



CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 9:	
General debate (<i>continued</i>)	
Speech by U Lwin (Burma)	547
Speech by Mr. Macki (Oman)	549
Speech by Mr. Gurinovich (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic)	551
Speech by Mr. Puja (Hungary)	555

President: Mr. Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA
(Algeria).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Inglés (Philippines), Vice-President, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 9

General debate (*continued*)

1. U LWIN (Burma): I take great pleasure in warmly congratulating Mr. Bouteflika, on behalf of the delegation of Burma, on his election to the Presidency of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly. We are glad at the honour thus shown to him personally and to his country, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. We assure him of our full co-operation in his discharge of the responsibilities of your high office.
2. My delegation would also like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to Mr. Leopoldo Benites for his distinguished services to the General Assembly as President of its twenty-eighth session.
3. On behalf of the delegation of Burma, I am happy to extend our sincere felicitations and warm welcome to the delegations of Bangladesh, Grenada and Guinea-Bissau. The admission of the three new States to membership in the United Nations will no doubt contribute to the strengthening of the world Organization. We look forward to working together with them for the furtherance of the purposes of the United Nations.
4. The international situation today is characterized by acute preoccupation with economic and social problems. These problems have forced upon nations the need to review old patterns of relationships not only in the economic but also in the political field. These problems have also made nations realize more than ever before that solutions to international problems cannot be achieved except through international co-operation as envisaged in one of the purposes of the United Nations. It seems to the delegation of Burma that such international co-operation presupposes res-

pect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination, and a greater measure of the democratization of international relations. Experience over the last two decades or so also shows that the threat or use of force in international relations defeats its own purpose, and that if nations are to live in peace and friendship and pursue their own paths of progress, it is imperative that States should strictly observe the principle of non-interference in each other's internal and external affairs. It also underlines the need to persevere in our efforts to settle international disputes by peaceful means, without endangering international peace and security, and with justice.

5. Regarding international peace, it is a matter of great concern that, although there is a trend towards *détente* and negotiations for the settlement of international disputes, there still exist not only tension but even armed conflicts between some States. Nevertheless, the delegation of Burma is glad to note that, of late, there are signs of more positive thinking on the part of some interested outside Powers regarding these conflicts. We hope that this welcome attitude will become more pronounced in the future. We realize however that in the last analysis, the solution of these conflicts must rest with the parties directly concerned. In this connexion, the delegation of Burma notes with satisfaction that countries more or less vulnerable to outside intervention have shown increasing determination to safeguard and maintain their right to self-determination. This reduces the chances for outside intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of States.

6. Let me now briefly refer to the problem of colonialism and racial discrimination. It is indeed a most welcome development that the new régime in Portugal has acknowledged the right of the people of its dependent territories to self-determination, and has granted independence to Guinea-Bissau and paved the way for independence in Mozambique and Angola. The delegation of Burma earnestly hopes that this significant trend will help bring about a speedy end to the evils of colonialism and racial discrimination wherever they still exist in Africa.

7. We live in an age of rapid change and of crises affecting the structures of society. Life in the international community is developing progressively and often old rules do not correspond to existing realities. We take heart that, in accord with Article 13 of the Charter, the United Nations is increasingly directing its efforts towards the codification of international law and its progressive development. We refer here to the conference of plenipotentiaries for the revision of maritime law.

8. The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea has rightly been described as the single most important international conference held under the auspices of the Organization. Such high importance

has been attributed to the Conference not only because of the unprecedentedly large number of States participating in it, but because there is a universal recognition that, in a world of dwindling natural wealth and rapid population growth, the seas offer the last reserves of the natural resources on which mankind depends for survival.

9. The fundamental and paramount task of the Conference is to create a new legal system for a just and equitable sharing by all nations of those abundant but finite reserves. Its outcome is, therefore, not only of profound and direct concern to nations but it will also affect the very lives and well-being of their peoples for generations to come. The task of establishing a new international régime of the sea to determine the rights and obligations of States with respect to the oceans, is undoubtedly a very complex and difficult one which necessarily requires time.

10. On the other hand, the pressure of political, economic and technological realities of a fast-changing world is such that it is imperative for the international community to reach agreement as soon as possible on the establishment of a just and equitable legal order in the use of the sea. The consequences of procrastination and delay will be far reaching and can jeopardize our efforts to create such an international régime.

11. The rapid deterioration of the world economic situation over the past year has been a source of major international concern and has brought economic issues to the forefront of world attention. Recent events, more than at any other time, have also made it clear that the world economic system is based on interdependence and that we can ignore this fact only at our peril. The energy crisis, which remains far from being resolved, presents a dramatic case in point. Evidently, the interests of producers and consumers will often diverge, but these differences must be reconciled in a spirit of co-operation and mutual understanding. When attempts at conciliation fail, the outcome only brings unnecessary economic instability and hardship to the entire world community.

12. World inflation presents another important example of interdependence. In the modern world, with its complex economic interrelationships between States, it is almost impossible for a country to isolate itself from economic problems originating elsewhere. One economic problem that has received much publicity of late and which has reached world-wide proportions is, of course, inflation. Considering the relative ease with which imported inflation can spread from one country to another, it is hardly surprising that it has now become an international problem. The seriousness of the situation has been recognized by many countries and the need to supplement domestic remedies with international collaboration and co-ordination on anti-inflationary measures has been increasingly realized.

13. While international co-operation provides a fruitful approach in the fight against inflation, we believe that a sound international monetary system can also make a valuable contribution to overcoming this problem. On the basis of the final report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Reform of the International Monetary System and Related Issues (Committee of Twenty),¹ a large measure of agreement has already been reached on international monetary reform,

including the agreement on the valuation of special drawing rights on the basis of 16 major currencies of the world.

14. The annual meeting of IMF recently held in Washington, has approved amendments to the Articles of Agreement of the Fund designed to improve the adjustment process in balance of payments disequilibrium, to impose guidelines on floating rates and to extend the Fund's assistance to developing countries in the form of extended fund facility and the oil facility to meet the current payment crises.

15. However, there are still fundamental issues that remain to be solved, such as the question of restoring the system of par values and the role of gold in the international payments system. It is imperative that these fundamental issues be solved through closer international co-operation, thus forestalling a division of the world into competitive trading blocs with all its undesirable consequences.

16. While the problems associated with the energy crisis, inflation and the shortages of food and essential raw materials have caused world-wide hardship and anxiety, the burden has been particularly heavy on the developing countries. This is to be expected, as developing countries, with their weak economic structures, are more vulnerable to adverse external economic pressures. For some, the high cost of fuel and food and, for many others, the inflated prices they have to pay for essential semi-manufactured and manufactured goods, capital equipment, raw materials and spare parts, have severely strained their balance of payments. Many of those countries now have been placed in the highly undesirable situation where they have to devote so much of their energies and resources to meeting the high priorities of their immediate needs that their long-term goals of social and economic development are likely to suffer.

17. These difficulties could, of course, be mitigated if the international community has the political will to implement some of the more important United Nations resolutions on international economic development and co-operation which have been adopted after arduous debate and protracted negotiations. But, for the most part, these resolutions have been conveniently ignored, as indeed have the high hopes of the much-proclaimed International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

18. At the recently concluded World Population Conference at Bucharest there were opportunities to exchange views and information and to devise means of international co-operation on the question of population and food. The forthcoming World Food Conference in Rome will provide further opportunities to explore and to find answers to both the long-term and short-term aspects of the world food problem. The constructive proposals which no doubt will ensue from that Conference should form a basis for greater international co-operation in that field.

19. The world economy is now at the crossroads. Recent events, as well as new sets of circumstances and relations, have undermined its structure, its basic premises and its institutions. What is now imperative, therefore, is to replace it with a new world economic order that is more in conformity with the changed circumstances, that is more equitable, and,

what is most important, that engenders a new sense of responsibility and co-operation for mutual benefit on the part of the international community. We believe that the recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted at the recently concluded sixth special session of the General Assembly have much to contribute to the creation of such a new world economic order. We would, therefore, like to reiterate our support of the principles embodied in the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order [*resolution 3201 (S-VI)*] and urge an early implementation of the provisions made in the Programme of Action [*resolution 3202 (S-VI)*].

20. It would be no exaggeration to say that the United Nations is now in a new and important phase of its development. One of the topics that will surely occupy our attention is the increasing role that the Organization must inevitably play in the establishment of a new international economic system founded on the principles of co-determination and equality of all countries. Through the exigencies of the world economic crisis and the restiveness of States, the international community is once again discovering the United Nations as the most universal forum in which to seek solutions through concerted action.

21. The international theme today is interdependence, global participation and solutions. The talk now is for dialogue and negotiations between the economically weak developing countries, which constitute the majority, and the few industrialized developed countries. It is becoming increasingly clear that the contemporary world, more than ever, calls upon all nations to reconcile their differences and to seek joint action in solving pressing world problems through the United Nations. All this suggests that the value of the United Nations is amply being borne out by time, that it is fast acquiring a fresh lease of life and charting a renewed course for international co-operation in the pursuit of peace and progress. To realize this objective is the challenge with which the United Nations is faced today.

22. Mr. MACKI (Oman) (*interpretation from Arabic*): At the outset, allow me to express the sympathy of the Government of Oman for the Governments and peoples of Honduras and Peru for the natural disasters which have struck those two countries recently.

23. Mr. President, I should like, on behalf of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman, to express to you our heartfelt congratulations and our full satisfaction on your election as President of the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session. The long years of experience which you have acquired as Minister for Foreign Affairs of our sister country, Algeria, undoubtedly have, and will be, fully appreciated by the representatives here; and I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to assure you of our full support and co-operation in the conducting of our deliberations at this session.

24. Allow me, Mr. President, to extend, on behalf of my delegation and my Government, our feelings of appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Benites, for his skill, ability and wisdom, and the excellent way in which he led the Assembly during its twenty-eighth session and the sixth special session.

25. My Government extends a hearty welcome to Bangladesh, Grenada and Guinea-Bissau as new Members of the United Nations, and we are quite happy and satisfied to see the representatives of those countries take their places among us here. Their presence here will undoubtedly add strength to the future steps to be undertaken by this international Organization. My delegation looks forward to full co-operation with the representatives of those countries. Meanwhile, we wish to take this opportunity as well to express to the Governments and peoples of the new independent countries all wishes for success and prosperity in the future.

26. In conformity with its firm foreign policy of supporting the rights of peoples to freedom and independence and the eradication of colonialism and racial discrimination in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, Oman has actively participated in supporting the struggle waged by the peoples of Africa in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. It is our earnest hope to see the peoples of those countries take their rightful places among us in the Organization in the very near future.

27. The free peoples of Africa have always resisted military invasions and colonial suppression. In their long struggle for freedom there are striking examples of sacrifice that call for our admiration. The Government of Oman has never failed to support the lawful and just struggle of all peoples for freedom, independence and self-determination. In so doing, Oman has lived up to its deep-rooted respect for the dignity of the human being as evidenced by its noble and glorious civilization and its profound belief in man as the ultimate end of all endeavours.

28. As a country of the third world, committed to a policy of neutrality and non-alignment and of respect for and a deeply rooted belief in the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, Oman fully supports and favours the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace [*resolution 2832 (XXVI)*]. We declare also our firm support for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, the objective of which would be to eliminate the crisis prevailing in the area and to prevent it from reaching uncontrollable dimensions.

29. Ever since the creation of the State of Israel, the situation in the Middle East has been continually exploding in a series of crises, in many cases reaching a point where it threatened international peace and security. This can only be attributed to the obstinacy and arrogance of Israel, its policy of aggression in the area and its continuous barbaric and brutal crimes perpetrated against the peaceful inhabitants of the area.

30. The policy of terrorism and intimidation which has prevailed and upon which Zionist policy has been based ever since Israel was created has been made clear in a series of acts of aggression against the land and people of Palestine, beginning in 1948. That policy has now reached an unprecedented degree of violence and brutality. The aggression perpetrated in 1967 by Israeli forces against three Arab States, Members of the United Nations, led to the deaths of thousands of innocent people. We are still witnessing repeated bombings and military attacks against Lebanese territory, all aimed at the liquidation of the Palestinian people.

31. It is not surprising that the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories [A/9817], established by virtue of General Assembly resolution 3005 (XXVII), emphasizes Israel's repeated refusal to comply with United Nations resolutions and its insistence upon and persistence in a policy which is in defiance of those resolutions. The report proves once again that Israel is continuing the policy of aggression which it has always followed since its creation in 1948. Israel still persists in activities which are in flagrant contradiction with the fundamental principles of international law. It continues to expropriate the land in the area and to expel citizens from their homes. The refusal of the Israeli authorities to co-operate with the Special Committee constitutes yet another defiance by Israel of the resolutions of the General Assembly.

32. The tragedy of Palestine and the agony and sufferings of its people compel us to demand that the Geneva talks be resumed immediately, so that lasting peace and security, based on justice and acceptable to the countries of the region, particularly Palestine as represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO], may be restored.

33. As far as the problem of the Sahara is concerned, my Government fully supports the agreement reached by Morocco and Mauritania to refer that issue to the International Court of Justice. We appeal to the Spanish Government to accept that agreement and to co-operate in finding a solution to the problem through negotiations and within the framework of the friendly relations that exist between Spain and the Arab world.

34. The Middle East is now facing another serious crisis which has stirred and disturbed the international community. I refer to the problem of Cyprus. My country, as a member of the non-aligned group, firmly believes in the urgent need to protect the independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus and to ensure full respect for its sovereignty, without any interference in that country's internal affairs.

35. The developing countries which are producers of raw materials are attempting, through unity, to reach an agreement and understanding with the developed countries. That, of course, necessitates their continual insistence on their right to own and exploit their own natural resources. That is why the countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries [OPEC] have affirmed their right to establish the prices of oil in the world. For years oil had been sold at very low prices, while the prices of all the commodities exported by the developed to the developing countries had been reaching astronomic levels. That is why the developing countries producing oil decided that it was fully within their right to raise the price of oil in order to meet the rising prices of the commodities they needed. The increase in the price of oil was not aimed against the economic interests of any country, developed or developing; it was aimed at re-establishing the situation on a basis of justice, where injustice had long prevailed.

36. The world is now facing a severe economic crisis such as it has never experienced before. Oman supports the principle of international economic co-operation and regards the resolutions of the sixth special session of the General Assembly as a basis for

such co-operation between the industrialized and the developing countries. The economic interdependence of the international community makes international co-operation essential as the only means of averting the impending starvation and misery of all mankind. Oman firmly believes in the importance of the role of the United Nations in ensuring stability and security, which are the fundamental requirements for economic and social progress throughout the world.

37. We also believe in the importance of preserving the natural resources of land and sea, and, in conformity with that belief, my Government has concluded an agreement with the Government of Iran on the delimitation of the continental shelf in the Straits of Hormos and the neighbouring waters, in accordance with the principles of international law and the aims and principles of the United Nations. We believe that the happiness of the people of the area and the achievement of a better standard of living for them will come about only through such joint efforts. Moreover, in an attempt to preserve our marine environment and in the furtherance of our public, social and economic interests, on 3 August 1974, my Government promulgated the Marine Pollution Control Act.

38. Awareness of the importance of the sea and its role in the development of national economies prompted my Government to make a positive contribution in the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, held in Caracas from 20 June to 29 August 1974. The importance of that Conference is evidenced by the participation of some 150 countries in an effort to find solutions to various interrelated problems. The high percentage of participation in the Conference on the Law of the Sea is again evidence of the awareness of the international community of the importance of the sea and its resources in the development process of national economies and the ever-increasing importance of reaching binding agreements on the use, exploration and exploitation of the sea and its resources. We followed with great interest the views presented at Caracas, and we declare here that, within our means, my country will assist and actively help and co-operate to bring about a definitive formula acceptable to all.

39. Because we believe in the collective responsibility of States in the efforts to achieve international peace and security, Oman joined the group of the non-aligned countries. We firmly believe in the principles which guide the non-aligned countries and fully share the point of view of that group. Furthermore, we are fully convinced that no sacrifice on our part will be too great for the cause of peace and development and the well-being of all humanity.

40. The steps being undertaken for an open and direct dialogue between the Arab States and European countries for the purpose of defining a firm basis for co-operation also have our full support. Such co-operation indicates the awareness of all parties concerned of their mutual dependence. We hope that such co-operation when it does come about will also not only include economic and political aspects but also be a step forward for full Arab-European co-operation at every stage and in every field.

41. I have tried to clarify my country's position as regards various issues facing the international community. Allow me to add here that the United Nations

and the specialized agencies, in our view, have a greater role to play in resolving all these problems. I avail myself of this opportunity to reaffirm here our assurances that the Government of Oman will not hesitate or refrain from offering its help and from doing what is necessary to establish international peace and security in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

42. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (*interpretation from Russian*): The delegation of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic associates itself with the congratulations which have been addressed to the President of the twenty-ninth session, Mr. Bouteflika, Foreign Minister of Algeria. We are sure he will conduct a well-organized and effective session so that we can in due course take part in the adoption of important decisions to strengthen the cause of peace and co-operation on an equal footing among all States.

43. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR has been following the general debate very closely. Now that it is drawing to a close, we can say with good reason that virtually all States highly appreciate the continuing process of international *détente* and ever-increasing confirmation of the principle of peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems in the practice of international relations. The current year has brought new illustrations of the further strengthening of universal peace and international security and of the growth and cohesion of the forces of peace, socialism and progress and the deepening of their influence on the development of the international situation.

44. *Détente* is ever more confidently gaining ground, because powerful forces are working in its favour—first of all, world socialism, which is exerting a decisive influence over the course of world events, and also the forces of national liberation and social progress, together with all peace-loving forces and public opinion that are actively working for the defence of the cause of peace. It should also be pointed out that Western leaders who are realistic in their thinking cannot fail to take into account the changed balance of forces in the world, and they acknowledge more and more that there can exist no other ground for relationships between States with different social systems than the principles of peaceful coexistence.

45. The developing countries approve of the relaxation of tension as the main trend in the development of events in the international arena. It is well known that the atmosphere of the cold war was a suitable source of nourishment for anti-democratic trends in international relations and for the suppression by imperialism of the interests and rights of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The historic experience of those countries shows how important the fruitful and versatile activities of the socialist States are for them, those activities designed to put the relations between the opposing social systems on the road to peaceful coexistence and making *détente* irreversible. *Détente* creates the necessary prerequisites to the realization of the plans for building a new future.

46. The further improvement in the international climate is inseparably linked to the results of the third Soviet-American summit meeting. The peoples of all countries without exception have every reason to

experience satisfaction that the USSR and the United States have clearly confirmed their determination to continue the course envisaged by them in 1972 and 1973 and to do their best to diminish and ultimately to eliminate completely the risk of a military collision between the two countries which would be tantamount to a world nuclear war with catastrophic consequences for the whole of mankind. In addition to the treaties and agreements that have been concluded already, of which the agreement on the prevention of nuclear war is particularly important, the parties have agreed upon new practical measures with a view to limiting and curbing the arms race.

47. The fruitful development of bilateral relations between the States of the socialist community and France, the Federal Republic of Germany and other countries of the opposing social system and their joint quest for ways to settle important international problems have promoted the strengthening of international *détente*.

48. We stress with satisfaction the increasing role in international affairs of the non-aligned States and their anti-imperialist policy, their contribution to the struggle for *détente*, the struggle against war and aggression, the struggle for peace, national independence and social progress, their co-operation with the socialist States in the solution of important international problems. As experience has already shown, while deepening and expanding relations in a spirit of trust and solidarity, the socialist and developing States are able decisively to influence the development of the international situation in the interest of peace.

49. Some very important and welcome changes have occurred in Europe. A number of bilateral treaties and multilateral agreements concluded between the socialist and capitalist countries in recent years constitute a foundation for the political life of the continent in our era.

50. The successful completion of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe at the highest level is to play an immense role in bringing about a sharp turn for the better in relations between the European States and the strengthening of peace throughout Europe. For the Conference to be successful, it is first of all necessary that the basic principles of peaceful development of the continent should be clearly proclaimed and strengthened by the united will of all its participants, and that no one should try to slow down its work by submitting proposals incompatible with the principles of equality and non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries.

51. Successful completion of the talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe on the basis of strict observance by all of the rule of undiminished security for each side would be a substantial contribution to the cause of political *détente* on the European continent and would supplement political *détente* by military *détente*.

52. The Byelorussian people ardently welcome efforts to strengthen European security. Thirty years ago, in July 1944, peace and freedom returned to Byelorussia. They were won at an unprecedentedly high cost, requiring unparalleled military feats and toil by the entire Soviet people. In the Byelorussian SSR alone, every fourth citizen perished; more than one half

of the national wealth of the Republic was plundered or destroyed. While solemnly observing the thirtieth anniversary of the liberation of the Byelorussian SSR from the German Nazi invaders, the working people of the Republic welcomed with satisfaction the award to our capital, the city of Minsk, of the glorious title of "Heroic City". They rejoiced at the results achieved in the construction of a communist society. In 1973, industrial production increased 17-fold compared to the pre-war period. This year, farmers have reaped 27.5 metric centners of grain for every hectare of grain crops. Science and culture have flourished, and the standard of living of the population has risen significantly.

53. We cherish the memory of the soldiers, partisans and underground workers who sacrificed their lives to secure freedom and independence for the Soviet Union and to save world civilization from the brown shirt plague; we are engaged in peaceful creative work, and we most emphatically insist that Europe should never in future be the source of a new world war or military conflict. We want a Europe that will be a continent of lasting peace and equitable co-operation.

54. The Byelorussian SSR feels that *détente* should not be limited to one part of the globe. It should extend to all areas of the world. The idea of creating collective security in Asia put forward by the Soviet Union is finding increasing favour. The putting into effect of that proposal is being promoted by new positive trends on the continent. It goes without saying that much still has to be done in this direction. It is necessary, first of all, that problems arising between States should be settled by peaceful means, due account being taken of the legitimate rights and interests of all nations.

55. Adoption by the General Assembly without delay of a decision to withdraw all foreign troops stationed in South Korea under the flag of the United Nations and cessation of interference in the domestic affairs of the Korean people would be an important contribution by the United Nations to the cause of relaxation of tension on the Asian continent.

56. There is no doubt that all I have said accords with the interests of those who truly want to strengthen peace and to work for peace. Bilateral and multilateral co-operation between States with different social systems for the solution of extremely important international questions is fully and entirely in accord with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and supplements its activities in implementing its main task: the strengthening of peace and international security.

57. As was shown by the general debate, it is no mere coincidence that such a trend of development in inter-State relations finds the widest support and approval. Therefore no one in the United Nations takes seriously the wild theory about the so-called conspiracy of the two super-Powers put forward by the opponents of the cause of peace, *détente* and equitable co-operation. The statement of the representative of China [2252nd meeting], who since 1971 has repeated the same prefabricated clichés and utter inanities in the United Nations, reminds us of the situation of a blind man who has come up against a fence and cannot find his way round it.

58. *Détente* does not come of its own accord. It is a complicated process requiring constant and single-minded political struggle, active joint endeavours of the peace-loving States and broad support for that course of action by the popular masses of all countries. "We are firmly convinced", said Comrade Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, several days ago, "that the struggle for the strengthening of peace and for the enhancing and development of *détente* must never cease". It is the untiring and consistent struggle for the strengthening of international security which the Soviet Union, in co-operation with other States of the socialist community, has been carrying out in implementing the programme of peace put forward by the twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and which has become the banner of all peace-loving forces.

59. In fighting for *détente* and developing relations with the capitalist countries on the basis of peaceful coexistence, the States of the socialist community at the same time consistently and firmly support the struggle of peoples for freedom and consolidation of national independence, against the forces of imperialism, reaction and aggression. Scores of African, Asian and Latin American States are experiencing the beneficial effect of the solidarity and support of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community in their struggle to consolidate their national independence.

60. The need to strengthen further the joint actions of all peace-loving States is all the more evident in that the reactionary and aggressive forces have not laid down their arms. The tragedy of the people of the Republic of Cyprus is an illustration of this. Who can remain indifferent when the military circles of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] have embarked upon the materialization of plans hatched long in advance and directed against the Republic of Cyprus as a non-aligned State? It is inadmissible that Cyprus, a State Member of the United Nations, should lose its independence and territorial integrity, whether through foreign military interference or through the behind-the-scenes machinations of NATO.

61. Like other socialist States, the Byelorussian SSR has always been on the side of the people of Cyprus. Urgent and effective measures must be taken to safeguard the Republic of Cyprus from outside interference, to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign troops from its territory, to restore constitutional order in that country and to allow the Cypriots to decide their destiny by themselves. The Byelorussian SSR favours the realization of the proposal of the Soviet Union² for the convening, within the framework of the United Nations, of an international conference to settle the problem of Cyprus. It is at such a conference that it will be possible to achieve an effective solution of the international aspects of this problem with the proper authoritative international guarantees. The Byelorussian SSR has resolutely advocated this fundamental position in the Security Council. The dispatch of a special mission of the Security Council to Cyprus would meet the policy of ensuring the existence of Cyprus as an independent, sovereign and territorially intact State.

62. For many years the self-sacrificing and heroic struggle against imperialist aggression by the peoples of Indo-China has benefited from constant and comprehensive assistance and support from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and today we stand together with the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

63. The cessation of imperialist aggression in Indo-China and the conclusion of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam have created prerequisites for the consolidation of the turn away from war to peace, for the normalization of the situation in the Indo-Chinese peninsula and in South-East Asia as a whole. At the same time, we cannot but denounce resolutely the provocative activities of the Saigon Administration which, relying on the support of foreign forces, has been trying by every means possible to frustrate a political settlement in Indo-China. The Byelorussian SSR considers that the real way to strengthen peace and to normalize the situation in South Viet Nam lies in the strict and consistent fulfilment of the Paris agreements, a full cease-fire, the release of all detained military and civilian persons, the granting of full democratic rights to the population of South Viet Nam, the speedy conduct of negotiations between the two South Viet Nameese parties on the formation of a national council for reconciliation and concord with a view to creating favourable conditions for the holding of universal, genuinely free and democratic elections. This is the real way to strengthen peace and to normalize the situation in South Viet Nam.

64. The Byelorussian SSR favours the granting of the status of observer to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

65. More favourable conditions have been created for the struggle against imperialist aggression and the elimination of the hotbed of war in the Middle East, thanks to the active joint endeavours of the socialist States and non-aligned countries. Agreement on troop disengagement in the areas of the Sinai peninsula and the Golan Heights has been reached. However, these are only the first steps towards a settlement of the problem of the Middle East. It is not possible to permit the situation to be dealt with only by half measures, which is exactly what Israel and its protectors would like to see. Such a situation would be fraught with the dangers of a new military outbreak. The main issues of a political settlement in the Middle East are to be considered and solved at the Geneva Peace Conference which should resume its work as soon as possible. As is known, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression constitute the basis for a political settlement in the Middle East.

66. It goes without saying that the political settlement in the Middle East should guarantee the security and rights of all States and peoples in the area, including the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, whose representatives must have a seat at the table of the Geneva negotiations as an independent party.

67. The Byelorussian SSR has supported the proposal of the Arab countries to consider the question of Palestine at the current session of the General Assembly, and is a co-sponsor of the draft resolution

inviting the representatives of the PLO to participate in the discussion of this problem [A/L.736].

68. Today we are faced with a paradoxical situation in which real preparations for war continue while international tension is tangibly becoming relaxed. This is not only because of inertia but also because powerful imperialist forces are still active in the world, forces which for various economic and political reasons continue to speed up the flywheel of the arms race. These forces are trying to whip up the race of missiles and nuclear armaments which are most dangerous for mankind, trying to utilize the greatest achievements of the human mind for the creation of new and ever newer types of weapons.

69. The socialist countries have always fought against such a dangerous development, and we have every reason to pride ourselves on the fact that it is on the initiative of those countries that most disarmament questions have been considered or are being considered in the United Nations. The socialist countries have achieved positive results which are known to all, due to their consistent and resolute position and because they have proceeded in co-operation with the young independent States. This is in accord with the interests of all States, including the large group of developing countries which, in the solution of economic and social problems which they are facing, urgently need the release of funds being swallowed up by the arms race and the switching of those funds to the development of their national economies. For those countries peace is a primary and necessary prerequisite to save them from the colonial heritage and to give them a weapon to fight against neo-colonialism. How pathetic is the attitude of one country which, in words, tries to present itself here as a friend of the third world and at the same time, by its deeds, opposes the cessation of the arms race and opposes disarmament.

70. The Soviet Union has submitted an important new item, entitled "Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health" [item 100], for the consideration of the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session. In the opinion of the Byelorussian SSR, the drafting and conclusion of an appropriate international convention is most timely and indeed far-sighted. It is imperative today that measures should be taken to save humanity from the danger of the use of new means of waging war which tomorrow may widely proliferate and which will then be much more difficult to curb. The conclusion of such a convention would be not only a step forward in the limitation of the scope of the arms race but also an important means of protecting the human environment.

71. We should do all we can at this session to implement the resolution adopted at the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly on the reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and the utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries [resolution 3093 (XXVIII)]. That decision, which links together the problems of disarmament and those of development, may promote the cause of the strengthening of universal peace and socio-economic development, provided there is good

will on the part of all the permanent members of the Security Council.

72. The Byelorussian SSR will press for the adoption at this session of a decision making it possible to start directly on the preparation of recommendations on the practical questions related to the convening of the World Disarmament Conference. We are confident that through the combined efforts of peace-loving countries the opposition of the enemies of the convening of such a conference will be overcome.

73. The world community continues to face the task of bringing about the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, the cessation by everyone, everywhere, of nuclear weapons testing, and the implementation of other measures towards complete and general disarmament.

74. We expect at this session of the General Assembly to consider anew and in a broad context the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security [*resolution 2734 (XXV)*], which should result in additional specific steps for the strict implementation of the main provisions of that Declaration. It is essential that the discussion of this question should promote the strengthening and further development of the results already achieved in the general normalization of the international situation.

75. As a member of the Security Council, the Byelorussian SSR favours the adoption by the Council of appropriate measures to make mandatory the solemn resolution of the General Assembly on the non-use of force in international relations and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons [*resolution 2936 (XXVII)*]. Such a decision by the Security Council will have a long-term favourable influence on international relations. It is high time for those permanent members of the Security Council that have been opposing the adoption of such a decision to cease their obstructionism.

76. The General Assembly must make the best use of the favourable opportunities available for a fruitful discussion of the problems of disarmament and the strengthening of international security. That in turn will serve the cause of the further extension and deepening of the process of *détente* and the solution of the tasks of economic development.

77. The admission to the United Nations at this session of three States, Bangladesh, Grenada and Guinea-Bissau—whose delegations we warmly welcome here—is further proof of the continuing, powerful upsurge of the national liberation movement and of the emergence on the world arena on a broad scale of the independent developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

78. International support for those fighting for freedom, national independence, democracy and socialism has always been an integral part of the foreign policies of the socialist States. As members will recall, in 1960, on the initiative of the Soviet Union, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [*resolution 1514 (XV)*], an event of historic importance. The results of the struggle of the people of Guinea-Bissau have convincingly shown that the liberation movement is invincible when the alliance

between it and world socialism has become an objective reality. The colonialists, though armed to the teeth, were incapable of bringing the heroic people of Guinea-Bissau to their knees.

79. The chauvinists, blinded by their great-Power aspirations to hegemony, ultimately proved to be incapable of preventing the people of Bangladesh, who had embarked on the road to freedom and independence, from seeing their country become a Member of the United Nations.

80. The circumstances of *détente* have made it possible for the developing countries to intensify their struggle to eliminate unequal economic relations between developed capitalist countries and developing countries. The Byelorussian SSR actively supports the attitude and demands of the developing countries. The Byelorussian SSR took that stand at the sixth special session of the General Assembly, at which the developing countries presented a fully justified historical bill to imperialism and colonialism for centuries of exploitation and appropriation of their wealth and demanded the cessation of the pernicious activities of transnational monopolies.

81. As was rightly pointed out by the Foreign Minister of Algeria at the sixth special session, the adoption of the anti-imperialist decisions at that session was the result of natural alliances of the developing countries with the socialist States, alliances—and here I would quote Mr. Bouteflika's words: "which are profoundly motivated by the will of the international community to establish a new era based on justice, progress and peace". [2230th meeting, para. 185].

82. The support given by the socialist countries to the former colonial and dependent peoples has received a new and deeper meaning during the period in which a number of developing countries have embarked on and are carrying out broad socio-economic transformations. That support and that assistance are rendered as a matter of principle and are devoid of any consideration of short-term gain or aspirations to one-sided benefits. We resolutely support the African fighters against colonialism, racism and *apartheid*, all democrats struggling for the freedom of their peoples and against Fascist tyranny.

83. We consider that the United Nations should increase its efforts to bring about the cessation of repression of democrats, the release of all political prisoners in Chile and the cessation of the arbitrary rule and lawlessness of the Fascist junta, which has sold itself down the river to foreign capital. And no matter how often an agent of the Fascist military régime of Chile runs up to this rostrum to spread slander, abusing the right of reply, honest people—whether in Chile or in other countries—will not stop their struggle against the crimes of the bloody dictatorship in Chile; they will constantly render support to the patriots and democrats of Chile in their just struggle, which is inseparably linked with the peoples' aspiration to lasting peace on earth.

84. During the general debate, a number of representatives have tried to criticize the Charter of the United Nations and have even called for its revision. The Charter has been subjected to attacks for a long time now. There have always been people—and there evidently are such people around today—who regard

the Charter as an obstacle. On the other hand, a number of young independent States which sincerely seek the speedy implementation of the basic provisions of the Charter are inclined to yield to the temptation to revise it, to reorganize the United Nations, and so forth. We should like to draw their attention to the fact that it is precisely at the moment when the United Nations has begun to solve more effectively the tasks assigned to it in the Charter, at the moment when the role and influence of the non-aligned countries have grown immensely, that the rabid supporters of the revision of the Charter have become active.

85. We oppose any attempts to revise the Charter of the United Nations, for it fully reflects the existing balance of forces in the world and the presence of two social and political systems: socialism and capitalism; it ensures the vitality of the United Nations; it is in accordance with the interests of the maintenance and strengthening of peace. The whole history of the United Nations convincingly shows that it has been the strict observance of the Charter and the consistent implementation of the decisions of the Security Council and the positive recommendations of other United Nations bodies that have ensured the way to the success of the United Nations activities. Those who would strengthen the United Nations should vigorously and actively press for this, while unmasking and isolating those who try to undermine the Organization on the false pretext of perfecting its Charter.

86. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR, like many other delegations that have spoken in the general debate, is convinced that in the discussion and solution of any questions in the United Nations—problems related to the strengthening of peace and international security, disarmament, decolonization, the struggle against racism and *apartheid*, economic development, the working out and observance of the rules of international law—it is always necessary to have unity and cohesion, a high degree of activity and consistency on the part of all the anti-imperialist forces, in the vanguard of which the States of the socialist community march on and co-operate on a fraternal basis with the non-aligned and developing countries.

87. Mr. PUJA (Hungary) (*interpretation from Russian*): I should like to extend to Mr. Bouteflika my cordial greetings and warm congratulations upon his election as President of the General Assembly. This is an expression of the greatest esteem which the peoples of the world have for his country, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and for its representative. I am certain that under the guidance of that experienced statesman, this session of the General Assembly will contribute to the strengthening of peace and security and the settlement of yet unsolved problems.

88. The general debate of the Assembly is drawing to a close. This makes the situation of those taking the floor now much easier; we agree with a good many of the statements made during the debate and we feel that it is needless to speak of every question in detail.

89. The views of my Government regarding current problems of the international situation are plainly expressed in the Hungarian-Soviet joint communiqué following the recent highly successful visit to the

Soviet Union by a Hungarian Party and Government delegation headed by Janos Kadar.

90. In the judgement of my Government, the international atmosphere has considerably improved, and *détente* has become a main trend of international life. It cannot be overlooked at the same time that attempts are being made to slow down and even to stop this favourable development.

91. The General Assembly debate has so far demonstrated that in the process of *détente* a great part is being played by the improved bilateral relations between the socialist and the developed capitalist countries, especially the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. The meetings of the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States have been significant not merely from the point of view of relations between the two countries, but also because they have promoted the solution of highly important international problems. We note with satisfaction that Gerald Ford, the new President of the United States, has also come out in favour of the policy of peaceful co-existence. We hope that co-operation between socialist and capitalist countries will continue for the sake of *détente* and in order to bring about a solution of international problems.

92. The people of my country have been following with particular interest everything related to the strengthening of peace and security in Europe, because the development of the situation in Europe is of paramount importance to peace of the whole world. The improvement of the situation in Europe has been substantially advanced by the fact that countries of the capitalist world have acknowledged the situation established after the Second World War, by recognizing the German Democratic Republic in terms of international law, and also by the fact that it has become possible to normalize relationships between the European socialist countries and the Federal Republic of Germany. However, one cannot leave out of account the fact that some reactionary forces attack the practice of co-operation with the socialist countries and have been calling into question the equal rights of the German Democratic Republic and violating the four-Power Agreement on West Berlin. All of this is playing into the hands of the opponents of *détente*.

93. The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe is still working in Geneva. The holding of the conference and the prospective results of its work can be appraised as a significant contribution to the strengthening of international security which, under the Charter, is the principal task of the United Nations.

94. However, the Conference has had to cope with serious difficulties and still has difficulties ahead of it. Some delegations want to divert attention from the basic problems of security and co-operation to secondary issues. In our opinion, there is not a single problem before the Conference to which it would be impossible to find a solution acceptable to all participants. For that very reason we hope that the second stage of the Conference will very soon conclude its work and that the third stage can open at the highest level.

95. The favourable trend in the European situation is overshadowed by the events in Cyprus. The extrem-

ist circles of NATO have long been striving to bring Cyprus in one way or another under their influence and to establish military bases on that island. They are now trying to divide the island country. In contempt of the Security Council resolutions, they are seeking to impose a "solution" that will, essentially, exclude the people of Cyprus from any discussion concerning it.

96. My Government condemns the flagrant violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We have from the very beginning advocated the restoration of the right of the legitimate Government of Cyprus, the implementation of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and the withdrawal of all foreign troops. Respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the non-aligned State of Cyprus must be ensured.

97. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic fully agrees with the proposal of the Soviet Union that an international conference be convened under the auspices of the United Nations² to work out proposals for guaranteeing the independent existence of Cyprus. The United Nations should also do its utmost to make sure that the problem is resolved as soon as possible. It is in this spirit that my delegation has supported the inclusion of the question of Cyprus in the agenda and will take part in its discussion.

98. Favourable events have been occurring in Europe also. According to all indications, the Portuguese Government is breaking with the shameful past and wishes to participate in international co-operation. In Greece, the military junta that had engineered the *coup* in Cyprus has collapsed. The first statements and acts of the new Greek Government indicate a positive change in the foreign policy of Greece. We welcome that trend.

99. More than a year and a half has elapsed since the signing of the document entitled "Agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet Nam", signed in Paris on 27 January 1973. Certain auspicious steps have been taken in implementation of this historically important Agreement, but several provisions still remain unfulfilled. Since January 1973, because of the unceasing offensive operations of the Saigon army, the guns have been silent for hardly a minute in South Viet Nam; action follows upon action to seize new territories; the Saigon army burns down villages, compels thousands of people to abandon their homes, and keeps tens of thousands languishing in its jails.

100. The International Commission for Control and Supervision has for months been reduced to inaction. The Saigon Administration refuses to grant to the military delegation in Saigon of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam the immunities and privileges which are indispensable for normal work and which are defined in the Paris agreement and recognized in international diplomatic practice. In such circumstances, the Joint Military Commission of the two sides is incapable of working, and consequently the normal activity of the International Commission for Control and Supervision lacks juridical foundations and practical guarantees.

101. On the other hand, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam is taking initiatives in an effort to carry out fully the provisions of the Paris agreement, as is made clear in its six-point proposal made public on 22 March 1974.

102. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic emphatically condemns the schemings of the Saigon Administration and the external forces backing it, and demands that all provisions of the Paris agreement be put into effect without delay. We think the United Nations should deal with the South Vietnamese signatories on a footing of equality. It should make sure that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam is granted the status of observer at the United Nations.

103. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic has been pleased at the progress made in the Laos settlement. As far as Cambodia is concerned, my Government supports the struggle of the patriots against the Lon Nol régime which has usurped power in that country. We are of the opinion that Cambodia can be lawfully represented in the United Nations only by a delegation of the Royal Government of National Union.

104. As regards the conflict in the Middle East, only initial steps have been taken towards a comprehensive and just settlement. We, for our part, highly appreciate all positive steps to bring about a settlement in the Middle East, regardless of which country may initiate them. But we condemn the attempts being made to freeze the present situation, to postpone any settlement and to maintain tension in the Middle East. We have good reason to suspect that there are some who are striving to torpedo the Geneva Peace Conference. We know from a statement by the Prime Minister of Israel that the Israeli Government is against any multilateral talks; that instead, in an effort to split the ranks of the Arab countries, it wishes to hold bilateral conversations. It seeks to enforce all this by continued arming and even by armed provocations. In this they are playing with fire, which is a very dangerous game. If such machinations continue, a renewed outbreak of fighting in the Middle East cannot be ruled out. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic condemns the actions of Israel and its disregard of the resolutions of the Security Council.

105. A major aspect of the Middle East problem is the safeguarding of the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. My Government is one of those that have advocated discussion of the Palestine problem as a separate item of our agenda. We hope that this debate will bring us closer to a solution.

106. A just settlement is also being impeded by the efforts of international reaction to drive a wedge between the Arab countries and their sincere friends, the socialist countries. However, the Middle East crisis cannot be resolved without the participation of the socialist countries. Those who are against this really want to impede the achievement of any settlement. We think that the forces seeking a lasting and just peace in the Middle East must demand an immediate resumption of the Geneva Peace Conference, because that is the most appropriate forum, in the present circumstances, for working out the ways and means for achieving a solution.

107. The Hungarian Government has joined the sponsors of subitem (a) on the question of Korea entitled "Withdrawal of all the foreign troops stationed in South Korea under the flag of the United Nations". My Government supports the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea towards the peaceful

unification of the country. It hopes that the United Nations will also do its share, that it will not tolerate any further abuse of its flag after a quarter of a century, and that it also will get all foreign troops withdrawn as soon as possible.

108. To judge from the example of efforts to establish a security system in Europe, it would be useful if action were taken also in other areas of the world to guarantee the security of peoples living there. It would be of particularly high importance in this respect for the proposal of the Soviet Union for a collective security system in Asia to be implemented.

109. The Hungarian people have a profound understanding of the feelings of peoples fighting for their national independence. We are glad that after long struggles the colonies of Portugal are now winning their independence. However, we must not forget that there are still many peoples living in colonial situations and fighting for their freedom. Racial discrimination still prevails in many territories. It is the duty of the United Nations to assist those peoples in their struggle for liberation and in the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination.

110. It is heartening that the views of most Latin American countries on several important issues of our day coincide with or are close to the views of the socialist countries and the progressive non-aligned nations. A growing number of Latin American countries are normalizing their relations with socialist Cuba and taking an increasingly resolute stand for the repeal of discriminatory measures and in defence of their independence and sovereignty.

111. A year ago, the lawful Government of Popular Unity in Chile was overthrown by a Fascist military junta. Although the military dictatorship has gone to every conceivable length to consolidate its position, it has been unsuccessful. A mass manhunt is still going on for followers of the lawful Government and for democratically minded Chileans; many innocent people are sent to prison, to concentration camps, or are brought before the firing squads, which carry out death sentences. Governments, organizations and movements all over the world and millions of ordinary people have raised their voices in protest against the brutality of the Chilean junta. My Government and the entire Hungarian people condemn the Chilean military junta and demand that it put a stop to this bloody terror and release imprisoned innocent patriots. There can be no doubt that the junta has not only caused irreparable damage to the Chilean people but has also been instrumental in hampering the process of international *détente*.

112. The events of international life have indicated that political *détente* has made considerable progress. But political *détente* must be completed by military *détente*, since only in this way can it be made durable and stable. It is of capital importance that the arms race should be slowed down and ultimately stopped altogether. A few important steps have been taken in this field as well. The agreements between the Governments of the Soviet Union and the United States on the limitation of strategic arms are an auspicious start. My Government is looking forward to further results from the relevant Soviet-United States talks.

113. Both the General Assembly and other international forums have quite rightly paid particular

attention to the subject of nuclear disarmament, including the definitive prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, as well as the renunciation of the use and threat of force. Strict compliance with the obligations assumed under resolution 2936 (XXVII) adopted by the General Assembly could be a significant contribution to the strengthening of peace.

114. At the sixth special session, the importance has yet again been confirmed of resolution 3093 (XXVIII), adopted at the last session on the initiative of the Soviet Union and calling for a 10 per cent reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council. With this recent initiative, the Soviet Government has directed the attention of the General Assembly and of world public opinion to a problem which, if left unsolved, could entail almost unimaginable consequences, threatening the human environment and even the sound development of mankind as a whole. We are confident that the good will and the active support of Member States will make it possible to work out without any delay an international convention on the prohibition of action to influence the human environment for military purposes.

115. The Hungarian Government continues to believe it necessary that the proposal for the convening of a world disarmament conference should be implemented at the earliest possible date. The *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference has completed its work. Its report [A/9628] has been drafted and submitted to the General Assembly. During the debate on the issue, the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations stated their opinions and only a few of them opposed the convening of the conference. We believe that the time has come to take concrete action in this respect.

116. At the Vienna negotiations on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, certain NATO circles have been disregarding the principle of equal security, which they themselves accepted, and wish to gain unilateral advantages at the expense of States members of the Warsaw Pact. Of course, this delays the process of arriving at an agreement. An agreement on this question would be important, as it would contribute to the further improvement of the European political atmosphere and would open the way to the conclusion of similar agreements concerning other regions of Europe.

117. At its sixth special session on raw materials and development, the General Assembly took a great step forward by trying to give a comprehensive picture of the problems of international economic relations and by working out measures designed to solve those problems. I wish to state here that the Hungarian Government is prepared to co-operate in the implementation of measures approved at the sixth special session.

118. In my statement, I have had to speak also about dangers threatening the spread of international *détente*. We are convinced, however, that the process of *détente* cannot now be obstructed for long. Powerful forces are in favour of peace, security and a closer co-operation among the peoples—the socialist community, the national liberation movements, the developing countries which have followed the road of progress, the non-aligned countries and the peace-

loving working people of developed capitalist countries. The policy of those leaders of developed capitalist States who have taken into account the realities of today's world is also very important. We have no doubt whatsoever that the combination of these social factors will make the process of *détente* irreversible. Consequently, we most certainly do not share the view that *détente* is a transitional phenomenon and that it has now come to an end. This kind of propaganda is meant to serve certain well-known negative aims.

119. The statement by the representative of the People's Republic of China in the general debate [2252nd meeting] is an indication that there has been no change in the Chinese position. The Chinese representative has again cast aspersions on the Soviet Union and on forces advocating progress and socialism, and he has no constructive proposal to make. It is today clear to all that this attitude plays into the hands of the enemies of international *détente*.

120. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic fulfils the wishes of its people when, together with the other countries of the socialist community, it participates in efforts aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security. My Government lays great stress on the development of bilateral relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and countries with different social systems. We attach especially great importance to the development of economic ties, for it is precisely good economic co-operation that can serve as the most solid basis for sound relations in all other fields. My Government strives to ensure that the discriminatory obstacles impeding the development of economic relations will be removed.

121. The representatives of the Hungarian People's Republic have been displaying considerable activity at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, at the Vienna negotiations on mutual reduction of armed forces, at the Geneva Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and elsewhere. Everywhere they have been active in a spirit of mutual understanding and have been working to reach agreement without delay.

122. The Hungarian People's Republic complied with a request from the parties directly involved in the Viet Nam conflict when it undertook to become a member of the International Commission for Control and Supervision. It was guided by a sincere desire to promote, in close co-operation with the three other members of the Commission, the implementation of the provisions of the Paris agreement, out of a desire to contribute to the restoration of peace in South Viet Nam. It is firmly determined to serve these aims and not to bow to any pressure applied to it to make it divert from this course.

123. The Hungarian People's Republic maintains friendly relations with the Arab States fighting for their just cause. We are their friends and stand by them in their struggle in defence of their freedom and independence, as well as in times of peaceful construction.

124. My Government takes a very favourable view of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and notes that it stands up ever more consistently against the enemies of the independence of developing countries, and of peace and progress, and against imperialism and its allies. Hungary supports the progressive efforts of the non-aligned movement.

125. As can be seen from my statement, in the recent past the role and importance of the United Nations have increased. This is essentially because the Organization has reached a stage of its development at which it can already play a positive role in promoting the political settlement of conflicts that threaten to lead to a crisis.

126. The Hungarian People's Republic supports those initiatives which are taken with a view to putting into effect the purposes defined in the Charter, but we are opposed to such proposals, for example, as the revision of the Charter, as it would entail a decline in the effectiveness of the United Nations.

127. In conclusion, I wish to extend, on behalf of my Government, our greetings of welcome to the delegations of two new States Members of the United Nations, the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. From the very outset, my Government has supported the claim to membership in the United Nations of those two States which were born in a struggle for liberation, and it has not hesitated to recognize them as independent sovereign States. We are certain that their participation in the work of the United Nations will be most useful.

128. I also greet the representatives of the newest member of the Latin American group, Grenada, and I wish their country prosperity.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p

NOTES

¹ See International Monetary Fund, *Annual Report*, 1974, p. 49.

² See *Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-ninth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1974*, document S/11465.