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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 14 December 1976 from the Permanent Representatives
of Guinea-Bissau and of the German Democratic Republic to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions received from our respective Governments, we have the honour to submit herewith extracts from the joint communiqué dated 19 November 1976 on the visit to the German Democratic Republic of a delegation of the Party and State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, headed by Mr. Luiz Cabral, Deputy Secretary-General of PAIGC and President of the Council of State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

We would be very grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and the attached text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 33.

(Signed) Peter FLORIN
Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of the
German Democratic Republic to
the United Nations

(Signed) Gil FERNANDES
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Guinea-Bissau to
the United Nations

ANNEX

Extracts from the joint communiqué dated 19 November 1976 on the visit to the German Democratic Republic of a delegation of the Party and State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, headed by Mr. Luiz Cabral, Deputy Secretary-General of PAIGC and President of the Council of State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau

... The situation on the African continent was the subject of a detailed exchange of views. Mr. Erich Honecker and Mr. Luiz Cabral stressed the historic significance of the victories of the African peoples struggling for freedom and independence which had been achieved with the help and support of the socialist countries and with all the progressive forces of the world.

The victory of the peoples of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Angola and Sao Tome and Principe, obtained in the struggle for their national independence, constituted a decisive step towards the total and final elimination of colonialism and racism from African soil. The two parties agree that the strengthening of friendly relations and co-operation between the African States and the socialist countries is an important factor for the consolidation of the independence of those States and contributes decisively towards the establishment of favourable conditions for the total liberation of Africa.

The German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau declare that they firmly support the struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and the Republic of South Africa for their freedom and national independence. They demand an immediate and unconditional end to the policy of racism and apartheid practised in the Republic of South Africa, an immediate cessation of the illegal occupation of Namibia and the unconditional transfer of power to the people of Zimbabwe.

The two parties are committed to the strict application of the decisions of the United Nations and the enforcement against the South African régime of the sanctions called for in those decisions. They condemn the manoeuvres of the imperialists and racists who seek to prolong racist oppression and colonial exploitation. They support vigorously the condemnation of States which continue to grant universal assistance to the racist régimes of the Republic of South Africa and of Zimbabwe, a condemnation which recently was backed by an overwhelming majority at the thirty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Mr. Erich Honecker and Mr. Luiz Cabral noted with profound satisfaction that the German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau were in agreement in their appreciation of the basic problems of international development.

The two parties agreed that détente and the implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence between States with different social orders had become the main trend in international political development. The subsequent strengthening of détente, the efforts made to ensure that the process of détente is irreversible

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and its extension to all regions of the world are in accordance with the basic interests of all peoples and create favourable conditions for the subsequent development of the struggle for national liberation.

Mr. Erich Honecker and Mr. Luiz Cabral stressed the major importance of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The implementation of the principles and provisions agreed upon at Helsinki by all participants in that Conference will exercise a favourable influence on the maintenance of peace throughout the world.

The German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau consider disarmament and efforts to halt the arms race and to limit armaments one of the key issues of our times. The German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau support the proposal for the conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations submitted by the USSR at the thirty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly. The principle of non-use of force in international relations does not, of course, affect the legitimate right of oppressed and subjugated peoples to struggle with all means at their disposal for their national liberation.

The two parties expressed their deep concern at the dangerous deterioration of the situation in the Near East. They stressed the urgent need for a political settlement of the conflict, and call for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and for the realization of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, in accordance with the justified demands of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau are in favour of an immediate end to the fighting in Lebanon, without outside interference and with guarantees of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The two parties advocated strict respect for the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter. They expect the United Nations to continue to encourage fruitful co-operation among States on a basis of equality, and call for the admission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the People's Republic of Angola to the United Nations.

The two parties noted the great significance of the struggle of progressive forces throughout the world for the elimination of every form of inequality, discrimination and exploitation in international economic relations, and support the aspiration of developing countries to liberate themselves from imperialist exploitation and to dispose freely of their national wealth. They support the demand for the establishment of a new international economic order which takes into account the interests of all peoples.

The German Democratic Republic and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau agree that the policy of non-alignment is an important factor in world politics and an important contribution to the general struggle for peace and security of peoples.

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The two parties paid tribute, in this context, to the decisions of the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned Countries at Colombo, which focus on the safeguarding of peace and the independence of peoples from imperialist exploitation and oppression, and emphasized that it was in the interests of the complex implementation of those decisions to intensify the co-operation between the socialist States and the non-aligned States ...
