our aspirations. A long journey is always preceded by a first step that

we can continue to promote together in order for it to become an increasingly greater force.

Let us build the information and communication system with our own strength and determination, which will be needed by our people, which will further unify the Non-Aligned Movement, which will make us understand each other better, which will make us work shoulder-to-shoulder.

It is such information and communication that is felt as the need of our people.

I would like to conclude my remarks and convey my hopes by recalling these extremely impressive words, that there are two sources which illuminate everything in this world: the first is the sun in the sky, and the second is the press and mass media here on earth.

I hereby declare the Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries officially opened.

Thank you.

APPENDIX II

Message by the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement,
Her Excellency Madame Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister
of the Republic of India

[Original: English]

I congratulate the Government of Indonesia on its initiative in holding this Conference in response to the call given by the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit which met in New Delhi in March last year.

Non-aligned countries want greater friendship and closer economic and technological cooperation among themselves and with countries belonging to both blocs. This necessitates a better balanced flow of information. That is why Non-aligned countries have pioneered and effectively promoted the cause of a New International Information and Communication Order. This is being strenuously opposed by some countries and vested interests. Our efforts to reduce dependence on rich and powerful transnational information agencies are an integral part of our struggle for a new world order based on justice and equality.

Non-aligned countries are conscious of the special contribution that the media can make to development and social change. In this field, we can learn more from one another's experience than from that of affluent societies. We have already devised certain useful instruments for this purpose, prominent among which are the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool and the Broadcasting Organization of the Non-Aligned Countries. It has not been an easy task and has brought considerable organizational and financial burdens. Yet these arrangements have contributed to the decolonization of information. The Seventh Non-Aligned Summit agreed on certain specific measures to increase the exchange of information.

I hope that the Ministerial Conference in Jakarta will give further impetus in this direction.

Problems left over from past colonialism must be overcome, at the same time we must look to the future.

The space age has revolutionized the technology of information. Non-aligned countries must not be left behind, for failure to keep up will only

make us more dependent. The space programme in India is finding new ways of using satellites for speedier communications in remote areas, for mass education and to provide a variety of information directly relevant to the lives of our people. I am sure other developing countries are also devising plans to use new processes of communication to support the nation-building process.

My good wishes for the Conference.

New Delhi,
January 19, 1984
