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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Items 32, 72, 143 and 146 of the  
provisional agenda\*

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS  
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
AND SECURITY

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

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 31 August 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
of the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a message from His Excellency Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in response to the letters of the Foreign Minister and the Minister of Islamic Affairs of the Kabul régime, addressed to you and circulated as documents of the General Assembly (see A/44/473-S/20805 and A/44/476-S/20806 respectively).

\* A/44/150.

I wish to draw your attention to the messages dated 21 and 22 August 1989, addressed to you by the Foreign Minister and Minister of Islamic Affairs of the Kabul régime, respectively, which have been circulated as official documents of the General Assembly.

The allegations and the distortion of facts contained in these letters represent yet another attempt by the Kabul régime to internationalize the Afghanistan situation and to divert attention from its own utter failure to gain the support of the Afghan people. This propaganda barrage, aimed at maligning Pakistan and reflective of the Kabul régime's own sense of insecurity, should, however, not distract us from our objective to seek the restoration of peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Pakistan has on a number of occasions refuted allegations by the Kabul régime charging Pakistan with supplying military assistance to the Afghan Resistance. These unfounded allegations have been investigated thoroughly by the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan and to date have not been substantiated. The Mujahideen have made it abundantly clear that they do not require the assistance of any country to keep up their resistance against a régime that they feel is illegitimate because it was forcibly imposed on them.

For its part, Pakistan is fully aware of its obligations under the Geneva Accords and has abided by its provisions. Pakistan has consistently upheld and followed a policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, particularly its neighbours. This Pakistan has done despite the provocations on the part of the Kabul régime. Since the genesis of the war in Afghanistan, Pakistan has been subjected to numerous acts of terrorism, its airspace has been blatantly violated and its territory and people have been the target of cross-border attacks, including the firing of Scud missiles. Since the signing of the Geneva Accords, the pressure tactics of the Kabul régime have come in the form of 263 incidents of sabotage, 163 incidents of air violation and 394 incidents of ground violation. As a result of these cowardly acts, more than 230 of our citizens have lost their lives and close to 500 have been injured.

In keeping with the letter and spirit of the Geneva Accords, Pakistan has consistently and earnestly sought momentum on the political front towards a solution of the Afghanistan conflict, a solution that could adequately reflect the wishes of the Afghan people themselves in order that permanent peace could return to that war-torn country and in order that Afghanistan might take its rightful place in the comity of nations as a sovereign and independent nation. The untold suffering of the Afghan people continues because the régime in Kabul refuses to recognize the reality that it is unacceptable to the Afghan people, who, according to independent observers, will not deal with it.

In their effort to ease the transition in Afghanistan from an unrepresentative to a truly representative and broadly based Government, major segments of the Afghanistan population participated in a Consultative Council

in February 1989 and elected through secret ballot an Interim Government. Committed to holding elections in Afghanistan and to the formation of a broad-based Government of the choosing of the Afghan people, the Interim Government, in the eyes of the Afghans, represents a viable alternative to the Kabul régime.

This is the reality of the situation in Afghanistan. Regrettably, however, the Kabul régime, through its propaganda campaign, wants to sow the seeds of confusion and misinformation. I therefore urge that this campaign be judged for what it is worth. Let it not cloud the endeavours of the international community to bring the Afghanistan conflict to an end through the transfer of power to a representative and broad-based Government chosen by the Afghan people free from outside interference.

Sahabsada YAQUB-KHAN  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of  
the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

I request you to have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 32, 72, 143 and 146 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Shaukat UMER  
Acting Permanent Representative

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