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Letter dated 19 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward the enclosed final documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare, from 17 to 19 May 1989, with the request that they be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 18, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95, 96, 97, 99, 101, 104, 105, 106, 108, 110, 111, 112, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 127, 135, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148 and 149 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) C. J. TSOKODAYI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare
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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 17 to 19 May 1989.
2. The Conference was preceded by a Meeting of Senior Officials on 15 and 16 May 1989.
3. The representatives of the following countries and organizations which are members of the Movement participated in the Conference: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Capu Verde, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South West Africa People's Organization, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen Arab Republic, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
4. The following countries, organizations and national liberation movements attended the Ministerial Meeting as Observers: Brazil, Mexico, Mongolia, Philippines, Venezuela, African National Congress, Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Organization of African Unity, Socialist Party of Puerto Rico and the United Nations.
5. Guest delegations were present at the Conference from the following countries and organizations: Australia, Austria, Finland, Greece, Holy See, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Group of 77, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, South Commission, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and International Committee of the Red Cross.

II. ROLE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

6. The principles and objectives of Non-Alignment as set out and elaborated in successive Summit Conferences, involves the struggle against imperialism, colonialism; neo-colonialism; hegemonism; apartheid; racism; zionism; foreign aggression; occupation; domination; and all other forms of dependence, intervention, interference and pressure, as well as against great power and bloc politics and in support of the complete emancipation of all peoples. The policy of Non-Alignment involves the rejection of all forms of subjugation, overt or covert, direct or indirect, and all pressures, political, economic, military, diplomatic and cultural; and of any attempts to distort the struggles of peoples for independence and human dignity by placing them in the context of the East-West confrontation. Accordingly the Non-Aligned Movement should consistently strive for the relaxation of tensions; the elimination of hotbeds of tension, aggression and conflict; and the promotion of peace and peaceful coexistence and the just and peaceful settlement of disputes. It should likewise continue its efforts in favour of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a system of international relations based on the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, justice, the realization of the right of peoples under colonial and alien domination and foreign occupation to self-determination and independence and co-operation among all States.

7. The Ministers stressed the right of all peoples to pursue their own political, social and economic development without intimidation, hindrance or pressure and free from outside interference or intervention. They noted with dismay that the security and independence of Non-Aligned countries continue to be threatened and subjected to all kinds of pressure which are also aimed at weakening the unity of the Movement and diverting it from its principles and objectives. They appealed for greater unity, solidarity and co-ordinated action among Non-Aligned countries to resist such pressures.

8. The Ministers welcomed the growing recognition among other countries of the need for co-operation based on the principles and objectives of Non-Alignment. They resolved to further strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement's capacity for action and to develop concrete and effective procedures to enhance the influence and impact of its decisions on world affairs. They reaffirmed their countries' commitment not to be parties to or take action leading to great power confrontations and rivalry or the strengthening of the existing military alliances and the inter-locking arrangements arising therefrom, particularly through participation in military arrangements or through the provision of military bases and facilities for great power

military presence conceived in the context of great power rivalry or between one of those powers and members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. The Ministers emphasized that the destabilizing military presence, activities and manoeuvres of great powers in the territories, airspace and waters, or in the vicinity of Non-Aligned and other developing countries threatened the sovereignty and independence of those countries. They stressed that those activities endangered world peace and security, and they demanded that they cease.

9. The Ministers reaffirmed their faith and commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and expressed satisfaction at the increased effectiveness displayed by the United Nations, particularly in its expanded role in peace-keeping and peace-making in recent months. They commended the positive contribution of the Movement to this process especially in the Security Council. The Ministers reiterated that dialogue, particularly within the framework of the United Nations system, was the key to the solution of global problems that have affected all areas of contemporary international relations. They emphasized that a comprehensive solution to pressing international problems such as peace and security, disarmament and development, could only be assured through such negotiations, in which all countries should participate on an equal footing, based on the universally recognized principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations.

10. The Non-Aligned countries have always held that the responsibility for the future of mankind cannot be left to a limited number of States, however great and powerful they may be. If the current detente is to be durable, it must be universal, comprehensive and open to universal participation in the interest of all States thus leading to equitable and meaningful solutions to key problems and provide the basis for lasting peace. With the emerging positive trend, the Non-Aligned objective of real democratization of international relations should be achieved through the broadest possible participation.

11. The Movement will intensify its interaction and dialogue on an equal footing and on the basis of the Movement's positions, with all actors and groupings in international relations and will actively participate in the search for solutions to all outstanding international problems, responding to the challenges and new opportunities existing in the current international situation and adjusting to the new international realities.

III. ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

12. The Ministers welcomed the new and positive trend towards dialogue and negotiations promoted by the international community which has contributed to the improved climate in international relations. The rapprochement between the United States of America and the Soviet Union and the progress achieved in disarmament negotiations, which resulted in the entry into force of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, as well as their continuing dialogue, have recently yielded encouraging developments on the international political scene, including the efforts for peaceful solutions to various outstanding regional conflicts. The Ministers noted that the Non-Aligned Movement, consistent with its principles and objectives, has greatly contributed to bringing about the prevailing international political climate. The current positive developments have fully vindicated the validity and relevance of the policy of Non-Alignment.

13. The Ministers noted however that the improvement in the international situation is neither complete nor universal. Great power politics as well as practices of domination and intervention, resort to the threat or use of force, aggression, occupation, pressure, economic coercion and interference continue to afflict many regions of the world, particularly southern Africa, the Middle East and Central America where efforts for peaceful solutions are being frustrated. In addition, the Ministers noted that the world economic situation continues to be negatively affected by glaring disparities, inequalities and other serious problems.

14. In an increasingly interdependent world, international peace and stability can only be built on economically sound and just foundations. The international economy is undergoing fundamental changes and is facing challenges of unprecedented dimensions. The world economic system continues to be characterized by the deterioration in the terms of trade, the debt crisis, high interest rates, protectionist measures and other trade barriers raised by developed countries and the reverse flow of resources from developing to developed countries - all of which have resulted in the drastic widening of the gap between developing and developed countries and have not only made the developing countries unable to meet the basic needs of their peoples and to realize their development priorities but also imperil the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the unhindered economic development of Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

15. The Non-Aligned countries are aware that in view of their complexity and gravity, development problems can best be solved through complementary domestic and international action and it is necessary that the present world economic structure based on unjust and unequal relations be transformed through co-operative efforts on the basis of equity and justice. Thus it is essential that the North-South dialogue be resumed and efforts be continued to establish the New International Economic Order based on justice and sovereign equality. They expressed their readiness to engage in a dialogue directed towards the search for equitable and just solutions to the crucial and interrelated global issues of debt, money, finance, trade, development and ecological problems.

16. The Ministers observed that the critical economic situation on the African continent not only continues to threaten the development and stability of many African countries, but poses a grave danger to international peace and security. In this context they recognized the need to take concrete measures, especially the urgent implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action of African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, in order to arrest and reverse this negative trend.

17. The Non-Aligned countries recognize the necessity of reinforcing and broadening South-South co-operation in order to stimulate their economic growth, achieving collective self-reliance and enhancing their countervailing power in international negotiations. The Ministers noted that the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation of Non-Aligned Countries provides a sound basis for such co-operation and the achievements of the AFRICA Fund demonstrate the Movement's capacity and resolve for collective self-reliance.

IV. DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

18. Disarmament, the relaxation of international tension, respect for the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, especially the principles of the sovereign equality of States, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the injunction to refrain from the use or threat of force in international relations; respect for the right to self-determination and national independence, economic and social development, the complete eradication of colonialism, apartheid and all other forms of racism and racial discrimination, aggression and occupation; respect for human rights, and the strengthening of international peace and security are closely related to each other. Progress in any of these fields has a positive influence on all of them while failure in one or other field is detrimental to progress in other spheres.

19. The Ministers stressed that removing the threat of nuclear catastrophe is the most acute and urgent task of the present day. Despite the positive developments in the field of disarmament in recent months, which should be encouraged, the world is still threatened by the massive nuclear arsenals still in existence and which are being further refined and added to. They therefore emphasized the extreme urgency of adopting immediate measures for the prevention of nuclear war and for achieving nuclear disarmament.

20. The Ministers were encouraged by the rapprochement between the USA and the USSR and the progress achieved in disarmament negotiations which resulted in the entry into force of the INF Treaty and an agreement in principle on reducing their strategic arsenals by 50 percent. They reiterated their expectation that these agreements would be a precursor to the adoption of concrete disarmament measures leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. They also asserted that the other nuclear weapon States be involved in the process of nuclear disarmament.

21. A comprehensive test ban, which has been pursued for the past 28 years, is a matter of the highest priority for Non-Aligned countries. Continued nuclear-weapon testing fuels the arms race and increases the danger of nuclear war. A ban on all nuclear-weapon tests would de-escalate the nuclear arms race and greatly reduce the threat of nuclear war. The Ministers therefore stressed the pressing need to negotiate and conclude a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty prohibiting all nuclear weapon tests by all States in all environments for all time. The Ministers urged the Conference on Disarmament to embark upon the negotiations for a comprehensive nuclear test ban, the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

22. The Ministers noted the recent agreement between the USSR and the USA to resume negotiations on a nuclear test ban. They expressed the hope that these negotiations will facilitate the early conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. While negotiations are underway for such a treaty, there should be moratorium on all nuclear testing by all States. At the same time, they reaffirmed that verification arrangements for a nuclear-test-ban treaty should conform with the principles of equity, non-discrimination and universal participation by all parties to the Treaty. They also expressed their support for the proposal put forward in the Stockholm Declaration of January 1988 by the leaders of the Six Nation Initiative for the establishment of an integrated multilateral verification system within the United Nations as an integral part of a strengthened multilateral framework required to ensure peace and security during the process of disarmament as well as in a nuclear-free world.

23. The Ministers endorsed the initiative and expressed support for the action taken by Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia to call for an amendment conference of States parties to the 1963 Partial Test-Ban Treaty with a view to transforming that Treaty into a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty in accordance with Article II of the Treaty, and urged the early convening of the Conference.

24. The Ministers reiterated that the use of nuclear weapons besides being a violation of the United Nations Charter, would also be a crime against humanity. In this regard, they urged nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of nuclear disarmament, to agree to the conclusion of an international treaty on the prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. They considered an important step in this direction to be the early entry of all nuclear-weapon States into an internationally-binding commitment not to be the first to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons. They called for a freeze on the development, production, stockpiling and deployment of nuclear weapons. The freeze of nuclear weapons should, *inter alia*, provide for the simultaneous stoppage and discontinuance of any further production of fissionable material for weapons purposes.

25. The Ministers stressed that the most effective guarantee against the danger of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapon is nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Pending the achievement of total nuclear disarmament, however, it is essential that non-nuclear States be ensured against being threatened or attacked with nuclear weapons. In this regard, the Ministers said that the nuclear-weapon States also have an obligation to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter. Consequently, they urged that negotiations should proceed without delay for the early conclusion of a binding international instrument on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, within the Disarmament Conference.

26. The Ministers affirmed that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, or within the framework of the United Nations, and taking into account the characteristics of each region, constituted an important disarmament measure. Recalling paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 63 of the Final Document of SSOD I, the Ministers expressed support for all individual and regional initiatives or proposals which

envisaged the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in such a manner. The Ministers reiterated that the establishment of such zones in different parts of the world should be encouraged, with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons.

27. The Ministers emphasized that the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, adopted in 1964 by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), would constitute an important measure for the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the preservation of international peace and security. In this regard, they strongly condemned the racist South African regime for the acquisition of a nuclear-weapon capability and roundly deplored the collaboration of certain North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member States and Israel with the racist regime, which had given that country its nuclear capability. They noted with grave concern that collaboration with the racist South African regime violates many resolutions of the United Nations, including the consensual view of the international community, expressed in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly that "the massive accumulation of armaments and the acquisition of nuclear weapons by racist regimes presents a challenging and increasingly dangerous obstacle to a world community faced with the urgent need to disarm. It is, therefore, essential for purposes of disarmament to prevent any further acquisition of arms and arms technology by such regimes, especially through strict adherence by all States to relevant decisions of the Security Council." This collaboration also undermines the objectives of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa and sabotages the efforts undertaken in the interests of disarmament, peace and security of the region, as well as international peace and security. The Ministers therefore called upon the Security Council in the discharge of its responsibilities as the primary organ of the United Nations responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, to take effective and concrete measures to meet the danger posed by the acquisition of nuclear capability by the South African racist regime.

28. The Ministers reiterated their view that the universally adopted objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control called for action within a comprehensive framework, including measures for nuclear disarmament, gradual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons, as well as regional disarmament.

29. The Ministers reaffirmed the validity of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (1978) and recalled the consensus decision of the international community contained therein for the adoption of a Comprehensive Programme for Disarmament. The Ministers also recalled the Final Communique and the Plan of Action adopted at the Non-Aligned Co-ordinating Bureau's Special Ministerial Meeting on Disarmament held in Havana in May 1988. The Third Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (1988) served the purpose of increasing awareness of the areas where future efforts should be concentrated and underscored the determination of States to work resolutely for the common cause of curbing the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, and achieving disarmament. They took note of a number of constructive proposals of far-reaching significance advanced by Non-Aligned countries during the session, including an Action Plan for ushering in a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world order, presented by India. These proposals were fully reflected and included in the reports of the Working Groups of the Assembly and in the paper prepared by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole which enjoyed wide support. They emphasized the need for pursuing these proposals in all available multilateral disarmament fora.

30. The Ministers emphasized that the time had come to consider changes in the doctrines, policies and institutions, with a view to establishing a new world order based on strict respect of the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, peaceful coexistence, the non-use of force, non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of the States, and the achievement of general and complete disarmament including the complete elimination and prohibition of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

31. The Ministers reiterated their concern that newly-emerging technologies were producing a new generation of weapons of mass destruction, both nuclear and non-nuclear, whose effects were so similar to as to blur the distinction between nuclear and conventional weapons and thereby help legitimize the possession of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. To this end they welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 43/77A which, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to follow future scientific and technological developments, especially those which have potential military applications, and to evaluate their impact on international security, with the assistance of qualified consultants, experts, as appropriate, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. They urged all States to furnish the

Secretary-General with the information called for in the resolution. The Ministers considered that the global measures were necessary in order to ensure that scientific and technological process was directed, without any discrimination, towards the benefit of mankind.

32. In the same vein, new technologies are being applied in preparation for the development of new weapons and weapons systems in outer space. The Ministers strongly reaffirmed the principle that outer space, which is the common heritage of mankind, should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and for the benefit and in the interest of all countries and that it should be open to all States. They recalled the obligation of all States to refrain from the threat or use of force in their outer space activities and urged strict compliance with the existing legal regime pertaining to outer space, including both bilateral and multilateral agreements. They therefore called upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to adhere strictly to the existing legal restrictions and limitations on space weapons and to refrain from taking any measures aimed at developing, testing or deploying weapons and weapons systems in outer space.

33. The Ministers called for the urgent commencement of negotiations aimed at concluding an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent the extension of the arms race in all its aspects into outer space and thus enhance the prospects of co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space. In particular they stressed the urgency of halting the development of anti-satellite weapons, the dismantling of existing systems, the prohibition of the introduction of new systems into outer space and of ensuring that the existing treaties safeguarding the peaceful uses of outer space are strengthened and extended as necessary in the light of recent technological advances. They called upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament to explore ways and means of bringing satellites for military purposes under international control, particularly when such satellites put at risk the security of Non-Aligned countries.

34. The Ministers stressed that, without prejudice to the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament, sustained efforts should be made in order to conclude without delay, a treaty banning the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons. They expressed their profound concern at the increased production and use of chemical weapons and the development of new chemical weapons, including binary weapons.

Though the use of chemical weapons is already proscribed by the Geneva Protocol of 1925, the Ministers were convinced that the possession of such weapons led inevitably to their use. They therefore urge all States to make every effort to bring about the early conclusion of a chemical weapons convention currently being negotiated within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament. Such a Convention and the total elimination of chemical weapons which it seeks is the only guarantee against the dangers of the use of these weapons. Any interim measures for non-proliferation will not be effective and should therefore be rejected.

35. The Ministers condemned the use of chemical weapons by any States under any circumstances and considered such use a grave violation of international law and human norms. They emphasized that pending the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention, there should be strict observance of the Geneva Protocol. In this connection they welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Conference on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Use, bringing together the States parties to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and other interested States in Paris 7 to 11 January 1989 and endorsed the final Declaration of the said Conference whereby the participating States, *inter alia*, expressed their determination to prevent any recourse to chemical weapons by completely eliminating them, solemnly affirmed their commitments not to use chemical weapons and condemned such use, recognized the importance and continuing validity of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and called upon all States which have not yet done so to accede to the said Protocol, stressed the need for the early conclusion and entry into force of a Convention on the prohibition of the development and production of those weapons, which shall be global, comprehensive, effectively verifiable, of unlimited duration and non-discriminatory, and called upon the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva to redouble its efforts, as a matter of urgency, to resolve expeditiously the remaining issues and conclude the Convention at the earliest date, taking into consideration the final document of the first special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament in 1978, which underlined the need to pursue with determination their efforts to secure general and complete disarmament under effective international control, in its priority as mentioned in paragraph 45 of the said document, so as to ensure the right of all States to peace and security.

36. The Ministers expressed concern at the dangers posed by large naval forces and the naval arms race, both as part of the general arms race, including the nuclear arms race, and in its own right. They urged members of the military blocs and other

States with the largest fleets to halt and reverse the naval arms race, particularly in its nuclear dimension, and to limit these forces, bearing in mind the threat they pose to the maintenance of world peace.

37. The Ministers noted with deep concern that the qualitative development of conventional weapons added a new dimension to the arms race, especially among States possessing the largest conventional arsenals. They urged those States to restrain such development. They emphasized that together with negotiations on nuclear disarmament, measures for the limitation and gradual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons should be pursued resolutely within the framework of progress towards general and complete disarmament. States with the largest military arsenals have a special responsibility in this regard. The adoption of such disarmament measures should take place in an equitable and balanced manner in order to ensure the right of each State to security and that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage. At each stage, the objective should be undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments and armed forces. The Ministers emphasized that the adoption of disarmament measures should be based on full respect for the principles of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and the peaceful solution of disputes in accordance with the United Nations Charter. In conformity with the criteria cited above, where the regional situation so permits, at the initiative of any or all of the States so concerned, the States should consider and with their concurrence adopt measures at the regional level with a view to strengthening peace and security at a lower level of forces through the limitation and reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons.

38. In this regard, the Ministers expressed support for the unilateral initiatives taken by certain Non-Aligned countries at the regional and sub-regional levels to systematically establish and implement confidence-building measures and to limit the acquisition of conventional arms and reduce military expenditures with a view to allocating the resources so released for the socio-economic development of their peoples. The Ministers called upon other States to facilitate progress towards regional disarmament by refraining from any action, including the threat or use of force, that could impede the achievement of the objectives of such initiatives and urge major arms suppliers to co-operate for the attainment of that goal.

39. The Ministers recognized the adverse consequence for international peace caused by illegal trafficking in arms, a phenomenon that tends to aggravate tensions, undermine the domestic security of some States and regional security, and strengthen the forces opposed to the process of disarmament.

40. The Ministers reiterated their conviction that the reduction and elimination of the military activities, facilities, bases and rivalry of great powers and their respective blocs and of other countries beyond their boundaries in violation of the United Nations Charter would significantly contribute to the strengthening of the security of Non-Aligned and other developing countries. They therefore called for the military withdrawal and disengagement of the great powers and their military alliances as well as of other countries from positions beyond their frontiers in violation of the United Nations Charter and the withdrawal of their troops and elimination of military bases and facilities from the territories of the Non-Aligned Movement countries. They called upon all members of the Non-Aligned Movement to refrain from providing such military bases and logistical supply facilities for activities conceived in the context of great power rivalries.

41. The Ministers reaffirmed their intention to promote the declaration of the South Pacific as a zone of peace as an important element for preserving peace and security in that important area and keeping it from being subjected to the use of force and growing militarization, and they agreed to take the steps required for having the General Assembly of the United Nations declare the South Pacific as a zone of peace and co-operation.

42. The Ministers took note with interest of the inauguration of the Conference on Conventional Forces in Europe and the follow-up meeting on Confidence and Security Building Measures in Europe.

43. The Ministers underlined the central role and primary responsibility of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. They stressed that all peoples of the world had a vital interest in disarmament negotiations, the right to participate on an equal footing in disarmament negotiations affecting their national security and an inherent right to contribute to their success. Bilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament should mutually facilitate and complement, and not hinder or preclude, each other.

The Conference on Disarmament should, therefore, be kept informed of all steps in bilateral negotiations, and it should be enabled to fulfil its mandate as its sole multilateral negotiating body in the field of disarmament and to adopt concrete measures of disarmament, in particular measures of nuclear disarmament and for the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

44. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the positive role played by the World Disarmament Campaign and the continued world-wide campaign against nuclear weapons and reiterated their conviction that the peace movements could play an extremely influential role in promoting nuclear disarmament and preventing nuclear war. They emphasized the importance of encouraging and rendering all possible assistance to the process.

45. The Ministers reiterated their conviction that the arms race posed a dual threat to humanity: not only does the accumulation of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, threaten the continued survival of mankind in its own right, but the diversion of resources to the arms race represents an unconscionable opportunity cost in a world riddled by poverty, hunger, illiteracy and a host of other socio-economic ills. They therefore welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, held in 1987, and called upon all States to implement the Action Programme adopted by the Conference with a view to releasing resources through disarmament measures for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries. The Ministers called for the early establishment of international financial mechanisms to facilitate the transfer of resources released through disarmament measures towards socio-economic development. In this connection, they welcomed the proposal by Peru that efforts be made within the framework of the United Nations to ensure that future disarmament or arms limitations agreements between the great powers include a section on co-operation for development, so that a part of the resources released by those agreements are earmarked for the creation of a fund to promote development and fight poverty and hunger.

V. SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

46. The Ministers were gravely concerned at the continuing state of war in southern Africa. They reaffirmed that apartheid is the root cause of conflict in the region which has jeopardized the peace and security of the subcontinent and which poses a grave threat to international peace and security. The perpetration of genocide at home and the practice of aggression and State terrorism abroad are inherent in the system of apartheid. The Ministers therefore reiterated that there could be no peace, stability or security in southern Africa until the obnoxious system of apartheid was totally eradicated.

47. The Ministers reiterated that apartheid, rightly declared a crime against humanity and an affront to the universal conscience, emanated from the same racist and bellicose ideologies which sustained the slave trade and also provoked the Second World War and caused such immense destruction and bloodshed. Considering that apartheid constituted a threat not only to the peace, security and economic prosperity of the region but also to international peace and security, the Ministers were indignant and dismayed that certain Western States, themselves either arch-practitioners of the slave trade or victims of fascist aggression, or both, continue to aid and abet apartheid morally, economically, financially, politically, diplomatically and militarily.

48. The Ministers strongly condemned the Pretoria regime for its acts of genocide against the defenceless African majority of South Africa and for conducting State terrorism and aggression against the Front-line and other neighbouring independent States, in particular through the recruiting, training, financing, directing and infiltrating of bandits and mercenaries for the purposes of destabilizing those States and overthrowing their governments.

49. The Ministers undertook to support the efforts of the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity in carrying out his general mandate to speed up the liberation process in the sub-region.

A. DESTABILIZATION

50. The Ministers expressed their support for the Communiqué issued by the Summit Meeting of the Front-line States held in Gaborone, Botswana, on 8 March 1989, at which the Heads of State, in reviewing the situation in southern Africa, underlined the fact that peace, security and economic and social progress in the region could not be achieved as long as apartheid, the root cause of the problems, continued to exist in South Africa.

51. The Ministers noted that South Africa, in order to protect and maintain its apartheid policy, continues to destabilize the region using its "total strategy" of weakening the Front-line States and other neighbouring countries economically, socially, politically and militarily. They commended the Front-line States for continuing to support the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa and the fight against apartheid and called on the international community to lend maximum support and assistance to the Front-line States.

52. The Ministers strongly condemned racist South Africa's numerous acts of aggression, subversion and destabilization against the Front-line and neighbouring independent States, including deliberate massacres of refugees, causing enormous human and material damage, as well as its instigation of and support for subversive groups engaged in terrorism in those States. In view of these acts of internal and external State terrorism, the Ministers declared South Africa to be a terrorist State.

53. The Ministers noted that Pretoria's arrogance and intransigence had been encouraged by such policies of collusion as "constructive engagement". They expressed the hope that it had now become manifest to the entirety of the international community that the eradication of apartheid was to be achieved not through policies of appeasement but through strict adherence to principle and unequivocal alignment with the side of justice.

54. The Ministers fully supported the Summit Declaration of the Organization of African Unity on the involvement of the United States in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola, as expressed in resolution AHG/Decl.1 (XXII), which, *inter alia*, states:

- (a) "The 1986 public announcement by the United States Administration that the bandits in Angola would be supplied with United States-made 'Stinger missiles' and the subsequent delivery of these missiles is an affront and a challenge to the OAU and constitutes a contemptuous act of undeclared war by the United States Administration against the sovereign People's Republic of Angola.
- (b) "The financial and military support that the present United States Administration is giving to the bandits in Angola constitutes a serious violation of the 1970 United Nations Declaration on friendly relations among States and also a violation of the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations.
- (c) "The deliberate and overt involvement of the United States Administration in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola constitutes a hostile act against the Organization of African Unity."

55. In this connection, the Ministers endorsed the Communiqué issued by the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee of Heads of State and Government on Southern Africa in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 22 March 1989, in which they also called upon the Government of the United States of America to cease its support for the UNITA bandits so that the process of national harmonization in Angola could continue along the lines defined by the people and Government of Angola and called upon African countries to ensure that their territories would not be used as supply bases and transit routes for UNITA bandits to destabilize Angola.

56. While welcoming the Brazzaville Protocol and the New York Agreements on South-Western Africa, the Ministers noted with concern that, contrary to the provisions of those agreements, South African military forces recently invaded Angola in support of UNITA bandits. Accordingly, the Ministers demanded that South Africa respect the terms of the agreements and desist forthwith from further violations of Angola's territorial integrity and sovereignty and from giving further assistance to the UNITA bandits.

57. The Ministers condemned the destabilization activities of the South African-backed armed bandits in Mozambique and South Africa's continued assistance to those bandits. The Ministers were appalled by the heinous crimes perpetrated by the bandits against the people of Mozambique. They recalled that, although South Africa had, on several occasions, undertaken to end its support for the armed bandits, the bandits had continued to receive support from the Pretoria regime, which enabled them to escalate the massacres of innocent people and the sabotage of strategic socio-economic targets, such as the railways, power lines, the oil pipeline as well as health and educational facilities.

58. The Ministers fully endorsed the Communiqué on the Situation in Southern Africa in general and in Angola and Namibia in particular issued by the Heads of State of Angola, the Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe in Luanda on Tuesday 16 May 1989. They reaffirmed their support for the people of Angola in their efforts to build a climate of peace and security in the country and urged the international community to lend maximum support.

59. The Ministers reaffirmed their total support for the Government and people of Mozambique and for the preservation of that country's peace, independence and national sovereignty, and they appealed to all members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the international community as a whole to render diplomatic, political, financial and material assistance to Mozambique in order to enable it to strengthen its defence capability; and to pursue its national reconstruction.

60. The Ministers reiterated their support for the objectives of the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), namely the desire of the countries involved to lessen their economic dependence on South Africa, to achieve economic growth and collective self-reliance and to have SADCC as the primary vehicle for the achievement of those objectives. They reiterated their support for those objectives and welcomed the important steps SADCC had taken in initiating programmes in key economic sectors aimed at ensuring economic growth, achieving collective self-reliance and reducing the economic dependence of the concerned countries on South Africa, whose economic and military power is systematically used to destabilize its independent neighbours and cripple their national development efforts.

61. The Ministers welcomed the reports of the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid (AFRICA) Fund on the progress it has achieved, commended those countries that have thus far contributed to the Fund and called on those countries which have not yet done so to join in support of that just cause. They urged that pledges made should be honoured and disbursed without delay. They also commended the concerted and determined efforts of the Front-line States to cope with the prevailing adverse conditions by strengthening their economic co-operation and lessening their dependence on South Africa, particularly in the areas of transportation, communication and related fields.

62. The Ministers reaffirmed the right of the Front-line and other independent States neighbouring South Africa to give sanctuary to victims of apartheid, minority rule and foreign occupation, in accordance with their international obligations and humanitarian principles. They appealed to all members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the international community as a whole to give the Front-line and other independent States neighbouring South Africa diplomatic, political, financial and material assistance in order to enable them to strengthen their defence capabilities to better meet those obligations. The Ministers noted that the destabilization activities of the racist regime had brought about the problem of displaced persons and refugees which burdens the services and the economies of the Front-line and other neighbouring States.

63. The Ministers noted that the continuing destruction to lives and property in the Front-line and other neighbouring States, as well as the threat which the situation continued to pose to international peace and security and regional stability, demanded renewed urgency in the response of the international community. The Ministers therefore called for the convening in 1990 of an international conference by the United Nations devoted to the destabilization activities of South Africa.

B. NAMIBIA

64. The Ministers welcomed the commencement of the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence on 1 April 1989. They reaffirmed their commitment to full implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) in its original and definitive form, as affirmed in resolution 632 (1989). In that context, they expressed the strong view that the reduction of the size of UNTAG, at the insistence of the five permanent members of the Security Council, had prejudiced the ability of the United Nations to fully carry out its mandate to ensure early independence for Namibia through free and fair elections without intimidation, under its supervision and control. The Ministers called upon the United Nations Secretary-General to ensure the existence of conditions conducive to a free and fair election and that all parties are adequately protected.

65. The Ministers regretted that resources and the military component of UNTAG necessary for the effective implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 435 had been reduced despite protests by SWAPO, the Front-line States, the Organization of African Unity and the Non-Aligned Movement to the effect that the situation on the ground in Namibia called for more rather than reduced resources. They expressed the hope that the undertaking to retain the number of the upper limit of UNTAG forces would be respected and, to that end, stressed the need for the reserve battalions to be immediately deployed.

66. The Ministers noted that, in his explanatory statement (S/20457) of 9 February 1989 concerning his Further Report in document S/20412, of 23 January 1989, the Secretary-General stated that the mandate of the military component of UNTAG, as approved in Security Council resolution 435 (1978), remained unchanged; that no tasks had been eliminated; and that he had been assured by all the members of the Security Council, including the permanent members, that they would extend their fullest co-operation to him in terms of paragraph 54(g) of his report and that the members of the Security Council would

respond promptly to any need for additional military personnel which he might deem warranted up to the authorized upper limit of 7500. The Ministers therefore called upon the international community, including the permanent members of the Security Council, to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in increasing the military component of UNTAG to the upper limit of 7500 personnel.

67. The Ministers noted that the tragic events that have taken place in Namibia since April 1 need not have happened if UNTAG had been adequately staffed and timeously deployed as required by resolutions 435 and 632. In this regard the Ministers were of the view that UNTAG and its leadership cannot escape criticism for the slowness with which they began their work as well as for the outrageous decision to unleash the South African forces against the people of Namibia. They observed that the unleashing of Koevoet in Northern Namibia with the full authority of the United Nations was as tragic as it was ill-judged and damaging to the reputation of the United Nations.

68. The Ministers condemned the malicious campaign against SWAPO being waged by South Africa, and promoted wittingly by the mainstream Western press and certain prominent European politicians. They urged the United Nations Secretary-General to ensure that the anti-SWAPO campaign be terminated, to enable SWAPO to campaign freely in all parts of Namibia. They also condemned the registration of non-Namibians by South African occupation forces with the aim of tipping the scales against SWAPO in the election.

69. The Ministers welcomed the decisions of the OAU and the Front-line States to set up liaison offices in Namibia during the transition period. In addition to these measures, the Ministers urged individual Non-Aligned countries to ensure that their national press adequately covered the transition process as a means of continuously informing member States about developments in Namibia.

70. The Ministers reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Namibian people to self-determination and independence within an untruncated territory, including Walvis Bay, the Penguin Islands and all adjacent offshore islands, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. They stressed that these areas are an integral part of Namibia and urged the Security Council, in conformity with international opinion as spelt out at the International Conference for the immediate independence of Namibia of 1986, solemnly to declare that Walvis Bay and the offshore islands are an integral part of Namibia and that as such should not be divorced from the political process designed to bring about independence for the territory.

71. The Ministers stressed that in order for the forthcoming elections to be considered as having taken place in "The whole of Namibia as one political entity," in accordance with resolution 435, the registration of voters, campaigning by the political parties and the voting itself must be conducted throughout the territory, including in particular Walvis Bay.

72. The Ministers strongly condemned the reported plans by the apartheid Pretoria regime and others to create a depository for radioactive and toxic waste in the Namibian desert on the west coast of Namibia. They called upon the countries concerned to abandon forthwith such plans, which would endanger the health and well-being of the Namibian people and of those of neighbouring States.

73. The Ministers recalled that Namibia, in accordance with resolution 2145 (XXI), of 27 October 1966, was the direct responsibility of the United Nations until genuine self-determination was achieved in the territory. They urged the Security Council to ensure through appropriate action that the United Nations Plan, as embodied in Security Council resolution 435 (1978), would be implemented unconditionally without further obstacles. They stressed that, in the event that racist South Africa continued to flout the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on the question of Namibia, particularly Security Council resolutions 385 (1976), 435 (1978), 539 (1983), 566 (1985), 601 (1987) and 632 (1989), and in the light of the serious threat to international peace and security that racist South Africa posed, it would be incumbent upon the Security Council to immediately impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against that regime under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

74. The Ministers called upon the international community to urgently extend assistance to the UNHCR and SWAPO for purposes of the speedy repatriation of all Namibians so that they might participate in the election. At the same time, they urged the United Nations to take adequate measures for their resettlement and rehabilitation for a reasonable period of time in Namibia.

75. The Ministers reiterated that the future of Namibia was a matter of great interest to the Non-Aligned countries. In this respect, the Movement's continued support was needed to ensure SWAPO's victory in the election. It is in this context that they urged the members to assist SWAPO at five different levels, i.e. bilateral, collective, contributions to the OAU special fund for SWAPO, to the Non-Aligned Solidarity Fund on Namibia and assistance by the broader international community through the United Nations.

76. The Ministers welcomed the United Nations Secretary-General's expressed intention to strengthen both the executive and the monitoring components of UNTAG as well as to visit the territory of Namibia. They assured the Secretary-General of the readiness of the Movement to give active support to his efforts aimed at bringing about genuine independence for Namibia.

77. The Ministers congratulated the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York and the Non-Aligned caucus in the Security Council for the positive role they played in the negotiations leading to the adoption of resolutions 628 (1989), 629 (1989) and 632 (1989), in which, *inter alia*, the Security Council reaffirmed its commitment to the full implementation of its resolution 435 (1978) in its original and definitive form. In this connection, the Ministers mandated the Bureau to continue monitoring, on behalf of the Movement, the implementation of the Namibian Plan until that territory achieved its independence.

78. The Ministers reaffirmed their full and complete support to the United Nations Council for Namibia in its role as the legal administering authority for Namibia until its independence. The responsibilities of the Council for Namibia, particularly in the areas of humanitarian assistance and human resources development, of dissemination of information and representation of the people of Namibia internationally continue to remain a sacred trust of this body until that country attains genuine independence.

79. The Ministers paid tribute to the memory of Brent Carlsson, the late United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, who was a guest of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and a valiant champion of the right of the people of Namibia to an unfettered future.

C. SOUTH AFRICA

80. On the situation in South Africa, the Ministers noted with grave concern the continued intransigence of the apartheid racist regime manifested in increased internal repression, continued incarceration and exile of authentic leaders of the majority, prolongation of the state of emergency, military occupation of African townships and the detention without trial of thousands of African patriots and the banning or restriction of mass and professional organizations.

81. The Ministers strongly condemned the racist Pretoria regime for its abhorrent policy and system of apartheid, which is the root cause of the violence and instability in southern Africa. They noted that the racist regime had come under increasing pressure from the national liberation movements, trade union federations, mass organizations and the churches.

Moreover, new measures of repression, including the Labour Relations Act and the Foreign Funding Bill have also met with militant resistance and a spirit of defiance. This same spirit inspired the hunger strikes by the state of emergency detainees who rightly demanded their immediate and unconditional release. They commended the overwhelming boycott of the municipal elections of 26 October 1988 billed by official propaganda as multiracial, and condemned the election as a futile attempt to hand pick puppets to serve on the so-called President's Council, itself the product of an internationally rejected so-called new constitution. The Ministers noted that the regime's policy of co-opting puppets through the condemned and rejected tricameral parliamentary fraud and the so-called Natal Option, is conclusive proof of the regime's refusal to acknowledge that only the total eradication of apartheid can bring justice to the country and peace to the region.

82. The Ministers viewed with grave concern and strongly condemned the continuing judicial murders perpetrated by the apartheid regime. In this regard the Ministers deplored the use of the notorious "common purpose" notion to sentence to death patriots such as the Sharpeville Six and the Upington 25. They also condemned the long term prison sentences passed on the commuted Sharpeville Six and the three patriots in the Delmas Trial. They further deplored the racist regime's treatment of all forms of opposition as high treason.

83. The Ministers demanded the granting of prisoner-of-war status to captured freedom fighters and an immediate end to the regime's secret executions of South African patriots on its death roll. The Ministers also denounced the Pretoria regime for its policy of assassination of leaders of the liberation movements and the deployment of hit squads around the world for this purpose. They called upon the international community to act in concert to bring the regime to account for its criminal acts of murder and aggression.

84. The Ministers reiterated their call for the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, detainees and restrictees, including Nelson Mandela and the scores of detained children; the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) and all other political parties and mass anti-apartheid organizations; the repeal of the Internal Security Act and all other draconian measures; the removal of the racist troops from townships; and the unimpeded return of all political exiles and freedom fighters, in order to establish a climate conducive to a

meaningful dialogue between the regime and the authentic leaders of the oppressed people and enter into negotiations with the genuine representatives of the oppressed people for the purpose of establishing a democratic basis for the governance of the country.

85. The Ministers deplored the granting of a restrictive three-month travel document to Zephania Mothopeng, President of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania, to go abroad for medical treatment. The restriction was particularly deplorable because of the gravity of his illness and advanced age.

86. The Ministers condemned the continuing banning and restriction of individuals and organizations. They condemned the attempts of the regime to criminalize anti-apartheid political activity and its determination to paralyze the democratic trade union movement through the application of provisions of the Labour Relations Amendment Act. They called for the immediate repeal of this iniquitous measure. They furthermore condemned the disclosure of the Foreign Funding Bill, currently before the racist Parliament, which is intended to terminate material support by the international community to the democratic movement of the people of South Africa.

87. The Ministers reiterated their condemnation of the racist Pretoria regime for its policy of bantustanization, which serves to perpetuate the colonial situation in South Africa.

88. The Ministers demanded that the clampdown on the media be ended. They also demanded that the state of emergency be lifted immediately.

89. The Ministers noted that the South African regime had embarked on a diplomatic offensive designed to project the image of a South Africa ready to live in peace with its neighbours and reform apartheid, which move is a ploy designed to lessen current international pressures against the regime. The Ministers dismissed those diplomatic initiatives as meaningless and deceitful, because the regime refuses to embark on genuine dialogue with the authentic leaders of the oppressed majority of South Africa aimed at the immediate eradication of apartheid and the creation of a democratic South Africa. They cautioned the international community against contacts with South Africa, the outcome of which is against the interests of the oppressed people of South Africa. They urged the Non-Aligned countries to continue to work for the isolation of Pretoria and the eradication of the apartheid system.

90. The Ministers regretted that attempts were currently being made by certain European countries to assist South Africa out of its isolation by the international community. In this respect, they condemned the recent visit to the United Kingdom and Belgium by the South African Foreign Minister.

91. The Ministers recalled that successive Summit Meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement had determined that apartheid could not be reformed but must be totally eradicated. The Ministers reiterated that only the complete eradication of the abominable and criminal system of apartheid and the establishment of a non-racial democratic society in a unitary South Africa could constitute a sound basis for a just, lasting and universally acceptable solution to the problem. To that end, they called upon the international community to take concrete and effective steps to compel the racist South African regime to abandon henceforth its reprehensible policy and system of apartheid. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed the intensification of the armed struggle by the heroic people of South Africa and urged all States to go beyond mere expressions of support and render effective assistance to the liberation movement there. In this regard, they appealed for greater moral, political and material support to be given to the ANC and the PAC for their legitimate struggle and for the intensification of the political mobilization of the masses within the country and reaffirmed the right of the South African people to use all necessary means, including armed struggle, to achieve national liberation.

92. The Ministers asserted that the growing militarization of the racist South African regime, especially in the nuclear field, would not have occurred without the connivance and tacit support of certain Western States and Israel. They were outraged that some of those States had violated the arms embargo imposed against the racist South African regime by the United Nations Security Council, the primary organ for the maintenance of international peace and security, of which some of them are permanent members. They were further outraged that those same States gave the racist regime a nuclear capability in violation of paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (1978), which warned of the danger of nuclear armaments in the hands of racist regimes, and, furthermore, that those States were frustrating the efforts of the United Nations Disarmament Commission in fulfilling its mandate of making recommendations to the United Nations General Assembly on how to combat the nuclear capability of the racist South African regime. They emphasized that those actions reinforced the racist regime's arrogance and intransigence, impeded the advent of freedom for the tormented and oppressed people of South Africa and increased the threat to the peace and security of the region and of the whole world posed by the Pretoria regime.

93. The acquisition of nuclear capability by the racist South African regime has introduced a dangerous new dimension to the already boiling cauldron of southern African politics. The Ministers demanded that such nuclear collaboration with South Africa should cease; that States which were currently obstructing United Nations efforts to combat South Africa's nuclear capability should forthwith desist from doing so; that the Security Council, in line with its obligations under paragraph 63 (c) of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, should act to remove that threat to the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa; and that membership of the racist regime in international fora which serve to facilitate its nuclear prowess, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, should be terminated.

94. The Ministers strongly condemned the increasing co-operation between the racist regimes of South Africa and Israel. They noted the similarity of repressive measures, such as the policy of the iron fist and hot pursuit, practised by both regimes against the peoples of South Africa, Namibia, Palestine, southern Lebanon and other Arab lands occupied by Israel. They called upon all States to refrain from co-operation with the regimes of Pretoria and Tel Aviv in the nuclear field, since such co-operation constitutes a threat to international peace and security. They also recalled the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly which reaffirmed its condemnation of the continuing nuclear collaboration between Israel and South Africa and expressed its awareness of the grave consequences for international peace and security of Israel's collaboration with South Africa in the development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

95. The Ministers noted that the brutality of apartheid on the majority population in South Africa and the continuing destruction of lives and property in the region, as well as the threat which the situation continued to pose to international peace and security and regional stability, demanded renewed urgency in the response of the international community. The Ministers welcomed and strongly supported General Assembly resolution 43/50G, which called for the convening, before the forty-fourth session, of a special session of the General Assembly on apartheid and its destructive consequences in southern Africa.

96. In view of the continuing intransigence of the racist Pretoria regime, the rapidly deteriorating situation in South Africa and the region and the mounting threat it poses to international peace and security, the Ministers reiterated the call for the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions

against the apartheid regime by the United Nations Security Council, in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. To this end, they endorsed the decision of the OAU to work towards the convening of a meeting of the United Nations Security Council in Africa for the purpose of examining the totality of racist South Africa's reprehensible policies and acts of State terrorism in South Africa, Namibia and the region, in order to undertake appropriate actions, including comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime.

97. The Ministers strongly deplored the decisions by the English, Welsh and Scottish Rugby Unions to accept invitations to participate in the racist South African Rugby Board's centenary matches in August 1989. They considered these decisions as violations of the Gleneagle's Agreement and the United Nations Convention against Apartheid Sports. The Ministers urged potential participants to review their participation or face an international boycott.

98. The Ministers condemned the forthcoming racist elections in apartheid South Africa scheduled for September 1989, as they are held under a constitution declared null and void by the United Nations. Only an election based on one person one vote under universal suffrage in a single chamber parliament can lead to the establishment of a genuine non-racial democracy in South Africa.

VI. WESTERN SAHARA

99. The Ministers reaffirmed that the settlement of the conflict of Western Sahara lay in the implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. In this context, they reaffirmed the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and independence and considered once again that resolution 104 (XIX) of the Organization of African Unity and resolution 43/33 of the United Nations General Assembly remained an appropriate framework for the exercise of that right and for achieving a just and definitive settlement of the conflict in Western Sahara.

100. The Ministers welcomed the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the two parties to the conflict, the Kingdom of Morocco and the POLISARIO Front, to the joint proposals of the current Chairman of the OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with a view to holding a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara organized and supervised by the United Nations in co-operation with the OAU. They also welcomed the United Nations Secretary-General's appointment of his Special Representative for Western Sahara, in accordance with Security Council resolution 621 (1988).

101. The Ministers took note with satisfaction of progress realized in the joint good offices process of the United Nations and the OAU and encouraged the current Chairman of the OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue and intensify their efforts with a view to resolving the remaining problems and thereby ensuring favourable conditions for the holding of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, a referendum without administrative or military constraints.

102. The Ministers welcomed with great satisfaction the meeting in Marrakesh between His Majesty King Hassan II and a high-level delegation from the POLISARIO Front and expressed their conviction that the continuation of that direct dialogue between the two parties to the conflict would promote the success of the joint good offices process and would contribute to the realization of peace in Western Sahara and of stability and security in the whole region.

VII. MAYOTTE

103. The Ministers reaffirmed that the Comorian Island of Mayotte, which is still under occupation, was an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros.

104. The Ministers took note of the dialogue between France and the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros on the issue and called upon the Government of France to respect the just claim of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros to the Comorian island of Mayotte, in accordance with its undertaking given on the eve of the archipelago's independence, and they categorically rejected any new form of consultation which might be held by France within the Comorian territory of Mayotte concerning the international juridical status of the island, as the self-determination referendum held on 22 December 1974 remains the only valid consultation applicable to the entire archipelago.

105. The Ministers reaffirmed their active solidarity with the people of the Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover the Comorian island of Mayotte and to preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros.

VIII. MALAGASY ISLANDS

106. With regard to the Malagasy islands of Glorieuse, Juan de Nova, Europa and Basses da India, the Ministers emphasized that it was imperative that the unity and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar be safeguarded. To that end, they strongly urged all the parties concerned to begin negotiations without delay, in accordance with the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of African Unity - in particular, United Nations General Assembly resolution 34/91, of 12 December 1979, and resolution 784 of the Thirty-Fifth Ministerial Conference of the Organization of African Unity.

IX. MAURITIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO, INCLUDING DIEGO GARCIA

107. The Ministers reiterated their full support for Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, which was detached from the territory of Mauritius by the former colonial power in 1965, in violation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 2066 (XX).

108. The Ministers also expressed their concern over the strengthening of the military base at Diego Garcia, whose establishment has endangered the sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of Mauritius and other States. They called once again for the early return of Diego Garcia to Mauritius.

X. CHAD

109. The Ministers reaffirmed the previous decisions of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and those of the Organization of African Unity, including resolution AHG/Res. 174 (XXIV), on the Chad-Libya dispute. They praised the willingness shown by both countries to resolve their dispute through peaceful means. They fully supported the efforts of the Organization of African Unity to achieve good neighbourly relations and a lasting peace, based on the principles of independence, territorial integrity and non-interference. They urged the international community to contribute to the national reconstruction of Chad.

XI. SOUTH-EAST ASIA

110. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Movement's position on South-East Asia as expressed in paragraphs 139 and 140 of the Declaration of the Eighth Summit.

111. The Ministers welcomed the first and the second Jakarta Informal Meetings, held during July 1988 and February 1989 respectively, and subsequent meetings between the Kampuchean parties, which have made significant contributions towards a comprehensive solution to the problem of Kampuchea.

112. The Ministers considered as important the initiative undertaken by the Chairman of the Movement to explore possibilities and prospects of the Movement contributing towards the search for a peaceful settlement in Kampuchea. They agreed that this initiative and the Jakarta Informal Meeting should be complementary and mutually reinforcing processes and that the Movement should lend its invaluable support to the regional initiatives that had been started by the Jakarta Informal Meeting.

113. The Ministers further welcomed the establishment of the Non-Aligned Committee on Kampuchea comprising the following countries: Algeria, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Palestine, Peru, Singapore, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

XII. KOREA

114. The Ministers noted with concern that, despite the Korean people's aspirations for the peaceful reunification of their homeland, Korea remained divided; this poses a potential threat to peace.

115. The Ministers welcomed with satisfaction the attitude of the Korean people in their efforts to reunify their homeland peacefully without any foreign interference, by means of dialogue and consultation between the North and South, in conformity with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity set forth in the joint North-South statement of 4 July 1972.

116. The Ministers expressed the hope that the fulfilment of the Korean people's desire for the peaceful reunification of their homeland as early as possible would be enhanced by the promotion of mutual confidence and reconciliation between the North and the South, the phased and balanced reduction of the armed forces on the Korean peninsula and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the area.

XIII. SOUTH-WEST ASIA

117. Within the context of developments concerning the situation in South-West Asia, the Ministers expressed their deep satisfaction at the conclusion of the Agreements on the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan at Geneva on 14 April 1988. They welcomed the completion of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan on 15 February 1989 pursuant to the Geneva Agreements and expressed the hope that the Agreements would contribute positively to a comprehensive settlement, enabling the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland in safety and honour as provided in the Agreements and promote conditions of peace and security in the region as well as internationally.

118. The Ministers commended the efforts undertaken with a sense of political pragmatism and responsibility by a number of States and in particular by the United Nations, and in this regard they held the view that the Geneva Agreements of 14 April 1988 constituted unique evidence of the potential of mechanisms for peaceful settlement of disputes offered by the United Nations and the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement.

119. The Ministers recalled the understanding reached by the four signatories to the Geneva Agreement, that the objective of a comprehensive settlement implied the broadest support and immediate participation of all segments of the Afghan people; this could best be ensured by a broad-based Afghan Government. To this end, they welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly during its forty-third session, by consensus, of resolution 43/20, by which the Assembly, *inter alia*, emphasized the need for an intra-Afghan dialogue for the establishment of a broad-based government to ensure the broadest support and immediate participation of all segments of the Afghan people, and requested the Secretary-General and his Personal Representative to encourage and facilitate the early realization of a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan, in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Agreements and of General Assembly resolution 43/20.

120. While recognizing that any questions relating to the Government of Afghanistan were matters within the exclusive jurisdiction of Afghanistan and could only be decided by the Afghan people themselves, the Ministers expressed the hope that all elements of the Afghan nation, living inside and outside of Afghanistan, would act with the necessary urgency and political sagacity for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

121. The Ministers were confident that effective and strict implementation and non-violation of the provisions of the Agreements would have a positive impact on the process of peace, aiming at a comprehensive settlement of all the issues involved to the benefit of the Afghan people as a whole. To this end, they reiterated the right of the people of Afghanistan to pursue their own political, social and economic objectives without hindrance or pressure and free from outside interference.

XIV. IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

122. The Ministers expressed their great satisfaction at the decision of the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Iraq to accept the implementation of Security Council resolution 598, on the termination of the Iran-Iraq war and in particular the cessation of hostilities as from 20 August 1988 and the commencement of direct talks under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General with a view to reaching a comprehensive, just, honourable and durable solution to the conflict.

123. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the United Nations Secretary-General, the Security Council and in particular the Non-Aligned members thereof for their ceaseless efforts to achieve peace, as well as to the countries that have undertaken to contribute to the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG).

124. The Ministers called on both sides to co-operate in good faith with the Secretary-General in order to reach a common understanding on the other provisions of Security Council resolution 598 and the procedures and timings for their implementation.

125. While recalling their previous position on the Iran-Iraq conflict, the Ministers expressed the certainty that a successful completion of the negotiations on a comprehensive and lasting solution to the problem would considerably contribute to the strengthening of the unity and to the further affirmation of the role of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in the resolution of international conflicts.

XV. THE UNITED STATES DOWNING OF AN IRANIAN CIVIL AIRCRAFT

126. The Ministers, recalling Security Council resolution 618, of 20 July 1988, concerning the downing of an Iranian civil aircraft by a missile fired from a United States warship over the Strait of Hormuz, urged all parties to the Chicago Convention of 1944 on international civil aviation to observe to the fullest extent, in all circumstances, the international rules and practices concerning the safety of civil aviation, in particular those of the annexes to that Convention, in order to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. They also emphasized the right of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other concerned governments to claim compensation under international law for the human and material losses thus suffered.

XVI. NEW CALEDONIA

127. The Ministers recognized that the South Pacific was a region of the world which contained many of the remaining non-self-governing territories, and they reaffirmed the right of all peoples, regardless of the size of their populations or of their territories, to determine their own destinies, free from any form of foreign interference.

128. In this context, the Ministers reaffirmed their support for self-determination and the early transition to an independent New Caledonia in accordance with the rights and aspirations of the indigenous people, in a manner which guarantees the rights and interests of all its inhabitants and in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960.

129. The Ministers welcomed the initiation of dialogue between the French authorities and the people of New Caledonia on the status of the Territory and the measures that are being taken to promote political, economic and social development in New Caledonia which could provide a framework for the peaceful evolution of the Territory to self-determination and independence.

130. The Ministers called upon the parties involved, in the interests of all the people of New Caledonia, to continue their dialogue and refrain from acts of violence, and they urged that the question of New Caledonia be kept under active consideration at the United Nations until the conditions for an internationally acceptable act of self-determination in accordance with United Nations principles and practices have

XVII. SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

131. The Ministers expressed concern over the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East as a result of the continued Israeli occupation of Palestine, the Syrian Golan and parts of southern Lebanon and the policy and practices manifested by Israel's expansionist acts of aggression in the region, which posed a dangerous threat to international peace and security.

132. The Ministers reaffirmed the active solidarity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries with the Arab countries which were victims of Israeli aggression and with the just struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), their sole legitimate representative, for the restoration of their usurped national rights and the recovery of the occupied territories.

133. The Ministers also reaffirmed their governments' commitment to supporting the Arab Front-line States and the PLO in the face of Israeli threats and aggression, as well as their struggle to liberate their territories.

134. The Ministers recalled that the Harare Summit had reaffirmed that the question of Palestine was the core of the Middle East crisis and the root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Ministers condemned any accord or treaty that violated or infringed on the rights of the Palestinian people as recognized by the Non-Aligned Movement, in accordance with international law, the United Nations Charter and relevant resolutions. They also condemned any initiative that would violate those rights and obstruct the liberation of Jerusalem and of the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories and prevent the Palestinian Arab people from exercising their inalienable rights. They condemned unilateral and partial solutions.

135. The Ministers once again emphasized that a just and comprehensive peace in the region could only be based on Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from all the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the restoration of all the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homeland, the right to self-determination without foreign intervention and the right to establish their own independent and sovereign State in their national territory on the basis of United Nations General Assembly resolution 3236 (XXIX), of 22 November 1974, and other relevant United Nations resolutions.

136. The Ministers stressed the urgent need to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/176, of 15 December 1988 and other relevant United Nations resolutions. They reaffirmed the call for the convening of the International Peace Conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council, based on Security Council resolution 242 (1967), of 22 November 1967, and 338 (1973), of 22 October 1973, and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination. The Ministers also reaffirmed the following principles for the achievement of comprehensive peace:

- (a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and from the other Arab territories.
- (b) Guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including those named in General Assembly resolution 181 (II), of 29 November 1947, within secure and internationally recognized boundaries.
- (c) Resolving the problem of the Palestinian refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III), of 11 December 1948, and subsequent relevant resolutions.
- (d) Dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967.
- (e) Guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites.

137. The Ministers strongly condemned the establishment of Israeli settlements in the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories, the Judaization of Jerusalem and its proclamation as the capital of Israel and reaffirmed that all such measures carried out with a view to altering the political, cultural, religious, demographic and other features of the Palestinian and other Arab territories were illegal, null and void.

138. The Ministers agreed to request the United Nations to take effective steps with a view to enforcing the immediate and total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories. The Ministers resolved that in the event the occupying power, Israel, fails to carry out the above process, the Security Council should assume its responsibilities under chapter seven of the Charter.

139. The Ministers condemned Israel for its continued occupation of the Syrian Arab Golan, its defiance of pertinent United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 497 (1981) which was unanimously adopted) and its flagrant violation of the provisions of the Hague Convention of 1907 and the Geneva Convention of 1949 on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War. They reiterated that Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Arab Golan was null and void and was considered an act of aggression under Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations.

140. The Ministers condemned the arbitrary practices imposed by Israel on the inhabitants of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, aimed at destroying their cultural and historical roots and their Syrian Arab identity. They also condemned the illegal measures of establishing Jewish settlements and changing the demographic and socio-economic structure of the occupied Syrian Golan. They therefore called upon the Security Council's permanent members to examine effective ways and means of holding the International Conference in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and all its relevant resolutions. They also emphasized the Security Council's responsibility to provide an adequate institutional framework for guaranteeing compliance with agreements stemming from the Conference.

141. The Ministers reiterated their total support for the struggle of the Syrian Arab Republic to liberate its occupied lands. They hailed the continued resistance of the Syrian Arab inhabitants of the Golan against Israeli occupation and oppression and called upon the Security Council to take effective measures, including the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, in order to achieve the immediate withdrawal of the occupation forces from the Syrian Arab territories.

142. The Ministers condemned the "strategic alliance" between the United States of America and Israel and emphasized that such an alliance strengthened the expansionist regime of Tel Aviv, which seeks to destabilize the region, and encouraged it to pursue and escalate its aggression. They condemned in particular the United States' policy of developing military industries in Israel as well as involving Israel in its Strategic Defence Initiative Programme. In that regard, they considered that alliance to constitute a threat to peace and security in the Middle East and the world.

143. The Ministers expressed deep appreciation to the African States for rejecting the agreement concluded between the UNDP and Israel on 22 February 1988 in violation of General Assembly resolution S-9/1, of 5 February 1982, and for refraining from receiving any assistance from Israel under the UNDP.

They condemned Israel's attempts to infiltrate developing countries' markets on the pretext of channeling United Nations technical assistance. They called on the UNDP to revoke that agreement rather than merely freeze it.

144. The Ministers strongly condemned Israel's exploitation of the natural resources and wealth of the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories, in defiance of the Hague and Geneva Conventions and the principles of permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources and wealth, and they called upon all States and international bodies to abstain from recognizing Israel's authority and to refrain from any co-operation with it.

145. The Ministers reaffirmed their adherence to the resolution adopted at the Seventh Summit Conference, held in New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, urging Non-Aligned countries to work for a boycott of Israel in the diplomatic, economic, commercial and financial, military and cultural fields and in the sphere of maritime and air transport, and they called upon the Security Council to enforce the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in order to oblige Israel to put an end to its occupation of Palestine and other Arab territories and to enable the Palestinian people to recover their national rights, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and other international fora and the recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, adopted by the General Assembly.

146. The Ministers expressed their full support for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East aimed at reducing tensions and increasing security in the region, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, in particular resolution S-10/2, of 30 June 1978. In view of this, they appealed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to adopt concrete measures within the framework of the United Nations in order to create favourable conditions for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. To that end, they welcomed the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of resolution 43/65, which, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to undertake a study on effective and verifiable measures which would facilitate the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, taking into account the circumstances and characteristics of the Middle East, as well as the views and

suggestions of the parties of the region, and to submit this study to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. They urged the States of the region to submit to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions on the subject.

147. The Ministers condemned Israel for continuing to pursue a nuclear military policy, undermining all efforts exerted to achieve this objective, which would never be attained unless Israel complied with United Nations resolutions requesting Israel to join the Nuclear Arms Non-Proliferation Treaty, to allow its nuclear installations to be subject to full-scope safeguards by IAEA, to destroy its nuclear arsenal and delivery systems and to cease their production.

148. The Ministers stressed the urgent need to adopt appropriate measures to counter the threat posed to Africa's regional security by the close co-operation between Israel and the apartheid regime of South Africa in the military, economic and nuclear fields and their contribution to the perpetuation of the illegal occupation of Namibia and the strengthening of the aggressive and repressive apparatus of the criminal apartheid regime against the people of South Africa and the neighbouring States.

149. The Ministers vigorously condemned the new terrorist assault by Israel on 16 April 1988 against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tunisia, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and norms of conduct, as a result of which Mr. Khalil Al-Wazir ("Abu Jihad"), Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was assassinated together with other Palestinian and Tunisian nationals. In this regard, they noted that that new aggressive act, which followed the one committed against Tunisia on 1 October 1985, proved once more the total disregard by Israel of Security Council resolution 573 (1985), and they expressed their support for and solidarity with the people and Government of Tunisia and the PLO. They also recalled Security Council resolution 611 (1988), condemning the 16 April 1988 aggression and urging member States to take measures to prevent such acts against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States, and they expressed their determination to take appropriate steps to ensure its implementation.

XVIII. ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST IRAQI NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

150. The Ministers recalled their condemnation of Israel for its armed aggression against the peaceful Iraqi nuclear installations, which was also a violation of the IAEA system of safeguards and the inalienable right of peoples to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes. The Ministers again requested the Security Council to take effective measures to ensure the implementation of Security Council resolution 487 (1981), which, *inter alia*, called upon Israel urgently to place its nuclear facilities under the safeguards of the IAEA. The Ministers noted that Israel had not, as yet, adequately committed itself not to attack or threaten nuclear installations in Iraq or elsewhere, including installations subject to the safeguards of the IAEA. The Ministers therefore requested that additional measures be taken to effectively ensure that Israel would undertake not to strike or threaten nuclear installations in Iraq or elsewhere in contravention of the Charter of the United Nations. The Ministers also urged that the item on "The armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security" be retained on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly until Israel complies with Security Council resolution 487 (1981).

XIX. THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

151. The Ministers warmly welcomed the major victory achieved by the Palestinian people at the Intifadah session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), held at Algiers in November 1988. The Political Communiqué issued on 15 November 1988 and the significant initiatives contained therein offer a positive contribution to the endeavours to achieve a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle East. The Declaration of Independence of the State of Palestine marks yet another achievement and a further contribution towards peace and stability in the region.

152. The Ministers welcomed the Declaration of the Formation of the Provisional Government of the State of Palestine and took note that the PNC has vested the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government in the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

153. The Ministers, furthermore, welcomed the decision of the Palestine Central Council on 3 April 1989 to elect Mr. Yasser Arafat President of the State of Palestine.

154. The Ministers welcomed the State of Palestine as a member in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

155. The Ministers called upon all members of the Non-Aligned Movement who have not yet done so, to recognize the State of Palestine and to expedite the proper procedures to establish full diplomatic relations with the new State. In this context, they urged all members of the Non-Aligned Movement to support the admission of the State of Palestine as a full member in the organs and agencies of the United Nations organization.

156. The Ministers welcomed the Peace Initiative proclaimed by President Yasser Arafat on 13 December 1988 at the Plenary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and endorsed this initiative.

157. The Ministers saluted the heroic Intifadah (uprising) of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, which represents a further step in their struggle against repression, tyranny and acts of State terrorism by the occupying power, Israel. They praised the courage and determination of the Palestinian people to liberate their homeland and praised the Palestinian freedom fighters in their just struggle. The Ministers expressed satisfaction over the contribution the Intifadah made to the consolidation of Arab solidarity.

158. The Ministers reaffirmed their support of the following principles for the achievement of comprehensive peace in the Middle East:

- (a) the withdrawal of Israel from all the territory of the State of Palestine, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and from all the other occupied Arab territories;
- (b) guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including the State of Palestine, within secure and internationally recognized boundaries;
- (c) resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with the Right of Return and United Nations General Assembly resolution 194 (III), of 11 December 1948, and subsequent resolutions;
- (d) dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967; and
- (e) guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites.

159. Towards the achievement of the comprehensive peace in the Middle East, the Ministers called for the urgent convening of the International Peace Conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing and with equal rights, and the five permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations, based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), of 22 November 1967, and 338 (1973), of 22 October 1973, and the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination without external interference. In this context the Ministers reaffirmed their endorsement of General Assembly resolution 43/176, of 15 December 1988, which was adopted almost unanimously, with the exception of the USA and Israel.

160. The Ministers called upon the members of the Security Council, and in particular the five permanent members, to take cognizance of the positive initiatives by Palestine and the international community and to meet with a view to consider measures needed to convene the International Peace Conference in the Middle East, including the establishment of a preparatory committee, and to consider guarantees for security measures agreed upon by the Conference for all States in the region, including the State of Palestine.

161. The Ministers called upon the United Nations, in discharge of its responsibilities and duties, to assume immediate supervision over the territory of the State of Palestine, including Jerusalem, which has been under occupation by Israel since 1967, for a limited transitional period as a step in the peace process.

162. The Ministers once again strongly deplored the fact that the Palestinians and other Arabs of the Israeli-occupied territories have been denied all forms of legal protection and were victims of repressive legislation, the "iron-fist" policy, arbitrary mass arrests, torture, displacement of persons, expulsion and the destruction of homes, in flagrant violation of their human rights and of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949.

163. The Ministers reaffirmed their rejection of all Israeli policies and practices aimed at altering the geographical features of the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, or at altering the demographic structure therein, particularly Israel's plan to displace and transfer Palestinian refugee camps to new sites. They reiterated their demand to all nations not to recognize such alterations and to cease and sever any co-operation with Israel that might encourage it to pursue its policies and practices in violation of Security Council resolution 465 (1980).

164. The Ministers rejected and opposed all measures and action by Israel, the occupying power, to impose any process, including the so-called elections, upon the Palestinian people in the occupied territory of the State of Palestine, including Jerusalem. They called upon the international community to declare all such measures null and void, as such measures constitute a flagrant violation of the relevant international conventions as well as the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference.

165. The Ministers reaffirmed that the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries as a whole had undertaken to give its support to the Palestinian people in their just struggle for the liberation of their homeland and the recovery of their inalienable national rights in Palestine.

166. The Ministers condemned Israel, the occupying power, for refusing to abide scrupulously by its obligations arising from the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. They requested all member States to respect and to ensure respect by Israel of the Convention. They condemned Israeli policies and practices of State terrorism which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory, including the right of freedom of worship, and in particular the policy and practice of the killing of defenceless Palestinians, as well as the torturing, wounding, the use of chemical gas, mass arrests and detention of youths, the beating and harassing of children and the deportations. They further condemned the policy and practice of the continued acts of oppression and desecration by Israel and Israelis against Islamic and Christian Holy Places, the closing of schools, the demolishing of houses and uprooting of trees and the suppression of economic structuring and development.

167. The Ministers urged the United Nations Security Council to convene to consider ways and means to effectively implement the recommendations to provide protection for the safety of Palestinians in the occupied territory, contained in the report of the Secretary General (S/19443) submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 605 (1987).

168. The Ministers called upon the United Nations Secretary-General to submit periodic reports to the Security Council and the General Assembly on developments in the occupied territory of the State of Palestine, including Jerusalem. They requested the Secretary-General to submit immediate reports on the living conditions of Palestinian children in the occupied territories. They expressed alarm that tens of thousands of Palestinian children in the age group of 6-7 years have been denied free access to schools which were ordered closed by the occupying

power, Israel. They requested the Secretary-General to provide a report by UNICEF on the current conditions and recommendations for relief, pending the termination of the Israeli occupation and withdrawal of Israeli troops.

169. The Ministers condemned the Israeli policies aimed at encouraging and facilitating Jewish immigration to settle in the occupied Palestinian territory at the expense of the indigenous Arab population and urged all States to stop offering Israel and world Zionist organizations such facilities or encouragement under any form whatsoever. Such facilities are in blatant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

170. The Ministers expressed their deep appreciation for the efforts and hospitality of the Algerian people under the leadership of H.E. President Chedli Bendjedid towards the convening and success of the Intifadah session of the Palestine National Council in November 1988. They welcomed the decision to convene another Summit Meeting of the League of Arab States to decide on concrete means of support of the Intifadah and the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

171. The Ministers welcomed the important efforts of the Committee of Nine Non-Aligned Countries on Palestine (comprising Algeria, Bangladesh, Cuba, India, the PLO, Senegal, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe) to contribute to the resolution of the question of Palestine, which is the core of the Middle East problem. The Ministers took note that the Committee had met on 18 May 1988 and was briefed on the latest developments in the occupied territory of the State of Palestine and the efforts to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. The Committee also considered the diplomatic breakthrough made by Palestine during the visits of President Arafat to Western Europe recently. The Committee resolved to take up the issue of the International Peace Conference in the Security Council at the appropriate time. Palestine would monitor and assess the political climate to establish if and when to convene such a meeting. The Committee also resolved to meet again if and when it became necessary.

172. The Ministers reaffirmed their full and complete support for the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. They also reaffirmed their satisfaction to the Committee for its ceaseless efforts to inform and alert international public opinion, for its constant follow-up of the situation that prevails in the occupied Palestinian territories and for its determination to fulfil to the utmost the mission the United Nations General Assembly has seen fit to confer upon it.

XX. LEBANON

173. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the grave situation which Lebanon continues to face. They reaffirmed previous resolutions adopted in this respect by the Non-Aligned countries, particularly those adopted by the Seventh Summit Conference. They demanded the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 425 and 426 (1978) and 508 and 509 (1982), calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory and for the deployment of UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army up to the internationally-recognized borders of Lebanon. They called on the United Nations Secretary-General to intensify his efforts for the implementation of these resolutions and to help Lebanon out of its dilemma. They also declared their solidarity with the Government and people of Lebanon and their support for Lebanon's safety, sovereignty and territorial integrity and for the right of the Lebanese State to exercise its full sovereignty and deploy its legal forces throughout its entire territory.

174. The Ministers also expressed their high appreciation for the role played by the Arab League's good-offices Political Committee on Lebanon and stressed their support for its efforts to bring about a settlement of the Lebanese crisis and put an end to the sufferings of the Lebanese people. The Ministers called on the international community to exert every possible effort to ensure the success of the task of the Arab committee.

175. The Ministers condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the continued Israeli occupation of parts of southern Lebanon, as well as the inhuman practices of the occupation forces in those territories, in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 1949, and they expressed their appreciation and full support for the National Lebanese Resistance, aimed at the liberation of southern Lebanon.

176. The Ministers condemned Israel for the deportation of Palestinian citizens from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to Lebanon, an inhuman act perpetrated against the sovereignty of Lebanon and a new act of aggression against its territorial integrity, in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 1949. The Ministers requested that Israel abide by the resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council on that matter and refrain from deporting Palestinians from their land and homes to Lebanon or any other country.

XXI. INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

177. The Ministers reaffirmed the determination of Non-Aligned States to continue their efforts to achieve the goals contained in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and as considered at the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean in July 1979, as well as at the subsequent meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. They reiterated their conviction that the presence in the Indian Ocean area of any manifestation of great power military presence, foreign bases, military installations, logistical supply facilities, nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction conceived in the context of great power rivalries constituted a flagrant violation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

178. The Ministers viewed with alarm and great concern the continuous escalation of great power military presence in the Indian Ocean area, including the expansion and upgrading of existing bases and the search for new base facilities, as well as the establishment of the new military command structures of the great powers against the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and other Non-Aligned countries. They emphasized that those activities endangered the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States in the region.

179. The Ministers urged members of military blocs and other militarily significant States to halt and reverse the naval arms race.

180. The Ministers expressed their full support for the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 2832 (XXVI), of 16 December 1971, and urged its early implementation. They also noted that, notwithstanding the efforts of the Non-Aligned States, the convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, Sri Lanka, had been inordinately delayed because of the obstructionist attitude adopted by some States. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction that substantial progress has been made by the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean towards identifying, expanding and facilitating agreement on substantive issues relating to the establishment of a Zone of Peace with a view, *inter alia*, to recommending elements that might be taken into consideration during the subsequent preparation of the draft Final Document of the Conference on the Indian Ocean. They urged the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee to complete its preparations for the Conference strictly in accordance with its mandate.

181. The Ministers resolved to continue their endeavours to ensure that the Conference on the Indian Ocean would be held at Colombo at the earliest possible date, but not later than 1990, and requested the United Nations General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, to set dates for the convening, in 1990, of the Colombo Conference, in consultation with the host country. In this context, they called for full and active participation in the Conference by all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users, as well as co-operation by those States with the littoral and hinterland States, which is essential for the success of the Conference.

182. The Ministers requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to extend all facilities that are necessary to the Ad Hoc Committee to complete its remaining work in order to facilitate the holding of the Colombo Conference on the dates determined by the United Nations General Assembly.

183. The Ministers called upon the two superpowers to give attention in some form to issues of specific concern to the Indian Ocean region as part of the global arms control dialogue. In this context, they considered that the USSR and the USA should resume their bilateral negotiations on the Indian Ocean, such as the 1977-78 dialogue, with a view to the possibility of a freeze and subsequent reductions of their military deployments and facilities in the region.

XXII. ANTARCTICA

184. The Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that, in the interests of all mankind, Antarctica should be used forever exclusively for peaceful purposes, should not become the scene or object of international discord and should be accessible to all nations and they recognized the interest of mankind as a whole in Antarctica in terms, *inter alia*, of international peace and security, the economy, the environment, scientific research and meteorology, and they reiterated their conviction that this interest could be enhanced by keeping the United Nations fully informed of developments in Antarctica. They also reaffirmed their conviction that any exploitation of the resources of Antarctica should ensure the maintenance of international peace and security in Antarctica and the protection of its environment and should be for the benefit of all mankind. In this context, they also affirmed that all States had a valid interest in such exploitation.

185. The Ministers noted the various resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, in particular resolutions 43/83 A and B, which, *inter alia*, reaffirmed the principle that the international community was entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the central repository for all such information, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/88A and 42/46B, and that the management, exploration, exploitation and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit of mankind as a whole. The resolution furthermore expressed the conviction that any minerals regime in Antarctica, should be of benefit to all mankind and, in this connection, should be negotiated with the full participation of all members of the international community; appealed once again to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to take urgent steps to exclude the racist apartheid regime of South Africa from participation in the meetings of the Consultative Parties at the earliest possible date; and reiterated the call upon the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to all meetings of the Treaty parties, including their consultative meetings.

186. The Ministers, while recalling Resolution 42/46B, which called upon the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to impose a moratorium on the negotiations to establish a minerals regime until such time as all members of the international community can participate in such negotiations, noted the adoption by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties of a Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resources on 2 June 1988. They considered that this development could make more difficult efforts at a consensus on this issue at the United Nations General Assembly and expressed the hope that all States would resume co-operation on and participation in the United Nations General Assembly debate on this term, with the purpose of coming to an understanding on all aspects concerning Antarctica within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly.

187. The Ministers noted with regret that the racist apartheid regime of South Africa was a Consultative Party to the Antarctic Treaty and in the light of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 43/83 C urged the Consultative Parties to exclude that regime from participation in their meetings forthwith.

XXIII. CYPRUS

188. The Ministers reaffirmed all previous declarations and communiquees of the Non-Aligned Movement and reiterated their full solidarity with and support for the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus and also reaffirmed their support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and Non-Aligned status of the Republic.

189. The Ministers welcomed the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General in pursuing his mission of good offices entrusted to him by the Security Council. They further welcomed the Geneva Meeting on 24 August 1988 between the President of the Republic of Cyprus and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, Mr. Rauf Denktash; the meeting in New York on 22 and 23 November 1988, and April 1989; further meetings in January 1989 under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General. They called for a sustained effort in a meaningful, result-oriented and constructive dialogue to be conducted on the basis of the high-level Agreements of 1977 and 1979 and in accordance with the principles and resolutions of the United Nations and the declarations of the Non-Aligned Movement with a view to reaching agreement. They expressed the hope that all parties would co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in his latest efforts by showing good will.

190. The Ministers demanded the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers as an essential basis for the solution of the Cyprus problem and welcomed the proposal made by the President of the Republic of Cyprus for its demilitarization.

191. The Ministers considered that the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations on the international aspects of the problem merits serious consideration by the international community.

192. The Ministers stressed the urgent need for the voluntary return of the refugees to their homes in safety, respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots and the speedy tracing of and accounting for those missing.

193. The Minister considered that the *de facto* situation created by force of arms and separatist actions, which they deplored, should be reversed and should not in any way affect the solution of the problem.

194. The Ministers requested the Contact Group of the Non-Aligned countries to continue to keep the situation under review.

XXIV. THE MEDITERRANEAN

195. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the transformation of the Mediterranean area into a region of peace, security and co-operation, free from conflict and confrontation, and expressed firm support for the objective of strengthening security and co-operation in the Mediterranean Basin in accordance with earlier statements by the Movement and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly.

196. Reviewing the situation in the Mediterranean, the Ministers noted with regret the continued military and naval presence with nuclear capability and the existence of hotbeds of crisis, occupation and aggression in the region. They emphasized that no motive or pretext could justify the threat or use of force, interference in the internal affairs of Mediterranean countries or the creation of situations that could have such consequences.

197. The Ministers called on all States and in particular all Mediterranean European States to respect the provisions of the Valetta Declaration, especially the need to adhere strictly to the principle of non-use of force or threat of use of force, and urged them not to use their armaments, forces, bases and other military facilities against Non-Aligned Mediterranean States and not to permit foreign forces to use their territory, waters or airspace to launch acts of aggression against Non-Aligned countries.

198. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the growing awareness of the need for joint efforts on the part of all Mediterranean countries in order to overcome existing controversies in the region, as manifested by the deliberations on the issue of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean in the United Nations General Assembly and within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The Ministers particularly stressed the need to exert further efforts so that positive developments in Europe might adequately be reflected in the Mediterranean. They also underlined the need for all measures, as well as for future agreements on disarmament, to be extended to the Mediterranean.

199. The Ministers noted with satisfaction a growing readiness among European Mediterranean States for dialogue and co-operation and that, in conformity with the provisions of the Mediterranean Chapter of the Helsinki Final Act, the CSCE participating States agreed to convene a Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca in 1990. This Meeting aims at widening the scope of co-operation with the non-participating Mediterranean States and contributing to the strengthening of confidence and security in the Mediterranean region.

200. The Ministers welcomed and fully supported the decisions adopted by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Mediterranean members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at their meeting in Brioni, Yugoslavia, on 3 and 4 June 1987, as well as their further activities based thereon, aimed at promoting an open and constructive dialogue on security and co-operation in the Mediterranean. They particularly welcomed the efforts, following the Brioni meeting, for opening a dialogue with other European countries, particularly Mediterranean ones, with a view to promoting relations in the Mediterranean through co-operation. In this context, they welcomed the decision to hold the next Ministerial meeting of the Mediterranean members in Algiers in early 1990.

201. The Ministers welcomed the creation of the Arab Maghreb Union in Marrakesh (Morocco) on 17 February 1989, regrouping Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. They hailed this event as a meaningful contribution to the fulfillment of the objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement and as a factor for peace, stability, security and development in the region.

XXV. THE UNITED STATES AGGRESSION AGAINST THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

202. The Ministers, recalling previous declarations of the Movement and United Nations General Assembly resolution 41/38, of 20 November 1986, reiterated their full support for and solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and called upon the United States of America to abide by that resolution and to provide the necessary compensation to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the human and material losses it suffered. They noted with dismay that the United States had used the pretext of alleged plants for the production of chemical weapons to launch fresh attacks against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, including the downing of two Libyan planes in January 1989.

XXVI. EUROPE

203. The Ministers welcomed the efforts deployed for the relaxation of tension in Europe, where the high concentration of military arsenals and the most marked division of States into rival blocs endanger international peace and security. In this regard, they considered the agreement reached between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the elimination of intermediate and shorter-range missiles to be of historic importance for the future of Europe.

204. The Ministers also expressed satisfaction that the Vienna Follow-Up Meeting of the CSCE resulted in concrete agreements which promote disarmament, confidence-building, economic, scientific and technological co-operation and advances in respect of human rights. It is hoped that the resulting conferences and meetings will develop this process further and will extend co-operation between developed and developing countries on a basis of equality.

205. The Ministers noted with great satisfaction that neutral and Non-Aligned countries of Europe have made a substantive and constructive contribution to this end. The determination of these countries to implement the principles and objectives of the Final Act and to develop the process of the CSCE on the basis of equality constitute an important factor of and for relaxation of East-West tension.

206. The Ministers stressed that, in the broader context of world security, security in Europe is closely linked with security in the Mediterranean as a whole and that confidence-building measures in Europe should be extended to cover the Mediterranean region. In this regard, they emphasized the special role of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned countries in promoting security and co-operation in the region and urged them to discuss, on the basis of full equality with the European countries, all questions affecting security and co-operation in the Mediterranean.

XXVII. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

207. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the growing process of consultation and co-ordination among the States of the region. In this regard, they expressed their satisfaction at the important work of the Permanent Mechanism of Political Concertation and Consultation created by Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela in the interests of Latin-American co-operation and co-ordination, the strengthening of the region's capacity to seek solutions to its problems and the full exercise of its autonomy and independence.

208. The Ministers recognized that the action of the Mechanism of co-ordination and consultation constituted an instance of political co-ordination that, by affirming the identity and autonomy of the region, would contribute to the consolidation of the policy of Non-Alignment in Latin America; in that regard, they expressed their support for the next Summit Conference of the Mechanism, to be held in Lima at the Head of State level.

209. The Ministers likewise underscored the growing and important role of the Latin-American Economic System (SELA) as a mechanism for consultation, co-ordination and co-operation within Latin America and the Caribbean on economic affairs. They also stressed the importance of the dialogues among Foreign Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean which take place on the occasion of meetings of the Latin-American Council of SELA. The Ministers stressed that those processes were fully consistent with the principles of Non-Alignment.

210. They recognized that the efforts to promote the integration of the peoples and governments of Latin America and the Caribbean constituted an integral economic, political and cultural process that strengthened the region's negotiating capacity in international political and economic relations. In that regard, they expressed their support for the various existing integration projects, particularly the Andean Group, CARICOM, the Latin-American Integration Association and the efforts that were being made at the Central American level. The Ministers also expressed their satisfaction over the decision of the Presidents of the member countries of the Andean Group to revitalize the sub-regional Andean Agreement and strengthen their co-operation and co-ordination in the political and economic spheres.

211. The Ministers recalled the deep concern expressed by the Eighth Summit, at Harare, over the prevailing situation in Central America, which, in spite of efforts of certain countries in the region, continues to be one of the major focal points of tension at the international level and represents a serious threat to international peace and security. They noted with deep concern that policies of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of the States of the region continued to be practised. They particularly expressed concern over the continuation of the acts of aggression, military attacks and other acts of State terrorism against the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, stability and self-determination of Nicaragua.

212. The Ministers further recalled that the Special Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Georgetown from 9 to 12 March 1987, issued the Georgetown Peace Appeal, in which it noted that the process of economic reconstruction, democratic affirmation and regional unity in Latin America and the Caribbean required peace and stability and that they were seriously jeopardized by the Central American conflict, which endangers principles and values that are fundamental for the region and for its peace and security.

213: The Ministers expressed their total support for the Accords that the five Central American Presidents signed in Costa del Sol, El Salvador, on 14 February 1989 and called on the international community to back that effort aimed at achieving a peaceful solution for the Central American conflict. They also noted with satisfaction that the steps taken by the Nicaraguan Government in implementing those Accords were an effective contribution to peace and stability in the region and called on all parties to comply with the letter and spirit of the Accords.

214. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the recent efforts of the technical commission of the Central American countries to prepare a joint plan to demobilize, voluntarily repatriate or relocate "the contras". In this context, they made an urgent plea to the Central American Presidents to ratify and implement as soon as possible the said plan.

215. The Ministers urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the O.A.S. that, once the joint plan has been ratified, they immediately form the International Commission of Support and Verification to carry out all necessary activities to make possible the demobilization, repatriation and relocation of "the contras". Likewise, they called upon the Secretaries-General to continue providing aid and assistance to the Central American governments in the defense of the rights to free determination, independence, sovereignty and economic development.

216. In the same way, the Ministers made a call to the Central American governments in order that, in total fulfillment of the Esquipulas and the Costa del Sol agreements and with the collaboration of the Contadora Group, they continue their deliberations directed at achieving a regional agreement in the area of security and disarmament.

217. The Ministers expressed their support for the International Conference on Central American Refugees, which constitutes a step forward in the process of pacification of the region. In that regard, they emphasized the need for the members of the Movement and the donor countries to participate at the highest possible level and urged the latter to provide the resources needed to boost the activities directed at meeting the immediate needs of the Central American refugees and promoting a global solution through repatriation.

218. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the attitude of the Government of the United States, that, ignoring the wishes of the Central American peoples and governments and in open contradiction of the climate of dialogue and negotiation that the international community is promoting, is trying to continue with

its policy of interference by insisting that the "contras" remain in Honduran territory in order to keep on committing acts of aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Nicaragua and against the decision of the Central American Presidents to proceed to the elaboration, within 90 days, of a joint plan for the demobilization, voluntary repatriation or relocation, in Nicaragua and third countries, of the "contras" and their relatives.

219. The Ministers also pointed out that the Bipartite Agreement that the United States Congress adopted on 24 March 1989 concerning the appropriation of more than US\$60 million for the "contras" violated the Charter of the United Nations -- especially the prohibition of recourse to the threat or use of force in international relations -- and the decision of the International Court of Justice on this matter and went against the decision of the Central American Presidents that the only possible "humanitarian assistance" was that given for the aims and purposes contained in the Costa del Sol joint declaration by the Central American Presidents.

220. The Ministers reaffirmed their solidarity with Nicaragua and demanded that the United States Government immediately cease all threats, hostile acts and coercive economic measures against Nicaragua and abide by the 27 June 1986 decision of the International Court of Justice. They also called on all members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the rest of the international community to give Nicaragua the support and assistance it needs for its reconstruction, especially in the sphere of energy.

221. The Ministers likewise decided to maintain and expedite the activities of the Group of Nine on Central America so that the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries would continue contributing actively to the peace process in Central America.

222. The Ministers reiterated their profound concern at the continued deterioration of the situation in El Salvador and at the growing intervention of a foreign power which had intensified and prolonged the armed conflict throughout the country, aggravating the economic, political and social problems. Therefore, they made an appeal to all States, in conformity with the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions, to refrain from intervening in the internal situation of El Salvador and to suspend all supplies of arms and any other type of military assistance. Besides, they urged the Government of the United States to adopt a new attitude in favour of a political solution in El Salvador.

223. The Ministers observed that the Revolutionary Forces of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) presented on 6 April a new proposal based on the fundamental principles of Non-Alignment which seeks a comprehensive negotiated political settlement to the Salvadoran conflict through a national accord that promotes the democratization of the country, the development of the initiated economic and social reforms, and the definitive end of the war. They called upon the future government of El Salvador, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the Democratic Revolutionary Front to promote a national agreement which creates the conditions and mechanisms necessary for all of the political forces of the country including the FMLN to participate in the political life with equality of opportunities. They also insisted on the need that the accord agreed upon in Panama City on the regular evacuation of the FMLN wounded and maimed continue to be in effect.

224. The Ministers regretted the fact that the progress in the observance of human rights and in the search for a political solution that was expected after the signing of the Esquipulas Agreements had not been made in El Salvador. They confirmed that there had continued to be an alarming increase in the number of human rights violations as a result of the increase in repressive actions against union and other workers' movements, the continued resort to detentions for political reasons and the intensification of the activities of the Death Squads - which are linked to some sectors of the State apparatus. They expressed their concern over the harm being done to the civilian population throughout the country by the armed conflict, in particular the bombings, other attacks and military sieges carried out by armed forces against the civilian population living in the zones controlled by the insurgents.

225. The Ministers reaffirmed the need to do away with colonialism in all its forms and manifestations in Latin America and the Caribbean. They reiterated the Non-Aligned countries' full solidarity with the peoples of the region that are still in a colonial situation. As a result, they demanded that the colonial powers immediately implement General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in those territories. They also expressed serious concern over the fact that the colonial powers were using territories in the region as bases or ports of call for ships carrying nuclear weapons and for the storage of such weapons.

226. The Ministers denounced the transit of vessels equipped with nuclear weapons and the maintenance of military bases and foreign troops in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as those in Puerto Rico, Guantanamo, the Malvinas Islands and the Southern Command of the U.S. in Panama; they noted with concern the intention to use Easter Island for military purposes.

227. The Ministers strongly condemned the continuing threats of aggression against Cuba and the violation of its territorial waters and airspace, particularly through spy planes, as well as the financial, credit and commercial blockade. They also condemned the hostile broadcasts from the United States against that country and the decision of initiating television broadcasts for the same purpose. They reaffirmed the Movement's solidarity with the just Cuban demand for the return of the illegally occupied territory of the Guantanamo Naval Base by the United States and for the payment of compensation to the Cuban people for the material damages they have suffered. They also demanded the immediate and unconditional lifting of the economic blockade by the government of the United States and an end to all other forms of US pressure and harassment against Cuba.

228. The Ministers reiterated that Puerto Rico is part of Latin America and the Caribbean on the basis of historical, cultural and geographical links and reaffirmed their support to the inalienable right of the Puerto Rican people to self-determination and independence in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV). They took note of the resolutions adopted in the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization and likewise they affirmed the Committee's jurisdiction over the case of Puerto Rico and urged the Committee to keep the situation in that territory under review.

229. The Ministers emphasized that prior to any consultation on the political status of Puerto Rico it is indispensable that conditions be created to ensure that the Puerto Rican people may exercise their right to self-determination and independence, without any coercion or pressures. In that context, the Ministers affirmed that all consultations should be pursued within the framework of the full implementation of the guarantees established by international law in force and the provisions of the United Nations, as well as the release of and unconditional granting of amnesty to all the independentist strugglers incarcerated for political motivations.

230. The Ministers expressed their full support for the struggle of the Haitian people for the restoration of civil liberties and human, political and economic rights in that country. They strongly condemned all manifestations of interference in the internal affairs of Haiti which might impede the free exercise by the people of their right to choose their political and economic system.

231. The Ministers reiterated their support for and solidarity with the people and the Government of Suriname in their efforts aimed at preserving their independence and sovereignty.

232. The Ministers reiterated their total solidarity with the people and Government of Panama in their efforts to consolidate the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country and urged the United States to respect and fully comply with the letter and spirit of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties as well as with the neutrality of the interoceanic waterway. They welcomed the Communiqué adopted by the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in New York on 15 April 1988 and deplored the destabilization actions and the coercive economic measures imposed against the Republic of Panama by the United States Government in flagrant violation of international law and the fundamental principles of the policy of Non-Alignment. They called upon the United States to immediately revoke all coercive political and economic measures imposed on the Republic of Panama and its people and to refrain from any action that violated the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. They further reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Panama to decide their own political, economic and social system free from outside interference or intervention and regarded with concern the disproportionate increase of United States military offensive capability in Panama, which jeopardizes the political stability and peace efforts in the region.

233. In the light of the current political situation in Panama, the Ministers expressed their hope that the Panamanian people will be able to freely express their will, in full exercise of their civil and political rights without any pressure or foreign interference, within the political, economic and social system that the same Panamanian people have chosen, and that only they can decide upon, without any pressure or foreign interference.

234. The Ministers again urged all countries to adhere to the Protocol of the Treaty concerning the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal and to respect the neutrality of the interoceanic communication waterway.

235. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the relations between Guyana and Venezuela continued to intensify through the deepening of existing programmes and the development of new programmes of functional co-operation. They noted also that this intensification had manifested itself in an increase in exchanges between the two Presidents and at various other levels. They welcomed the demonstrated intention of both Guyana and Venezuela to continue and to strengthen the process of dialogue and co-operation. With regard to the controversy between the two countries, the Ministers welcomed the recent reaffirmation made by Guyana and Venezuela of their determination to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the fulfillment of the mandate given to him by Article IV(2) of the Geneva Agreement.

236. The Ministers reaffirmed their total support for the Republic of Argentina's right to have its sovereignty over the Malvinas restored through negotiations. They recalled the numerous resolutions of the General Assembly on the issue, including the latest, resolution 43/25, and called for the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom on the subject. Reaffirming the need for the solution to the question of the Malvinas to take into account the interests of the population of the Islands, the Ministers noted with satisfaction the will expressed by Argentina to respect and guarantee the maintenance of the way of life of the Islanders, their traditions and their cultural identity, including the use of safeguards, guarantees and statutes that might be negotiated.

237. The Ministers commended the Argentine Government for its constructive approach to the search for a peaceful solution, including its concrete proposals for bilateral discussions, with an open agenda and without preconditions. They contrasted this to the attitude of the United Kingdom; its persistent refusal to implement United Nations resolutions on the question of the Malvinas Islands; its Declaration on Fisheries in the South-West Atlantic, of 29 October 1986; its continued military and naval build-up in the region, including the holding of military manoeuvres in that same area between 7 and 31 March 1988; and its rejection of the proposals by the Government of Argentina for a new dialogue that would pave the way for global negotiations on their dispute under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General. The Ministers deplored all these acts aimed at maintaining the colonial presence in the Malvinas. They appealed to the Government of the United Kingdom to refrain from taking unilateral actions that would alter the situation while the sovereignty dispute remained unresolved and to accept and implement the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the issue.

238. The Ministers further reaffirmed that the massive British military and naval presence in the area of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands - which includes a strategic airport - was cause for great concern to the countries in the Latin-American region, endangered peace and adversely affected stability in the area. In this context, they stated once again that the establishment of bases and other military installations in dependent territories obstructed the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)) and was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with the aforementioned resolution.

239. The Ministers once more reiterated their categorical support for the Republic of Bolivia's legitimate and rightful claim to recover a direct and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean, with full sovereignty. Furthermore, they reiterated their call to the Government of Chile to reinitiate negotiations with the Government of Bolivia aimed at finding a definitive solution for Bolivia's maritime problem, convinced that the international community was interested in solving the conflict by applying the peaceful procedures set forth in the United Nations Charter and in the framework of the objectives of the Movement of Non Aligned Countries, thus expressing the spirit of Latin-American brotherhood and contributing to better understanding among the nations of the region.

240. The Ministers noted the intensification of the Chilean people's struggle for civil, political and social rights. They reaffirmed their total support for those legitimate aspirations of the Chilean people and demanded that the military junta put an end to all human rights violations and to the repression and crimes that have provoked world-wide repudiation. They welcomed with great satisfaction the popular triumph at the October 5th, 1988 plebiscite and demanded that, as a result of such a popular victory, the necessary steps be taken swiftly for installing democracy in that country.

241. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the consolidation of the democratic processes in the region and condemned the terrorist groups, drug-terrorists and paramilitary bands, which resort to all kinds of violence and attempt to destabilize governments genuinely constituted, hampering the right of the peoples to determine their destinies through the expression of the peoples' will, and violating human rights. In this context, the Ministers expressed their full endorsement to the governments of Peru and Colombia that suffer such attacks and struggle to consolidate their democratic institutions.

242. The Ministers reaffirmed their total support for the independence and territorial integrity of Belize. They emphasized that any threat or use of force against Belize was unacceptable. In that context, they welcomed the resumption of negotiations between Belize and the Republic of Guatemala and hoped that the talks would produce a solution to the problem between the two countries consistent with Belize's status as a sovereign and inviolable nation with all its territory intact.

243. The Ministers observed that the Treaty of Tlatelolco established a zone in which the development, manufacture, deployment and stockpiling of nuclear weapons was proscribed. For the proper functioning of the Treaty, it is imperative that conditions be created that are conducive to the accession by

States of the region to the Treaty, and this is best achieved through respect for the purpose and provisions of the Treaty on the part of nuclear-weapon States. In this regard, the Ministers urged all nuclear-weapon States to abide by the provisions of the Additional Protocols to the Treaty and strongly condemned the introduction of nuclear weapons into the region by any nuclear-weapon State.

XXVIII. THE ZONE OF PEACE AND CO-OPERATION OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

244. The Ministers reiterated the need for all States, in particular the militarily significant States, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 41/11, to scrupulously respect the region of the South Atlantic as a Zone of Peace and Co-operation and demonstrate their willingness to adopt concrete measures to ensure the reduction and eventual elimination of their military presence therein, the non-introduction of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and the non-extension into the region of rivalries and conflicts that are foreign to it. In this regard, they took note with satisfaction of the convening, in Rio de Janeiro, from 25 to 29 July 1978, of the First Meeting of States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic and of its results towards strengthening and enhancing the co-operation among those States for peace and development.

XXIX. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

245. The Ministers, while welcoming the progress made in implementing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), of 14 December 1960, expressed their grave concern that the colonial powers continued to obstruct and impede the struggle for the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations. In this context, they praised the commendable role played by the United Nations in the field of decolonization as well as the valuable contribution of the Non-Aligned Movement to the struggle against colonialism.

246. The Ministers, therefore, reiterated their firm condemnation of, and called upon the colonial powers to desist forthwith from, the exploitation of the human and natural resources of colonial territories and the use of some of them for military purposes, including the stockpiling and/or deployment of

nuclear weapons, which not only represents a serious impediment to the exercise by the peoples of those territories of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence but also constitutes a threat to their security and to that of independent neighbouring States.

247. The Ministers further reiterated their conviction that, as long as the last vestiges of colonialism remained - as in Namibia, New Caledonia, Puerto Rico, the Malvinas Islands, Micronesia and other dependent territories - the notorious system of colonialism would not be overcome. They demanded, in this regard, the immediate implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant United Nations resolutions in these cases.

248. The Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that the struggle for national independence was a legitimate means of eliminating colonialism in all its diverse forms and manifestations and urged all States to increase their moral, political, diplomatic and material support to movements of national liberation which are struggling for self-determination and independence, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, in particular General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV).

249. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the work of the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization and its effective contribution to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

250. The Ministers, recalling that in 1990 the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples will arrive at its thirtieth anniversary, welcomed the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly on 22 November 1988 of resolution 43/47, whereby it declared the period 1990-2000 the "International Decade of the Eradication of Colonialism" and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report that would enable the Assembly to adopt an Action Plan aimed at ushering in the twenty-first century with a world free from colonialism.

XXX. RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

251. The Ministers welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in its resolution 41/128, of the Declaration of the Right to Development, which they fully supported, and urged all members of the Movement to contribute to its implementation and further enhancement. In this respect, they expressed their appreciation to the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development (established by ESOSOC decision 1981/149) for its work and contributions in this field.

252. The Ministers supported the idea that the bodies in charge of reviewing this matter make proposals or recommendations for concrete measures to be taken to ensure the implementation and strengthening of the Declaration.

253. The Ministers also stressed the importance that the resolution adopted by the Human Rights Commission regarding the right to development has for investigating the negative consequences that the debt problem and adjustment policies have on the human rights of the peoples of the developing countries.

XXXI. PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

254. The Ministers stressed the exceptional importance of international co-operation among the Non-Aligned and other developing countries in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This co-operation is of special significance in fields where Non-Aligned and other developing countries can achieve a greater degree of self-sufficiency.

255. The Ministers reaffirmed the inalienable right of all States to apply and develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development in conformity with their priorities, interests and needs. All States should have unhindered access to and be free to acquire technology, equipment and materials on a non-discriminatory basis for peaceful uses of nuclear energy, taking into account the particular needs of the developing countries. They deplored the pressures and threats directed against developing countries and aimed at preventing them from pursuing their programmes for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

256. The Ministers reiterated that non-proliferation of nuclear weapons should not be used as a pretext to prevent States from exercising their right to acquire and develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

257. The Ministers welcomed the convening of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy in Geneva from 23 March to 10 April 1987, particularly the recognition by the Conference that nuclear energy could contribute to socio-economic development and the well-being of peoples and that international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be enhanced and broadened. They however expressed regret that the Conference was unable to reach agreement on the principles for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy or on ways and means for the promotion of such co-operation.

XXXII. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

258. The Ministers were deeply perturbed by the world-wide escalation of acts of terrorism, including State terrorism in all its forms, which endanger or take innocent lives; jeopardize fundamental freedoms, especially in cases of hostage-taking; have an increasingly deleterious effect on international relations; and, on occasion, may endanger the very territorial integrity and security of States. They condemned all those acts, whether committed by individuals or groups of States, and resolved to counter them by every legal means possible. They called upon all States to fulfil their obligations under international law to refrain from organizing, instigating, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in other States or acquiescing in activities within their territories which encouraged the perpetration of such acts. In this regard, they urged all States which had not yet done so to accede to the relevant international conventions and called upon all States to strictly adhere to those instruments. They expressed their determination to take resolute and effective measures, both at the national level and through international co-operation, for the prevention and suppression of all acts of terrorism. In this regard, the Ministers made an urgent appeal for the immediate safe release of all hostages and abducted persons, wherever and by whomever they are being held. The Ministers also agreed that special attention should be devoted to the growing and pernicious link between terrorist groups and drug trafficking. They also expressed deep concern over acts of terrorism within States, especially over the serious effects of acts of terrorism that violate human rights - in particular, the right to life of all citizens - and that destroy the physical and economic infrastructure, and over attempts to destabilize legitimately constituted governments.

259. The Ministers, reaffirming their support for United Nations General Assembly resolutions 40/61 and 42/159, emphasized that the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial and racist regimes and all other forms of foreign domination and occupation and of their national liberation movements against their oppressors and for self-determination and independence, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of Non-Alignment, could in no way be considered or equated with terrorism. To this end, the Non-Aligned countries recognize that the effectiveness of the struggle against terrorism could be enhanced by establishing a generally agreed definition of international terrorism. In this context, the Ministers supported the principle of convening an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to define terrorism and to distinguish it from the legitimate struggle of the peoples for national liberation.

260. The Ministers reaffirmed that mercenarism was a key element of international terrorism and constituted an international crime. The Ministers condemned activities of mercenaries in a number of Non-Aligned countries, particularly African countries, which have prejudiced the peace, sovereignty and stability of those countries. They also recalled the various resolutions of the Organization of African Unity, as well as the United Nations draft on an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, and urged all countries, particularly Western countries, to fulfil their obligations under the various international conventions by forbidding the recruitment, use, financing, training, transit and directing of mercenaries and by severely punishing them when apprehended.

261. The Ministers welcomed the entry into force among member States of the South-Asian Association of Regional Co-operation (SAARC) of the Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism.

XXXIII. NON-AGGRESSION AND NON-THREAT OR USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

262. The Ministers recalled the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations outlawing aggression and the threat or use of force in international relations and the obligation to settle disputes by peaceful means, which remain central to the philosophy of peaceful coexistence advocated by the Non-Aligned countries.

263. The Ministers noted with grave concern that, in recent years, acts of aggression and resort to the threat, manifestation or use of force had been exacerbated and that, besides causing serious human and material losses, they have posed threats to international peace and security and to the cohesion, effectiveness and solidarity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They maintained that a war of aggression in international relations was considered to be the most serious breach of international law and Non-Aligned principles, as well as a crime against humanity which gives rise to international responsibility. They also maintained that the taking of international collective punitive measures, adopted in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, vis-a-vis acts of aggression would result in the enhancement of and respect for the observance of international law.

264. The Ministers expressed their conviction that the approval by the General Assembly of the United Nations, during its forty-second session, of the Declaration on the Enhancement of the Effectiveness of the Principle of Refraining from the Threat or Use of Force in International Relations would contribute to the improvement of international relations and urged the international community to work for its implementation.

XXXIV. PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

265. The Ministers noted with concern that disputes and conflicts among Non-Aligned countries remained unresolved and that some of them were still causing serious human and material losses to the countries concerned, disrupting their peace, security, stability and progress as well as jeopardizing the cohesion, effectiveness and solidarity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They regarded the persistence of this negative phenomenon as undermining the efforts of the Non-Aligned Movement to play a more active and constructive role in the strengthening of international peace and security.

266. The Ministers reaffirmed that the principles of refraining from the threat or use of force, and of the peaceful settlement of disputes remained central to the philosophy of peaceful coexistence advocated by the Non-Aligned countries.

267. The Ministers reiterated in this respect the need to abide strictly by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of peaceful coexistence, especially those regarding respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-dismemberment of States; non-interference in their internal affairs; refraining from the threat or use of force in international relations; and respect for the obligations arising out of treaties and other sources of international law.

268. The Ministers urged all Non-Aligned countries to adhere to and implement the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly and make full use of the procedures for the pacific settlement of disputes envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations.

269. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of an open-ended Working Group on the peaceful settlement of disputes with a view to studying proposals and working papers submitted on the subject of the peaceful settlement of disputes, as well as any others to be submitted in the future, with a view to the preparation of an appropriate comprehensive report and recommendations on the subject for consideration at the Conference of Heads of State or Government in 1989.

270. The Ministers welcomed the report of the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau on preparations for the Meeting of Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries on Peace and International Law, to be held at the Hague from 26 to 30 June 1989. Full participation by all members of the Movement would augur well for the success of the Meeting.

XXXV. NON-INTERVENTION AND NON-INTERFERENCE

271. The Ministers noted with grave concern that policies of intervention and interference, pressure and the threat or use of force continued to be pursued against many Non-Aligned and other developing countries, with dangerous consequences for peace and security. They reiterated that violation of the principles of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States was unjustifiable and unacceptable under any circumstances. They asserted the right of all States to pursue their own economic or political development without intimidation, hindrance or pressure.

272. The Ministers called upon all States to adhere to the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal Affairs of States, contained in United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/103, and to observe its principles in their dealings with other States.

273. The Ministers, while reiterating the adherence of the Movement to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, called for the cessation of attempts by certain countries for political intervention and aggression against members of the Movement.

XXXVI. UNESCO

274. The Ministers emphatically reaffirmed the full support of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the goals and objectives of UNESCO and its role as the predominant and most appropriate universal forum for international co-operation in the fields of education, science, culture and information. They reiterated that programmes and activities under UNESCO's mandate should reflect the interests, aspirations and socio-cultural values of all countries.

275. The Ministers considered that the universality of UNESCO was of paramount importance for the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Organization. In this regard, they expressed the hope that States that had withdrawn from UNESCO would reconsider their decision.

276. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the results of the Twenty-Fourth General Conference of UNESCO, held in Paris in October and November 1987, and expressed their full support for and determination to work for the implementation of all the programmes and activities decided upon at the Conference.

XXXVII. RIGHT OF NATIONS TO PRESERVE THEIR CULTURE AND NATIONAL HERITAGE

277. The Ministers affirmed the right of the Non-Aligned countries to protect their culture and safeguard their national heritage, which are the cornerstones for upholding their cultural identity. They called for measures that would safeguard the free and full exercise of this right. The Ministers therefore decided to pay more attention to this issue at the United Nations, in UNESCO and in other related organs as an extension of the process of decolonization.

278. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Committee for the Restitution of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Misappropriation for their work.

279. The Ministers reaffirmed the right of the Non-Aligned countries to the restitution of cultural property, including archaeological objects and archives belonging to their national heritage, which had been misappropriated.

XXXVIII. NEW INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION ORDER

280. The Ministers reaffirmed the need further to intensify co-operation among Non-Aligned and other developing countries in the field of information and the mass media so as to establish the New International Information and Communication Order on the basis of the free and balanced flow of information and speedily to remove disparities in communication capabilities which in the era of rapid technological advances create new imbalances and place new and complex obstacles in the way of the democratization of the global information and communication process.

281. The Ministers recognized the importance of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool and its outstanding role in the struggle for the decolonization of information and the establishment of the New International Information and Communication Order, as a means of exchange and co-operation among the Non-Aligned countries.

They called for further efforts to accelerate this process. They also expressed support for the Pool's new project of economic information (ECOPOOL), which corresponds to the Non-Aligned countries' need for the exchange of economic, trade and financial information.

282. The Ministers took note with satisfaction of the results of the Fourth Conference of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool, held in Havana from 17 to 22 March 1986, as well as of the Twelfth Meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool, held in Lima from 20 to 22 August 1987.

283. The Ministers welcomed the decisions of the Second Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Harare from 10 to 13 June 1987, on the development of co-operation among Non-Aligned countries in the field of information and on furnishing a broad basis for future activities.

284. The Ministers expressed satisfaction at the activities of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) in the implementation of the decisions of the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries. In this context, they took particular note of the Ninth Meeting of the IGC, held in Harare on 8 and 9 June 1987.

285. The Ministers stressed the need to give fresh impetus to the activities of the Broadcasting Organization of the Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC) and underlined the importance of furthering co-operation and programme exchanges among the electronic media organizations in Non-Aligned countries.

286. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the reduction of telecommunication tariffs envisaged at the Seventh Summit Conference, in New Delhi, and the Eighth Summit, in Harare, had been effected by a number of countries; they urged all Non-Aligned countries to give effect to this significant decision in order to enable information to flow more freely among the Non-Aligned countries.

287. The Ministers considered it highly useful and necessary for the Non-Aligned countries to secure, through existing institutions such as the Pan African News Agency (PANA), BONAC and the IGC, effective exchanges of information among themselves on developments in technology affecting information and communication and to work out means of sharing know-how and expertise in information and communication-related technologies in the spirit of mutual assistance and self-reliance.

288. The Ministers, noting the results of the Third Conference of BONAC, which was held in Limassol (from 11 to 16 December 1987), expressed satisfaction over the recent revitalization of BONAC's activities, which play an important role in the promotion of the New International Information Order and the ideals of the Non-Aligned Movement. They called for an intensification of those efforts and pledged their full support to BONAC.

289. The Ministers congratulated PANA for its invaluable contribution to the struggle against misinformation and in favour of the decolonization and restructuring of information, aimed at the establishment of the New International Information and Communication Order, based on peaceful and just relations, and encouraged PANA to continue working in that direction.

290. The Ministers also noted with satisfaction the fruitful development of co-operation between the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and UNESCO, particularly in the spheres of information, education, science and culture, and congratulated UNESCO for its systematic activities and efforts undertaken in favour of the establishment of the New International Information and Communication Order.

291. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the co-operation extended by UNESCO to the Non-Aligned countries, particularly with respect to the studies on information and communication problems, including those relating to the attainment of a much more balanced flow of information between the developing and developed countries. They urged all States to take all the necessary steps in order to strengthen the role of UNESCO.

292. The Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen co-ordination within the United Nations system with a view to applying the principles of the New International Information and Communication Order and agreed to support the United Nations Department of Public Information so that it could increase printed and audiovisual information; enhance public awareness of the issues of interest to Non-Aligned countries; and ensure more coherent coverage and better knowledge in areas which have priority, such as international peace and security, disarmament, peace-keeping and peace-making operations, decolonization, Palestine, Israeli practices which violate human rights in the Arab occupied territories, Namibia, South Africa, the promotion of human rights, the right of peoples to self-determination, apartheid and racial discrimination, the consolidation of democratic processes in the world, economic and social development issues, the integration of women in the struggle for peace and development, the establishment of the New International

Economic Order and the New International Information and Communication Order. They commended, with deep appreciation, the positive role played by the United Nations and UNESCO in fostering co-operation among the Non-Aligned countries in this sphere.

293. The Ministers condemned the use of radio as an instrument of hostile propaganda by one State against another, be it a member of the Non-Aligned Movement or not, because it is an act that is contrary to the fundamental principles of the Movement and the New International Information and Communication Order and because it violates international rules and standards in the field of radio broadcasting, as provided for in the Charter of the United Nations and international law. The Ministers also demanded the immediate cessation of all hostile broadcasting aimed at Non-Aligned countries.

294. The Ministers renewed the call to members of the Movement to forward complete sets of authenticated documents of all future Non-Aligned meetings held in their respective countries to the Non-Aligned Documentation Centre in Colombo, the repository of documents relating to the conferences and meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement.

295. The Ministers urged that there should be continuous and regular interaction and exchanges of experiences among the media and training personnel of the Non-Aligned countries.

XXIX. THE UNITED NATIONS

296. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the winning by the United Nations peace-keeping forces of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1988. They stressed that the award of the prize constituted further evidence of the increasing recognition of the indispensable role the United Nations plays in the preservation of international peace and security.

297. The Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that faith in the United Nations was central to the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and that the United Nations was the most appropriate international forum with a central role in the maintenance of international peace and security and the peaceful settlement of international disputes and crises; in the achievement of the exercise of the right of self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation; in the strengthening of international co-operation in all fields, on the basis of the sovereign equality of States; and in the establishment of equitable and just economic relations, as well as the strengthening of peaceful coexistence, universal detente,

disarmament and development. They acknowledged that the United Nations and its specialized agencies had achieved significant results in many areas of international relations and had contributed to the economic and social progress of all countries and peoples. The members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, who constitute the overwhelming majority of the membership of the United Nations and are firmly committed to its principles, are determined to preserve and build upon the achievements of the world organization and play an active role in the fora of the United Nations system for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the Movement.

298. Developments in international relations have proved the indispensability of the role of the United Nations and the importance of the organization for the realization of the authentic aspirations of the Movement aimed at promoting a more democratic, multilateral approach in solving international problems. The Movement should increase its efforts to strengthen political dialogue within the United Nations and reaffirm the role of the United Nations as a forum for maintaining peace and resolving world problems. The Non-Aligned countries are determined to make their full contribution to the activities of the United Nations in continued co-operation with other countries.

299. The Ministers expressed, once again, their grave concern over the frequent attempts to weaken and curtail the role of the United Nations system and to erode the principles of sovereign equality and democratic functioning on which it is based. They considered that any crisis confronting the United Nations had its origins in an erosion of commitment to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. They deplored the fact that the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations have been increasingly ignored, thus weakening the role of the United Nations as a forum of deliberation and negotiation of important political and economic issues. They deplored the withholding of assessed contributions aimed at altering the basic character and purpose of the United Nations organization. In this context, they reiterated the view that any withholding of assessed contributions to the United Nations represented a deliberate violation of obligations under the Charter, which is a universal treaty freely and solemnly entered into, and therefore undermined the basis of the international legal order.

300. The Ministers pledged to continue to abide strictly by the Charter of the United Nations and appealed to all States to respect and implement the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations.

301. The Ministers emphasized that the continuing financial crisis of the United Nations should be dealt with politically in a comprehensive and integrated manner. They called upon all member States to show the necessary political will and exert all efforts to find a lasting solution to this crisis. They further called upon all States to respect and implement the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations regarding this issue, especially General Assembly resolution 42/212.

302. The Ministers reiterated the commitment of the Non-Aligned countries to the current reform process, but, at the same time, they emphasized that any reform process must aim at strengthening the organization so that it may attain more efficiently and effectively its purposes and objectives. Therefore, they considered that any proposal which resulted in a negative impact on programme delivery, particularly those oriented towards the development of developing countries, constituted an unacceptable violation of the letter and spirit of resolutions 41/213 and 42/211 of the General Assembly.

303. The Ministers expressed their full support for the work of the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-Depth Study and Review of the Functioning of the United Nations. In this context, they called for continued close co-ordination of the positions of the Non-Aligned countries in consultation with the Group of 77 on this issue, with a view to strengthening the role of the United Nations through the process of reform and improvement of the efficiency of its functioning and for the full implementation of ECOSOC resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council.

304. The Ministers expressed their conviction that there was an urgent need for a comprehensive review of the existing distribution of seats on the various organs and bodies of the United Nations in order to achieve an equitable regional representation.

305. The Ministers expressed their appreciation and support to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his wholehearted endeavours in promoting the role and efficiency of the United Nations.

XL. STRENGTHENING OF COLLECTIVE ACTION

306. The Ministers, having reviewed the international situation, reaffirmed the historic responsibility of the Non-Aligned Movement for strengthening peace, detente, collective security and the democratization of international relations. They decided to take further measures for collective action in order to broaden the influence and increase the role of Non-Alignment in

world affairs, especially with reference to upholding full observance of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law as the foundations of peaceful coexistence among States. They also stressed the need to exert their utmost efforts in order to ensure that the commitments undertaken in the present Declaration are duly implemented within the framework of the United Nations and other international fora.

307. The Ministers once again stressed the usefulness and validity of the measures approved, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and Non-Aligned principles, in the Algiers Summit Conference and the Lima Ministerial Conference, in order to strengthen solidarity and mutual assistance among the Non-Aligned countries faced with threats of aggression against their sovereignty, independence, development and security.

308. The Ministers reaffirmed the usefulness of the measures for collective action established by Resolution No. 3 adopted by the Conference of Heads of State or Government held in Algiers and noted once again that the Non-Aligned AFRICA Fund, created by the Eighth Summit Conference, in Harare, was a specific demonstration of such a collective action.

309. The Ministers invited the Co-ordinating Bureau to intensify its actions to strengthen co-ordination and mutual co-operation among Non-Aligned countries, including unified action in the United Nations and other international fora, and to identify the most appropriate form of consultations for defining the manner in which the present Declaration should be implemented. They also called for the adoption of the necessary measures for promoting and co-ordinating joint action that would safeguard the active and effective role of Non-Aligned policies, especially in the light of recent developments.

310. The Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that the capability of the Movement for collective action constituted the main instrument for implementing the policy of Non-Alignment and the decisions contained in the final documents of all Non-Aligned Movement meetings. In this regard, they recalled that the Harare Declaration on the Strengthening of Collective Action had entrusted the Co-ordinating Bureau with the task of carrying out consultations aimed at defining the manner in which the Declaration should be implemented. The Ministers called upon the Bureau to identify specific guidelines for the functioning of the mechanism of collective action, as called for by the aforementioned Declaration, and to submit a report on this subject at the Ninth Summit. They expressed their satisfaction that the Bureau had carried out all actions the Harare Summit and the Nicosia Ministerial Meeting had charged it with.

II. Economic Declaration

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ECONOMIC DECLARATION

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministers reviewed developments in the world economy since the Conference of Foreign Ministers in Nicosia, Cyprus, in September 1988, and reiterated the past proposals made by the Non-Aligned Movement aimed at furthering their collective efforts for the restructuring of international economic relations towards a more just and equitable economic order.

II. WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

2. The Ministers assessed the world economic situation and expressed deep concern over the prolonged crisis in the international economic system. They stressed that the crisis was a reflection of deep-rooted structural maladjustment characterized by increasing imbalances and inequities that operated inexorably to the detriment of developing countries. They regretted the sharp decline in the level of international co-operation for development. Despite a recent general improvement in the world economic situation reflected mainly in the economic growth of the developed countries, developing countries, particularly the indebted ones, have not benefited from such growth and have experienced stagnant or negative growth rates.

3. The Ministers noted that some developed countries have pursued policies that negatively affect the international economic environment and which have, in many cases, resulted in the transfer of the burden of adjustment to the developing countries.

Throughout this document, in the phrase "Non-Aligned and developing countries," the expression "other developing countries" refers to States members of the Group of 77.

4. The Ministers, mindful of the effects of prolonged instability in the world economy and of the interrelationship among trade, debt, money, finance and development, expressed concern over the depressed commodity prices, leading to a further deterioration in the terms of trade of developing countries, the upsurge in protectionist tendencies and the general proliferation of discriminatory practices in disregard of GATT principles and practices and other trade restrictions with particular severity against the exports of developing countries; monetary and financial instability; high interest rates; misalignment of exchange rates; unbearable and mounting external debt repayment burdens; reverse transfers of resources from developing countries to developed countries; and the lack of effective multilateral surveillance on policies of major industrialized countries. They noted with profound concern that those factors prevailing in the global economic environment have impaired the growth process in the world economy in general and in the economies of the developing countries in particular.

5. The Ministers emphasized that the current state of the world economy amply demonstrated the urgent need for dialogue between developed and developing countries. This need is further underscored by far-reaching developments in the world economy and international relations. These developments include the impact of extraordinary advances in science and technology, the emergence of new poles of economic power among developing countries and their growing integration, the recent economic policy reforms undertaken by socialist countries and their interaction with the world economy, as well as the necessity to make effective the increasingly important role which the developing countries themselves are coming to play in the global economy. The integration of financial markets and growing trade have heightened the interdependence among nations and the interrelationship between issues. An integrated approach has therefore become even more necessary in the interrelated areas of money, finance, the external debt, trade and development.

6. The Ministers noted the current improvement in economic and political relations between the market economies and socialist States of Eastern Europe. They strongly urged that the expansion of economic and trade relations between the West and the East should have a positive impact on the economies of the developing countries, in particular increased access to the markets of the developed countries and the socialist States of Eastern Europe and provide additional resources to the developing countries. They reiterated the interrelationship between peace, disarmament and development and called for urgent disarmament measures that would release the human, financial and technological resources needed for the development of developing countries.

7. The Ministers noted with regret that, during the period under review, many developing countries had experienced either stagnant or declining growth rates, contrary to the 7 per cent target projected in the International Development Strategy and the goals and objectives of the United Nations Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. They also noted that the limited economic recovery in some developed countries had not significantly improved the adverse economic environment facing the developing countries or their prospects for development.

8. The Ministers observed in particular that the economic situation of most countries on the African continent was a cause for grave concern, because, in addition to the repercussions of the economic crisis, they had to face the devastating effects of natural catastrophes such as floods, drought, locust plagues, etc. In this context, they welcomed the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the Review and Appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and called for urgent and accelerated implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, adopted by the thirteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa, held in New York from 27 May to 1 June 1986. They commended the African countries on their significant and sustained efforts to stimulate their economies and resume lasting development and called upon the international community to make substantial and urgent efforts towards the implementation of that programme.

9. The Ministers welcomed the positive contribution of the South Commission towards furthering international economic co-operation. They noted that the activities undertaken by the Commission so far have resulted, *inter alia*, in the Statement on External Debt and the Statement on the Uruguay Round - two issues of crucial importance for the world economy and developing countries in particular. The Ministers invited the Chairman of the South Commission to present an Interim Report on the work and activities of the Commission to the Ninth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries.

III. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

10. The Ministers reaffirmed their unfailing and full commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which remains the central forum for dialogue and negotiations on issues relating to international co-operation for development.

11. The Ministers stressed that the current world economic trends underlined the urgent need for undertaking fundamental structural adjustments in international economic relations in order to create a just and equitable economic system which would promote rapid and sustained world economic growth and development, especially in the developing countries. In this regard, they reaffirmed their commitment to and reiterated the continuing validity and relevance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of the New International Economic Order, contained in General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VII), of 1 May 1974, and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX), of 12 December 1974. The Ministers deeply regretted the lack of progress in the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions in spite of the flexible and constructive attitude taken by the developing countries. The Ministers reaffirmed that negotiations towards that end should be conducted within the framework of the relevant multilateral fora.

12. The Ministers stressed that the increasingly interdependent character of the world economy, the increasing inter-relationship of problems and the interconnection of their solutions made it all the more urgent that both the developed and developing countries engage in a serious dialogue aimed at finding common solutions to the problems currently confronting the international economy, including the reform of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in the interest of both the developed and developing countries.

13. The Ministers condemned the application of economic, political and/or any other type of coercive measures by some developed countries against some developing countries, such as imposing embargoes, trade restrictions, blockades, the freezing of assets or other economic sanctions, and reaffirmed that the international community should adopt urgent and effective measures aimed at eliminating such practices, which have been on the increase and have assumed new forms.

IV. STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS

14. The Ministers stressed that, in a rapidly changing and increasingly interdependent world, it was in the common interest of all States to reactivate dialogue and intensify efforts for economic negotiations and co-operation within the universal framework of the United Nations and other international institutions. In this respect, the Ministers called upon the developed countries to adopt a constructive approach to facilitate the reactivation of the North-South dialogue.

15. The Ministers were convinced that the management of the world economy needed to be more broad-based so as to reflect the interests of all groups of countries and evolve a policy that could be supported by both developed and developing countries. The current economic and social crisis was one which no single nation or group of nations could solve in isolation. The search for unilateral solutions was counterproductive and contrary to the international consensus for development. It was increasingly becoming a one-world problem to which collective solutions based on mutuality of interests would have to be found. For this purpose, it was essential and more urgent than ever to revitalize the North-South dialogue on the basis of mutuality of interests. There was no alternative to resuming the dialogue in all seriousness if potential conflicts and manifest dangers were to be avoided and equitable and stable growth for all nations was to be ensured.

16. The Ministers recognized that, in order to renew the North-South dialogue, it was necessary to establish a new consensus on development. Once this new consensus and the North-South dialogue are achieved, the Non-Aligned countries and the other developing countries will continue to pursue the objective of achieving a New International Economic Order based on justice and equity.

17. The Ministers emphasized that the search for lasting solutions to the inter-related problems of the world economy required the joint actions of both the developing and developed countries. They called for appropriate action and initiatives to be taken in the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations General Assembly, UNCTAD and other relevant organizations on issues of vital concern to the world economy and in particular to developing countries.

18. The Ministers recalled the report "The Assessment of the Current State of the North-South Dialogue and the Proposals for its Revitalization", adopted at the first substantive meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee on Economic Co-operation, held in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 4 to 7 July 1988. They called upon the Committee to continue this valuable work and, in this context, urged the Committee to prepare for the 1990 special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development in the developing countries.

19. The Ministers welcomed United Nations General Assembly decision 43/460, of 7 March 1989, on the convening from 23 to 27 April 1990 of a United Nations General Assembly special session devoted to international economic co-operation,

in particular to the revitalization of the economic growth and development of the developing countries. They believed that the special session offered a most timely and significant opportunity for reactivating the dialogue and enhanced international economic co-operation.

20. The Ministers expressed their conviction that the success of the multilateral negotiations would, to a great extent, depend upon the ability of the developing countries to strengthen their solidarity and cohesion through collective self-reliance, which would not only enhance their negotiating strength but would also increase the opportunities for their development. They stressed that concrete and action-oriented steps were required in order to impart fresh impetus to South-South co-operation through the mobilization of all necessary resources and means towards this end.

V. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

21. The Ministers reaffirmed the continuing need for and the validity of the concept of United Nations Development Decades and the process of elaborating an international development strategy for the achievement of agreed goals and objectives of the Decades.

22. The Ministers emphasized that the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade should provide a coherent framework for international co-operation and should ensure that activities of international organizations are consistent and mutually supportive of the agreed objectives and priorities in international economic co-operation. In this context, they welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/182, which established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and urged the international community and all the relevant organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to contribute effectively to the preparatory process for the strategy. Formulation of the new IDS would provide an important opportunity for the governments to undertake commitments to promote international economic co-operation for mutual benefit and for the accelerated economic and social development of the developing countries in the 1990s.

23. The Ministers were of the view that the already serious adjustment problems of indebted developing countries would be aggravated and the restoration of growth momentum in developing countries would be hampered should the current world economic trends of low and stagnant rates of growth which have characterized the international economy in the 1980s persist

into the 1990s. In this context, they reiterated that the Strategy should propose specific policy actions aimed at reversing these trends. The Strategy, besides addressing issues of adjustment, should focus on reactivating growth and development, combating poverty and alleviating the living conditions of the people in developing countries.

VI. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL ISSUES AND TRANSFER OF RESOURCES

24. The Ministers were gravely concerned by the lack of progress in on-going efforts to effect meaningful reforms and to restructure the international monetary and financial system. They stressed that a viable monetary and financial system fully responsive to the diverse and constantly changing requirements of the world economy, especially to the needs of the developing countries, was a pre-requisite for improved and expanded international co-operation.

25. In this context, the Ministers reaffirmed the proposals for the convening of the International Conference on Money and Finance for Development. They supported the call by the Group of 24 for the creation of a Representative Committee of Ministers from developing and industrial countries as an effective step in preparing for such a Conference.

26. The Ministers noted with deep concern the alarming levels reached in the net transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries as well as to the multilateral financial institutions. It was estimated that the amount of such transfer was US\$43 billion in 1988 alone. They reiterated their deep concern at this anomalous trend, which impairs the ability of developing countries to fulfil their essential development requirements. In this connection, they called for international measures to reverse this net transfer of resources.

27. The Ministers observed that the deterioration of economic conditions of developing countries was closely related to trends in flows of resources, which have fallen sharply since 1982. While Official Development Assistance has stagnated at less than half of the internationally agreed targets, commercial flows have practically ceased for most developing countries. Various studies and estimates have shown that most developing countries face a serious financing gap. Until the flow of development financing is restored, prospects for adequate growth and sound progress in many of the world's poorest nations will remain negligible, despite whatever domestic efforts the governments may undertake. In this respect, co-operative and mutually

reinforcing efforts are therefore required of the governments, multilateral financial institutions and commercial banks. The Ministers further observed that several concrete and realistic proposals had been made for bridging that gap.

28. In the light of the economic uncertainties and the extremely harsh conditions confronting the developing countries, the decline in real terms in Official Development Assistance to developing countries in general and to the least developed countries in particular is most disturbing. The Ministers regretted that the Official Development Assistance (ODA) target of 0.7 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP) called for in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the ODA target of 0.15 of GNP in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries remained unfulfilled. They stressed that the acute development problems faced by developing countries were due in substantial measure to the inadequate transfer of resources for development.

29. The Ministers urged that developed countries with large current account surpluses such as Japan should play a more active role to increase the flow of resources to developing countries. They added, however, that this would not be enough by itself and that other reinforcing measures needed to be taken, both by governments and by the multilateral financial institutions.

30. The Ministers observed that the international financial and monetary system has proved unable to cope with the great changes which have occurred in the financial markets over the last twenty years. The financial system has been 'privatized' to a large extent over this period. The collapse of the par value system and the loss of official control over exchange rates, liquidity creation and interest rates has made the financial and monetary system even more asymmetrical and volatile. The abdication of control over liquidity creation to the financial markets has aggravated the difficulties faced by developing countries for acquiring satisfactory levels of reserves or obtaining balance of payment financing. The resulting international adjustment process has proved ineffective for promoting a sustainable pattern of external payments. The burdens of adjustment have been disproportionately high for developing countries and are extracting unacceptably high social and economic costs which are reflected in declining indices of welfare and quality of life. In this regard, a thorough review of conditionality is necessary, with a view to ensuring an acceptable level of economic and social progress.

31. The Ministers expressed concern at the growing pressures by some developed countries on international monetary and financial institutions, especially the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as on certain regional development banks to adopt a politically motivated approach to conditionality and in the granting of loans in a manner inconsistent with the requirements of development and structural adjustments. They expressed their total rejection of any attempt to introduce into the lending policy of these institutions conditionality criteria based on political considerations as well as the increase in any kind of conditionality.

32. The Ministers stressed that, to be really effective, the process of economic consultation and co-ordination should be broad-based, take into account the developing countries' concerns and be carried out with their active participation so that a truly global and integrated package of policies could be worked out for sustained growth and development of the world economy in the interest of all countries.

33. The Ministers pointed out, once again, their long-standing view that IMF policy should take into account the requirements of each country for growth in production and employment; respect their capacity to set up and execute their adjustment plans; take into consideration their specific political, social and economic conditions; and refrain from imposing devaluations of their domestic currencies beyond levels based on differential inflation rates.

34. The Ministers noted the serious effects that the structural adjustment programmes recommended by the International Monetary Fund and other international financial agencies have had on the living conditions of their peoples, in particular the impoverished and vulnerable groups, and on the increase in poverty and social tensions. They emphasized the urgent need to find a global and lasting solution that would mitigate the programmes' adverse socio-economic effects and called upon the Group of 77 in New York to consider and to take the necessary action on this matter.

35. The Ministers noted with great interest the recent efforts of the Fund to improve the design, conditionalities and application of the Extended Fund Facility in order to make it a more useful instrument in the promotion of adjustment with growth.

36. The Ministers were encouraged by the fact that in December 1987 the World Bank secured agreement on the programme for co-financing projects for African recovery, and the IMF negotiated the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility, which tripled its capacity, to extend structural adjustment loans

to low-income countries on concessional terms. They noted also that in the spring of 1988 a General Capital Increase for the World Bank was ratified and an extended Compensatory Financing Facility in the IMF, including a contingency credit line, began to emerge.

VII. EXTERNAL DEBT AND DEVELOPMENT

37. The Ministers noted that the problem of developing countries' external indebtedness has assumed serious political, economic and social dimensions accentuated by the drastic impact of the imbalances and inequities in the international monetary, financial and trading system. They therefore stressed that a parochial approach to its solution was inadequate. The Ministers noted that the spasmodic measures undertaken thus far for managing the problem were inadequate and inefficient and had failed to address the underlying causes of the problem. In this context, they underlined the need for the adoption of a political and global approach involving the debtor developing countries and the creditor developed countries as well as international financial and banking institutions, based on the principle of shared responsibility and the right of each country to define its economic policy and the allocation of resources for investment and consumption. The Ministers thus reasserted the inalienable sovereign right of all States to choose their economic systems freely, regulate their economic activities and make their own decisions regarding the policies which they consider suitable for facing the crisis and fostering their development, including debt servicing.

38. The Ministers recognized that the external debt problem of developing countries was a manifestation of the malfunctioning of the international economic system. They expressed profound concern over the effects of the debt crisis, which has now assumed serious international political dimensions. They also noted that the enormous burden of servicing their mounting external debt has been exacerbated by the restrictive adjustment process imposed by the international financial and credit institutions, as well as by the lack of access to financial markets and the decline in real terms of Official Development Assistance. These problems are threatening the very stability of most developing countries. Many developing countries cannot pay their external debt in the existing international economic situation without sustained economic development.

39. The Ministers noted with profound concern that the external debt of developing countries has emerged as a formidable obstacle to their economic and social development in the 1980s. The total foreign debt of these countries had surpassed the amount of \$1300 billion at the end of 1988. Debt service ratios remain high and unsustainable, interest rates have been increasing and income

from exports has diminished, while a net outflow of resources has forced an increasing number of developing countries to suspend servicing their external debts or to go into arrears. They stressed that this was a direct and unavoidable result of the existing unfavourable economic environment, characterized by sluggish growth rates, exchange rate instability, a sharp decline in commodity prices, a reverse transfer of resources and protectionist measures introduced by developed countries. Moreover, if urgent action is not taken to redress this situation, debt servicing by most of the developing countries will be beyond the capacity of their economies.

40. The Ministers urged creditor developed countries and international banking and financing institutions to join with the debtor developing countries in efforts in order to arrive at innovative measures to alleviate the debt burden of developing countries. Such measures, inter alia, should include the following:

- (a) reversing the present situation, characterized by a net transfer of real resources from developing to developed countries;
- (b) lowering real rates of interest, not relying on market mechanisms, and stretching out payment, grace and consolidation periods;
- (c) establishing a mechanism through which the market discount of the debt will profit the debtor developing countries;
- (d) establishing, with additional resources, a new credit facility in the IMF to expand the Compensatory Financing Facility, as well as ensuring an adequate flow of additional financial resources in order to alleviate the debt service burden caused by high real interest rates; substantially changing the conditionality criteria of the international financial institutions; and ensuring that any co-ordination between the IMF, the World Bank and the other multilateral financial institutions does not lead to cross-conditionality;
- (e) limiting debt service payments to a percentage of export earnings which would be compatible with the development needs and the economic and social requirements of each country; developing new mechanisms

to help the debtor developing countries which, on account of adverse exogenous factors, are unable to repay their obligations to the multilateral monetary and financial institutions according to fixed schedules; and stimulating financial flows for development;

- (f) differentiating, for countries heavily indebted to the international banking system, between their existing debt and new credit flows for the purpose of determining interest rates in order to provide incentives for new flows of funds to debtor countries; in the case of the low-income and least developed countries, the measures to be applied should also include the cancellation of their official debts or the partial conversion of those debts into grants; and
- (g) ensuring an adequate flow of additional financial resources, from official and market sources, to indebted developing countries which, despite heavy repayment burdens, are making consistent efforts to manage their debt service in accordance with their development objectives.
- (h) substantially increasing the market access of the developing countries' exports in the developed countries and strengthening commodity markets in order to ensure that producers receive fair and remunerative prices.

41. The Ministers welcomed the alternative framework for structural adjustment programmes, adopted by the African Ministers of Planning at Addis Ababa in April 1989. Despite the fact that the African continent has made great sacrifices towards economic reform and structural adjustment, the international community has not been forthcoming in providing the necessary additional financial resources pledged during the General Assembly Special Session on Africa in 1986. The Ministers expressed full solidarity with Africa and called on the international community, in particular the multilateral financial institutions, to assist the African countries in implementing the alternative framework with a view to halting the "adjustment fatigue" and enabling the continent to achieve sustained economic growth and development.

42. The Ministers welcomed with interest recent initiatives aimed at reducing the principal and the interest due on the foreign debt. Notwithstanding, they considered that these initiatives must be made more concrete in order to allow a significant reduction of the debt value, using its secondary market value as the point of reference. In this context, they

underlined the need for the establishment of a general framework for the reduction of debt and/or debt servicing in an institutional setting that brings all participants together.

43. The Ministers considered the Statement on External Debt issued by the South Commission at its second meeting, in Kuala Lumpur on 3 March 1988, as a timely contribution to the on-going consideration of this vitally important issue. They noted with interest the proposal for the establishment of a debtors' forum and invited the interested Non-Aligned and other developing countries to give due consideration to this proposal.

44. The Ministers expressed appreciation to His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait for his important initiative at the Forty-Third Session of the United Nations General Assembly regarding the external debt problem of the developing countries. This initiative was supported by the Twelfth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in New York in September 1988.

45. The Ministers welcomed the reports adopted by the two Consultative Meetings of Experts on the External Debt held in Lima, Peru, and Mohammedia, Morocco. In that regard, the Ministers urged the Non-Aligned and other developing countries to continue the information exchange process, since it constitutes an important contribution to the strengthening of their bargaining capacity.

VIII. TRADE AND RAW MATERIALS

46. The Ministers expressed profound concern at the world economic crisis, which has adversely affected the capacity of the developing countries to participate in international trade. They noted with concern that world trade with regard to the products exported by developing countries continued to be characterized by market instability, a sharp and continuous decline in the prices of their products, lack of access to the markets of the developed countries, the upsurge of protectionism, unfair competition due to subsidized exports by developed countries and the decisive influence of the transnational corporations of some developed countries as regards price-setting by virtue of their control of the main markets for those products.

47. The Ministers took note that the developments within the EEC towards a single market by 1992 may have an adverse impact on the countries of the South. They stressed the importance of studying the impact of EEC Single Market on trade and development of developing countries. In this connection, they took note of the decision of the Trade and Development Board at the second part of its Thirty-fifth Session in its consideration of protectionism and structural adjustment and the agreement, inter alia, that

the Board would address the issue of the impact of regional integration and arrangements on trade and development on developing countries. The Ministers also invited the South Commission to explore the possibility of preparing a study on this area.

48. The Ministers noted that the increases registered in the price of crude oil in the last decade had been used by the developed countries as a pretext for sharp increases in the prices of their manufactured exports. They expressed their concern that, in spite of the recent decline in oil prices, there had been no corresponding decline in the prices of manufactured exports from the industrialized countries.

49. The Ministers noted the fall in the price of oil and the resultant massive shift of income from the oil-exporting developing countries to the developed countries, and they expressed concern at the adverse impact this would have on the economies of oil-exporting developing countries and their ability to sustain development.

50. The Ministers also noted that the divergent trends in the economic prospects of developing and developed countries had accentuated the existing asymmetry in the international economic order, thus further widening the gap between the developed and developing countries, a situation which poses a serious threat to international peace and security.

51. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the excessive and continuous downward trend in the prices of the commodities exported by the developing countries and the worsening of their terms of trade, which had accentuated their balance-of-payments difficulties and led to a reverse transfer of resources. Several commodity markets have become highly unstable and chaotic. The Ministers noted with concern that no serious attempt to reverse that trend was evident at the international level and stressed that urgent consideration should be given to measures for resolving those problems. In this context, the Ministers called for the intensification of efforts, in all appropriate fora, to strike a balance between the prices of the raw materials and commodities that the developing countries export and the prices of their imports from the industrialized countries.

52. The Ministers noted that the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations was taking place against the background of sharply unsettled conditions in world trade. There was proliferation of protectionist measures circumventing or violating GATT rules and principles. Bilateral and sectoral arrangements and grey area measures posed grave dangers to the multilateral trading system. Discriminatory measures were taken

mainly against developing countries on account of their lack of effective retaliatory capacity. Attempts to use the leverage of access to markets for goods in developed countries to obtain concessions from developing countries in other areas were becoming widespread. These developments were adversely affecting the interests of the developing countries.

53. The Ministers regretted that there had been some cases of violation of the standstill commitment and implementation of the roll-back commitment had not begun. In order to achieve the objective of preserving and strengthening the multilateral trading system, the Ministers attached high priority to the objective of negotiating a comprehensive Understanding on Safeguards. They emphasized the need to preserve the basic concept of non-discrimination enshrined in GATT in the Understanding on Safeguards. Recognizing the overriding importance of the negotiations in this area, the Ministers called upon all participants to enter into meaningful negotiations in order to achieve concrete progress at the earliest possible date.

54. The Ministers recalled that the Punta del Este Declaration reiterated the concept of special and differential treatment for developing countries. They emphasized that the concept needed to be preserved, strengthened and effectively implemented in all areas of negotiations. They also regretted that attempts were being made to reopen some of the provisions of GATT and GATT instruments which gave certain flexibilities to the developing countries in the use of commercial policy instruments. They recalled that those provisions were the result of many years of effort of the developing countries to adapt the GATT system to their trade, development and financial needs.

55. The Ministers urged that, in the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations, immediate steps be taken towards liberalizing agricultural trade by eliminating restrictions and distortions by developed countries, particularly those regarding non-tariff and tariff barriers and subsidized exports, by bringing all measures affecting import access and export competition under strengthened and more operationally effective GATT rules and disciplines and taking into account the development dimensions.

56. The Ministers observed that not much progress had been made in textiles. The textiles sector, which accounted for the largest proportion of developing countries' exports of manufactures, had unfortunately been the victim of the longest period of discriminatory restrictions in GATT. The Ministers urged that the negotiations underway in the Uruguay Trade Round should strive to reach an agreement within the period of the Round, on the modalities for the integration of this sector into GATT within a specific time-frame commencing immediately after the conclusion of the Round. Such modalities should inter alia

cover the phasing out of the restrictions under the MFA and other restrictions on textiles and clothing not consistent with the GATT. Meanwhile, the parties to the negotiations must strictly adhere to a freeze on restrictive trade measures against the textiles exports of the nonaligned and other developing countries. They urged that the negotiations underway in the Uruguay Trade Round should strive to reach an agreement within the period of the Round, on the modalities for the integration of this sector into GATT within a specific time-frame commencing immediately after the conclusion of the Round. Such modalities should inter alia cover the phasing out of the restrictions under the MFA and other restrictions on textiles and clothing not consistent with the GATT. Meanwhile, the parties to the negotiations must strictly adhere to a freeze on restrictive trade measures against the textiles exports of the nonaligned and other developing countries.

57. With regard to tropical products, the Ministers noted with great interest the initiatives concerning improvement of market access in the developed countries. They urged that immediate steps be taken towards the full liberalization of trade in tropical products of export interest to developing countries. In this context, there are emerging needs of overcoming the problems of tariff escalation and non-tariff measures.

58. The Ministers reviewed the developments in the new areas of negotiations in the Uruguay Round, namely, TRIPS, TRIMS and services. They underlined the fact that domestic policies of developing countries in these areas were vitally important for the development of developing countries and that multilateral regimes should take fully into account the interests of those countries. They also reiterated the need for limiting the negotiations in those areas to the trade-related aspects only, as agreed to in the Punta del Este Declaration. In regard to services, the Ministers strongly reaffirmed the need to explicitly provide for measures designed to promote the development of service industries in the developing countries in any regime in the sector that might emerge from the negotiations. They also felt that any such multilateral set of rules should fully respect the policy objectives of national laws and obligations.

59. The Ministers expressed their appreciation of the Statement issued by the South Commission on the Uruguay Round and urged members of the Movement and other developing countries to participate fully in the negotiations with a view to achieving a balanced outcome of the negotiations.

60. The Ministers took note of the agreements reached at the recent meetings of the Uruguay Round at Montreal and Geneva. They reiterated that the agreements should be strictly adhered to in the negotiations to follow. They also emphasized that the special needs and requirements of developing countries be kept in mind in all the sectorial areas.

61. The Ministers recognized that some of the proposals made at the Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations had implications for the domestic development processes of the developing countries. This made it necessary for the Non-Aligned and other developing countries to continue to consult closely with each other on a common approach, taking into account, inter alia, the following elements:

- (a) Preservation and strengthening of the multilateral trading system should remain the prime objective of the Uruguay Round.
- (b) Sectors of interest to the developing countries, such as agriculture, tropical products and textiles, should receive high priority.
- (c) Confidence in a rule-based international trading system should be restored through a return to transparent multilateral non-discriminatory disciplines, improved adherence by major developed countries to the letter and spirit of the agreed rules and disciplines and the introduction of collective mechanisms for enforcement of the rights of the weak as well as of the strong.
- (d) A central objective of a reformed multilateral trading system should be the promotion of the sustained development of developing countries.
- (e) In the Uruguay Round of negotiations, particularly in the new areas, the above objectives of trade policy should be fully taken into account. Full respect should also be shown for policy objectives of national laws and regulations.
- (f) The concept of differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries reiterated in the Punta del Este Declaration should be preserved, strengthened and effectively implemented in all areas of the negotiations.

- (g) Provisions of GATT and GATT instruments which gave certain flexibilities to developing countries in the use of commercial policy instruments should be preserved. These provisions were the result of many years of effort of the developing countries to adapt the GATT system to their trade, development and financial needs.
- (h) Close linkages between trade, money and finance should be recognized. In this regard, normalcy in the international trading system cannot be fully restored without bringing about an improvement in the functioning of the international trading system, ensuring through the international financial and monetary systems adequate financial flows to the developing countries to meet their development needs and debt obligations.
- (i) Multilateral disciplines in new areas should be considered along with international measures for the promotion of service industries in developing countries, for the removal of barriers to transfers of technologies and for dealing with the restrictive business practices of the transnational corporations.

62. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Integrated Programme for Commodities as adopted by UNCTAD IV. In this context, they called for the conclusion of further international commodity agreements and the strengthening of existing ones.

63. The Ministers welcomed the fulfillment of the requirements for the agreement on the Common Fund for commodities to enter into force. They called upon Non-Aligned and other developing countries as well as developed countries which have not yet ratified the agreement to do so without further delay. They expressed the hope that the agreement will become operational in 1989.

64. Conscious of the need to promote the trade and development of the developing countries, the Ministers called for, inter alia, result-oriented discussions to be held in UNCTAD on the inter-related issues of money, finance, trade and development. Bearing in mind the linkage between trade, money finance and development, they called on the developed countries to undertake co-ordinated action in the field of money and finance and to take the necessary adjustment measures which would be conducive to the expansion of the trade of developing countries and contribute to a transfer of real resources to them.

All necessary measures should be taken to strengthen UNCTAD with a view to attaining these objectives. In this context, the UNCTAD Secretariat should continue to provide the necessary analytical studies to support intensive and purposeful negotiations on international economic co-operation.

65. The Ministers reaffirmed the imperative need for the IMF to ensure a substantial expansion and liberalization of the Buffer Stock Financing Facility in order to grant the developing countries rapid, full and automatic compensation for their deficits without the imposition of conditions. They also called for the establishment of a globalized STABEX scheme with a view to stabilizing the commodity export earnings of developing countries.

66. The Ministers stressed the importance of producers' associations as one of the means for improving the bargaining power of developing countries to secure fair and remunerative prices for their exports and increase their export earnings. They further stressed that international co-operation should be enhanced to bring about greater participation by developing countries in the processing, marketing and distribution of commodities.

67. They further stressed the need to strengthen commodity agreements through co-operation between producing and consuming countries, to incorporate in the agreements effective mechanisms for achieving the objectives of market stability and prices which are remunerative for the producer and fair to the consumer.

68. The Ministers emphasized the need to improve the generalized scheme of preferences, particularly with regard to its functioning and the number of products covered. They stressed, further, that existing schemes should be extended to all developing countries. Developed countries should eliminate all forms of discrimination as well as the graduation of developing countries, including progressive tariffs dependent on the level of processing.

69. The Ministers expressed their concern over the continuation of the trade embargo that the United States of America imposed against Nicaragua in May 1985, in violation of Nicaragua's rights to sovereignty and self-determination, and again demanded its immediate removal, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolutions 40/188, 41/164, 42/176 and 43/185.

70. The Ministers also reaffirmed the need for the United States of America to comply immediately with the ruling that the International Court of Justice handed down on 27 June 1986, which states that, by imposing the embargo and coercive economic measures against Nicaragua, the United States of America violated its obligations under the Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation signed between the two countries in 1956 and that the United States of America is obliged to compensate the Republic of Nicaragua for the damage caused by the violation of the above-mentioned Treaty.

71. The Ministers deplored the continuation of the coercive economic measures imposed against the Republic of Panama by the Government of the United States of America and called for their immediate lifting. They also expressed their concern over the illegal retention of funds pertaining to Panama's share of the revenue from the Panama Canal, in gross violation of the Torrijos-Carter Agreements.

72. The Ministers expressed their concern over the continuation of the measures taken by the United States Administration against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, namely the imposition of an economic boycott and the freezing of its assets. They condemned these measures as a form of economic coercion for political ends. They called upon the United States Administration to rescind them immediately. They expressed their total solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in countering those measures, which are aimed at its socio-economic development and infringe upon its independence and sovereignty.

73. The Ministers called upon all countries to take appropriate and practical measures to help the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya overcome these arbitrary measures.

IX. UNCTAD

74. The Ministers reaffirmed the important role played by UNCTAD since its formation in the area of international economic co-operation in trade and development and, in this context, stressed the need to preserve the spirit and objectives of the organization as embodied in United Nations General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) and subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions aimed at enhancing the integrity of UNCTAD in fulfilling its mandate. They recalled that UNCTAD was the principal instrument of the United Nations General Assembly for international economic negotiations on trade and development issues and welcomed the decision by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 43/183 to observe at its forty-fourth session the twenty-fifth anniversary of UNCTAD in a manner befitting the role and achievements of that organization.

75. The Ministers evaluated the results of UNCTAD VII and considered that the unanimously adopted Final Act offered new hope for the renewal of the dialogue between the developed and developing countries in the crucial fields of international trade, resources for development, external debt, commodities and problems of the least developed countries. They underlined the importance of fulfilling in their entirety the mandates provided to UNCTAD. In this context, they called for the urgent implementation of commitments undertaken in the Final Act in order to alleviate the problems of developing countries in these areas.

X. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

76. The Ministers expressed deep concern and regret over the continuing paradox of our time - that of hunger amidst plenty - and over the tendency to curtail production in some parts of the world in order to reduce stocks and maintain high prices. They underlined the necessity to reverse these unacceptable trends and to offset the adverse impact of external economic factors that hampered the development of the food and agricultural sector and aggravated poverty, hunger and malnutrition. They emphasized, in this regard, the necessity to maintain food and agricultural issues at the core of global attention, in view of the deteriorating food and agricultural situation in many developing countries, particularly in Africa. They reasserted that international action should be comprehensive, taking into consideration all of the different perspectives and dimensions of the food and agricultural problems in developing countries. In this context, they appealed for continuous and sufficient international support to the developing countries to help them achieve self-sufficiency in foodstuffs.

77. The Ministers called upon the international community to take determined action in accordance with this commitment to provide the needed resource flows on concessional terms to the agricultural sector and to reverse the massive flow of financial resources from the developing to the developed countries. They noted with regret the tendency of many developed countries to channel assistance bilaterally at the expense of assistance through multilateral agencies and urged the developed countries to increase their contributions to those agencies, such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). They welcomed the good response to the needs for exceptional assistance to cope with food shortages and proposed the adoption of a special international programme of food aid and financial assistance to meet emergency requirements and provide relief to the chronically food-deficient developing countries, particularly those in Africa.

78. The Ministers reaffirmed that the right to food was a fundamental and universal human right that must be defended. They strongly condemned the use of food as an instrument of political pressure and cautioned against any kind of conditionality in the supply of food aid. They also reaffirmed that the pressing need to reinvigorate world economic conditions and improve the shrinking safety margin of global food security provided all the more reason to strengthen international co-operation.

79. They emphasized the importance of distributing food on a timely basis to those in need, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, and of helping the recipient countries to develop their logistical and administrative machineries as well as their internal systems of food aid delivery.

80. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its Fourteenth Ministerial Session, held in Nicosia in May 1988. Fully aware of the deteriorating global problem of hunger and malnutrition, they welcomed the Cyprus Initiative against Hunger in the World, which calls for an immediate review and evaluation of the efforts made so far to reduce hunger and for the identification of ways to improve existing policies and programmes and of realistic and potentially effective new initiatives in a serious effort to eliminate hunger and malnutrition. In this context, the Ministers urged Non-Aligned member countries to participate actively at the Ministerial level in the work of the Fifteenth Session of the World Food Council, to be hosted by the Arab Republic of Egypt at Cairo, from 22 to 25 May 1989, as the Session is to examine specific modalities for the implementation of the Cyprus Initiative.

81. They supported the further development of the Global Information and Early Warning System of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through the establishment and improvement of national and regional early warning systems by using remote sensing technology. They also welcomed the measures undertaken by the World Food Programme to ensure speedy and timely delivery of food aid as well as the development of an information system for the regular dissemination of all relevant information on food aid, to improve planning and operational co-ordination.

82. The Ministers supported the on-going efforts to strengthen intra- and inter-regional co-operation at all levels for the promotion of food security and agricultural development. They called upon the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to support, as a matter of priority, economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in food and agriculture.

In this connection, they reiterated the proposal for the early establishment of a food security system of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

83. The Ministers expressed deep regret that the financial constraints faced by the Food and Agriculture Organization because of the arrears in the payment of assessed contributions by the major contributor had led to considerable programme cuts to the great disadvantage of developing countries. The Ministers urged prompt payment of such contributions, so as to enable FAO to carry out approved programmes and activities in the food and agriculture sector, which is vital to the economies of the developing countries. Recognizing the continuing importance of the food and agriculture sector and the role of FAO, the Ministers urged that increased and more adequate resources should be provided to FAO in the future.

84. The Ministers reiterated their appeal to the international community contained in their declaration adopted on 10 September 1988 in Nicosia to extend its full support to the International Fund for Agricultural Development. They emphasized the importance of guaranteeing the continuity of IFAD's present structure and its operations. In this regard, the Ministers commended the 95 Non-Aligned and other developing countries that have announced substantial contributions to IFAD's Third Replenishment, among them the beneficiary developing countries of IFAD's Category III for having already achieved almost their entire collective objective of US\$75 million. In this respect, they noted with appreciation that the industrialized countries members of IFAD's Category I have confirmed their readiness to match Category III contributions on a 3 to 1 basis and urged the latter to continue to provide the substantial part of IFAD's resources. The Ministers also invited the developing countries members of IFAD's Category II to maintain their contributions to the Third Replenishment at the same level as for the Second Replenishment. The Ministers invited all member countries of IFAD which have not yet done so to announce their contributions, taking into account that the negotiations for the Third Replenishment will be concluded on 6 June 1989.

85. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the worsening food and agricultural situation faced by many developing countries, particularly the deterioration of the situation in Africa resulting from prolonged drought, the acceleration of the process of desertification exacerbated by the catastrophic consequences wrought by the new outbreak of desert locusts. They stressed the need for urgent and substantial assistance for an international emergency control campaign against that plague, under the co-ordination of the FAO's Emergency Centre for Locust Operations.

86. They called upon the international community to exert every effort to facilitate the implementation of all previously announced plans for the development of Africa and requested industrialized countries which have not yet done so to announce their contributions to these plans as soon as possible. They noted with great satisfaction the full attainment of the targeted \$300 million of the IFAD Special Programme for African countries effected by drought and desertification, set up to assist the recovery, rehabilitation and long-term development processes in those countries. They reiterated their support for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990.

XI. ENERGY

87. The Ministers underlined the crucial role of energy for the economic growth and well-being of developing countries. They stressed that efforts to develop and expand all energy resources in the world should continue in order to ensure an orderly transition from the present pattern of energy production and consumption to one that would be based increasingly on new and renewable sources of energy and the rational utilization of all forms of energy. In this respect, the Ministers underscored the need for intensified actions to successfully put into effect the Nairobi Plan of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy (NPA). They noted with regret that only a few of the consultative meetings envisaged therein had taken place. Those meetings, though helpful in identifying projects, had not succeeded in mobilizing the financial resources required for the realization of those projects.

88. The Ministers noted that many developing countries continued to face serious problems in the development of energy resources. They reaffirmed the provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 39/176, 40/208 and 43/198 on the development of energy resources and expressed the hope that all member States, in co-operation with the relevant organizations, bodies and organs of the United Nations system, would continue to explore ways and means to support the efforts of the developing countries in the exploration and development of their energy resources.

89. They further noted that the level of energy lending by international financial institutions was still inadequate, and they urged the enlargement of those resources through an increase in the overall level of lending. Enhanced lending in the field of energy should also include structural adjustment lending through the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to finance balance-of-payment deficits, in which the energy import bill was a major factor.

90. The Ministers stressed the importance of co-operation in the sphere of energy among the Non-Aligned and other developing countries for promoting the expansion of collective self-reliance and urged them to strengthen their technical and economic co-operation programmes in this field. In this context, they called upon the developed countries to make all their latest energy technologies freely accessible to developing countries.

91. The Ministers noted with interest the experiences of some of the producers of energy in Non-Aligned and other developing countries in the fields of exploration, exploitation, sale and transportation. The Ministers also strongly urged the member States to take advantage of the experiences of Non-Aligned and other developing countries with a view to developing their energy resources and for reducing their dependence on developed industrial countries.

XII. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

92. The Ministers stressed the important role that science and technology played in the development process. They expressed their growing concern at the effects of the world economic crisis on scientific and technological development in developing countries, and particularly on their ability to absorb and adapt new technologies, and at the increasing difficulties faced in the transfer of technology to the developing countries on concessional terms and acceptable conditions which ensure their independent development. They noted with satisfaction that several Non-Aligned and other developing countries had formulated science and technology policies and were making vigorous efforts to strengthen their scientific and technological capacities, with some attaining more than threshold endogenous scientific and technological capacities.

93. The Ministers emphasized that the area of science and technology was of paramount importance for multilateral co-operation at both the global and the regional levels and stressed the role of the United Nations system in this regard. They reaffirmed the continuing validity and importance of the Vienna Programme of Action in this context and welcomed General Assembly resolutions 42/192 to commemorate in 1989 the tenth anniversary of its issuance.

94. The Ministers noted that the Inter-governmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, which is responsible for the implementation and co-ordination of the Vienna Programme of Action, had decided to focus attention on a few selected themes in each of its sessions. They urged that those meetings be well prepared and lead towards enhanced co-operation in the identified areas.

95. The Ministers welcomed the initiative taken by the Inter-governmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development to undertake a first-decade review of implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. They urged that the end-of-the-decade review reflect the experiences, achievements and constraints encountered by the bodies of the United Nations system and the international community in mobilizing science and technology for development in implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

96. In order to address the unprecedented challenges of the 90s, which will call for increased capacity in science and technology in developing countries, the Ministers urged that their national efforts be supplemented by international technical co-operation through the United Nations system. The Fund for Science and Technology, which has now been placed within the UNDP, has not received the expected support from the industrialized countries. All countries, developed and developing, are urged to continue their efforts to strengthen the financing of science and technology in the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action.

97. The Ministers regretted that, despite the narrowing of differences, the International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology had not been finalized. They reiterated their readiness to work closely with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and the President of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology in identifying appropriate solutions to the outstanding issues relating to the Code, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 42/172.

98. The Ministers recognized that the area of new and emerging science and technology was extremely important for national development as well as multilateral co-operation at both the regional and global levels. They emphasized that the developing countries urgently and increasingly needed transfers of technologies to them on concessional terms to enable them to cope with their difficulties in the pursuit of development, consistent with their national socioeconomic policies and programmes. In this regard, the supply of high technologies in appropriate areas to accelerate the improvement and modernization of the developing countries' capabilities had become extremely necessary. They urged interested Non-Aligned and other developing countries to share their experiences in and define a co-operative approach towards the acquisition, transfer and absorption of technologies, especially high technologies.

99. The Ministers welcomed the provisional operation in New Delhi of the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries. They urged all member countries to speed up their process of ratification. The Ministers also welcomed the convening of the Governing Council Meeting in New Delhi, India, from 16 to 18 March 1989.

XIII. INDUSTRIALIZATION

100. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the present state of industrialization in developing countries. They noted that, since the second half of the '70s, the manifold challenges to the industrialization of the developing countries have become more complex. In fact, the prospects for industrial growth are worse at present than ten years ago, on account of the deepening crisis in the world economy, unstable oil prices, high interest rates, stagnant or sluggish growth in the world demand for primary exports, mounting protectionism, inordinate external debts and severe imbalances of payments, all of which had a negative impact on industrial growth and jeopardized the progress achieved so far. The Ministers reaffirmed that balanced economic development required that the agricultural and industrial sectors should grow in tandem, each reinforcing the other.

101. The Ministers noted that, whereas some developing countries had enjoyed impressive and steady growth, the rate of growth of manufacturing value-added had fallen sharply in others, especially in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. The developing countries' share of world manufacturing value-added had increased only from 10.3 per cent in 1975 to 13 per cent in 1986, which is far below the Lima target of 25 per cent.

102. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the smooth and timely completion of the process of converting the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) into a specialized agency of the United Nations system. They welcomed the resolutions adopted during the Second General Conference of UNIDO, held in Bangkok in 1987, aimed at promoting Third World industrialization.

103. The Ministers appealed to all States, and especially to the industrialized countries, to ensure the financial viability of UNIDO and to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to fulfil its mandate.

104. The Ministers stressed the need for immediate and full implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/233, regarding the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and, to that end, invited UNIDO to make a substantial increase in its contributions to the Decade.

XIV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

105. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the various conferences of the International Telecommunications Union - more precisely, those dealing with high-frequency broadcasting and space services.

106. They urged the international community and the developed countries in particular to assist the developing countries financially, economically, scientifically and technologically in order to enable them to meet their various requirements and the challenge posed by the rapid development in various categories of telecommunications and to develop their telecommunications systems and networks at the national, regional, inter-regional and global levels.

107. The Ministers recalled that important advances had been achieved in science, technology and space applications. They reaffirmed that the effective and peaceful utilization of these advances should be for the benefit of all mankind. They noted that the advantages resulting from the utilization of outer space had not been fairly distributed among the countries of the world. The principle of equitable and guaranteed access should constitute the essence of any new regulatory mechanism, and the particular needs of the developing countries, including those of the equatorial countries, should be taken into consideration.

XV. SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES

108. The Ministers reaffirmed the inalienable right of all countries and peoples to exercise permanent, effective and full sovereignty and control over their natural and all other resources and economic activities. They further reaffirmed the cardinal importance of consolidating the political independence of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries through economic emancipation. In addition, they stressed that, in order to fulfil its historic mission, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries should continue to promote and protect the political and economic independence of the developing countries and peoples.

109. The Ministers reiterated their support for peoples still under colonial domination and foreign occupation and reaffirmed the inalienable national rights of those peoples, including the right to self-determination, freedom, independence and full sovereignty over their natural and other resources and economic activities, particularly those of the Palestinian and Namibian peoples, whose resources are illegally plundered and exploited by the racist regimes of Israel and South Africa. They called upon all States and peoples to work individually and collectively to eliminate the obstacles to the realization of the national rights

of those peoples, including freedom and independence, and urged effective action in that regard. All States, international organizations, specialized agencies, investment corporations and all other institutions were urged not to recognize or co-operate with or assist in any manner, any measures undertaken to exploit Palestinian, Namibian or other occupied territories' resources.

110. The Ministers reaffirmed the right of all countries and peoples subjected to foreign aggression, occupation, colonial and zionist domination or apartheid to restitution and full compensation for the exploitation and depletion of and loss and damage to natural and all other resources.

XVI. LAW OF THE SEA

111. The Ministers reiterated the importance they attached to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the sea, which they considered an important instrument for the maintenance of peace, justice and progress for all peoples of the world, and they expressed their satisfaction over the fact that, thus far, 159 countries had signed and 40 had ratified the Convention. They reiterated once again their appeal to all States to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible.

112. The Ministers welcomed, as a historic landmark, the decision of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority to register India as the first pioneer investor in seabed mining. The subsequent registrations of France, Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics were considered as very encouraging developments.

113. The Ministers recalled that the United Nations General Assembly, in resolution 2749 (XXV), of 17 December 1970, had proclaimed that the sea/bed and ocean floor and the subsoil there of beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well as the resources of the area, were the common heritage of mankind and could not be appropriated by any State, company or individual. They also stressed the importance of safeguarding the unified character of the Convention and the need for harmonizing national legislation with the provisions of the Convention.

114. In this regard, the Ministers expressed grave concern over actions aimed at undermining and circumventing the Convention and the resolutions related thereto. They declared that any unilateral action by any State or group of States through a mini-convention or parallel regime inconsistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea would have no validity.

115. In this regard, the Ministers noted with satisfaction the firm position adopted by the Preparatory Commission, in its declaration of 30 August 1985, rejecting any claim, agreement or action regarding the international areas and their resources undertaken outside the Preparatory Commission and incompatible with the Convention and its related resolutions as forming a basis for creating legal rights.

XVII. TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

116. The Ministers regretted that obstacles still remained in the way of the early conclusion of a code of conduct to regulate the activities of transnational corporations with a view to eliminating the negative aspects of their activities and maximizing their contributions to progress in developing countries. They emphasized that the adoption of the code was a necessary element for the establishment of just and equitable relations among countries. They stressed that the activities of transnational corporations should be undertaken within the framework of the national priorities and development plans of developing countries.

117. The Ministers deplored the illegal and inadmissible policies and practices of some developed countries and their transnational corporations whose motivation to maximize profits leads them to distort the economies and undermine the sovereignty of developing countries. They condemned the continued collaboration by some transnational corporations with the minority regime of South Africa and stressed that this collaboration had served only to entrench apartheid and to prolong Pretoria's illegal occupation of the territory of Namibia. They called upon those transnational corporations to comply strictly with all United Nations Security Council decisions on this matter and to desist from obstructing efforts aimed at eradicating apartheid.

118. The Ministers called upon the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, taking into account the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on public hearings on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia, to propose concrete actions aimed at halting the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa which strengthen apartheid and urged Non-Aligned and other developing countries to co-operate in pursuing the necessary actions in the relevant fora of the United Nations system in order to achieve that purpose.

XVIII. ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT

119. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the continuing degradation of the environment which could, if allowed to continue unchecked, seriously undermine its life-sustaining capabilities. They noted that environment co-operation manifestly required a global multilateral effort to address the problem in all its aspects while keeping the developmental priorities of the developing countries. They reiterated their commitment to promoting such co-operation. In this context, they welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187, respectively, on the environmental perspective to the year 2000 and the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development. They also welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution 43/53 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations.

120. The Ministers noted that the world as a whole would need to adapt and adjust to the requirements of more sustainable global patterns of production and consumption so as not to create excessive pressure on the earth's resources. The concept of sustainable development must necessarily include the meeting of basic needs for all, reviving growth and improving the quality of life in a healthy, safe and clean environment. They reiterated their belief that, for developing countries, environmental protection had to be viewed as an integral part of their development process and could not be considered in isolation from it.

121. The Ministers welcomed initiatives on global environmental issues such as the Convention and Montreal Protocol on the Ozone Layer and noted the Hague Declaration. They invited developing countries to consider acceding to this Convention and to participate actively in the Review Conference, due to be held in 1990. The Ministers also noted with interest regional initiatives of developing countries such as those taken by parties to the Treaty of Amazonian Co-operation aimed at preserving and protecting the environment.

122. The Ministers expressed grave concern at the growing incidence of the dumping of toxic and other hazardous waste in African and other developing countries. They stressed that this practice was a blatant violation of Principle 2 of the 1972 Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Human Environment adopted at Stockholm, which states that all States are responsible for ensuring that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or areas beyond the limits of their own national jurisdiction. They welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/212, on the responsibility of States for the

protection of the environment, including the prevention of the illegal international traffic in, and the dumping and resulting accumulation of, toxic and dangerous products and waste affecting the developing countries in particular. They further urged member States to establish a dump watch in the form of national units to monitor and exchange information on companies and ships known to engage in the illegal dumping of that waste in their countries, as well as in their territorial waters and exclusive economic zones.

123. In the meantime, the Ministers called on developed countries to adopt strong measures, both administrative and legislative, to prohibit the export of toxic and other hazardous waste to foreign territories, particularly developing countries.

124. The Ministers underlined their concern over the continued deterioration of the marine environment, particularly in the case of coastal waters and semi-enclosed seas. They stressed that, if concerted action were not undertaken immediately on a global basis, the situation would worsen. The Ministers called on all States to refrain from any actions and activities that would endanger the quality of the marine environment and ecological conditions, thus jeopardizing marine life.

125. The Ministers recognized that most of the harmful emissions in the atmosphere leading to global environmental problems originate in the industrialized countries. These countries should therefore bear the main responsibility in international efforts to deal with these problems and should make the largest contribution to reducing such emissions globally. Multilateral approaches, in order to be successful in developing countries, need to emphasize positive and supportive measures in their favour. It was therefore vital and urgent that the developed countries, which have the requisite resources, embark upon efforts to develop alternative environmentally safe technologies and provide developing countries with non-commercial access to such technologies.

126. In this context, the Ministers emphasized the urgent need for the international community to set aside net additional financial resources for environmental co-operation. This was essential to prevent the diversion of international funds available for the development needs of the developing countries, to environment related issues. These resources should be used to assist developing countries in addressing their urgent environmental concerns and promote the transfer of alternative technologies to developing countries.

127. While stressing the need to ensure the adoption of environmentally-sound development strategies, the Ministers emphasized that the definition of such strategies, including the management of their natural resource base, is the sovereign prerogative of the countries concerned. In this context, they noted with concern a growing tendency at external impositions and increased conditionalities in dealing with environmental issues.

128. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the initiatives and resolutions adopted by the African countries at the African Ministerial Conferences for a joint policy to combat desertification and urged all members of the international community, the organs and bodies of the United Nations, regional and sub-regional financial institutions and non-governmental organizations to continue to give their full support, in all forms, to the African countries in order to combat and alleviate the effects of drought and desertification.

129. The Ministers expressed their concern over the havoc caused by the natural disasters which recently struck the Sudan, where destructive floods and torrential rain have taken a high toll in human lives, property and infrastructure. In this regard, the Ministers called upon Non-Aligned and other developing countries and the international community at large to extend all forms of assistance to the Sudan for relief and reconstruction purposes.

130. The Ministers welcomed the proposal for convening of the Second World Conference on Environment and Development, which would provide an important opportunity to address environment and development concerns in an integrated manner. They also welcomed the offer of the Government of Brazil to host this Conference.

XIX. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS

131. The Ministers commended the Government of Sri Lanka for taking the initiative to focus international attention on the needs of the homeless through its proposal to have 1987 accepted by the United Nations as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

132. The Ministers recognized the continuing need for efforts to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods of poor and disadvantaged people throughout the world. In this context, they welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/181, adopting the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, as well as the guidelines for steps to be taken at the national and international levels in support of the Strategy.

133. The Ministers invited all governments to commit themselves to the objectives of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 by adopting and implementing shelter strategies in accordance with the guidelines contained in the annex to resolution 43/181. They also called upon all States and others in a position to do so to make generous contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, to facilitate implementation of the Strategy.

XX. ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

134. The Ministers emphasized that full participation by women in all aspects of development should remain an integral part of national development plans of Non-Aligned and other developing countries and of overall efforts aimed at the establishment of the New International Economic Order. They called on member States to give women equal opportunity to enhance their skills to increase their participation in the developmental process.

135. In this respect, they reaffirmed that the recommendations of the conference of Non-Aligned and other developing countries which was held in New Delhi in March 1985 and the World Conference on Women, held in Nairobi, Kenya, in July 1985, formed a comprehensive and constructive basis for achieving those objectives. They pointed out the need to hold a meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries in that sphere as soon as possible, with a view to promoting the activities on women of the Non-Aligned countries and, especially, implementation of the strategies adopted by the Nairobi Conference.

136. The Ministers fully committed themselves to the speedy implementation of the recommendations of the World Conference and called upon the international community to increase support to programmes aimed at creating opportunities for the participation of women in development, both as beneficiaries and as agents. They also pointed out the need for the Non-Aligned countries to promote activities related to women, to assess the fulfillment of the Nairobi strategies and to co-ordinate their positions. In this regard, they supported the idea of holding a Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on the Role of Women in Development and expressed their appreciation for Cuba's offer to host that meeting in early 1990, inviting the Non-Aligned countries to participate actively in it.

137. The Ministers called on the entire international community to use all means at its disposal to intensify the struggle against apartheid in order to enable the women of Namibia and of South Africa to participate actively in the implementation of the Forward-Looking Strategies, with a view to achieving the inter-related and mutually reinforcing objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women -namely, equality, development and peace.

XXI. DESERTIFICATION AND AID TO VICTIMS OF DROUGHT

138. The Ministers noted with concern that the rapid encroachment of the desert in Africa and the persistent drought there and in other parts of the developing world had seriously affected the development efforts of several countries and the socio-economic conditions of their peoples, particularly their food production and economic activity, thus engendering emergency situations resulting in a desperate struggle for survival.

139. The Ministers emphasized that the realization of the objectives of the struggle against desertification and drought demanded human, technical and financial resources that were beyond the means of the affected countries. In this regard, they urged the international community, especially the developed countries, to give full support to the efforts undertaken by the affected countries. They stressed that assistance from the international community should not be aimed solely at relieving the emergency situation but rather should be oriented towards the infrastructural improvement of those countries.

140. The Ministers welcomed the results achieved in formulating a concerted policy in the struggle against drought and desertification by the members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel. The Ministers appealed to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) to increase its assistance to the member countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, considering the continued geographical degradation and the continuous shortage of foodstuffs.

141. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the establishment by the east African sub-regional countries of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda of an Inter-governmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD) and welcomed the convening of a summit meeting in this regard in Djibouti in January 1986 and 1988. The Ministers noted that a Plan of Action setting out the urgent needs and programmes of the countries concerned was needed: (a) for arresting the degradation of environment through effective and co-ordinated measures, and (b) for increasing food production.

142. The Ministers welcomed the consideration, for the first time, of the item entitled "Countries stricken by desertification and drought" in the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly and subsequently in the Fortieth Session. As a follow-up to the Ministerial Conference held in Dakar in July 1984, among the West African States, the Maghreb countries, Egypt and the Sudan. They appealed to the international community to implement urgently United Nations General Assembly resolutions 39/208, 40/175 and 42/188 on the subject.

143. The Ministers also welcomed the establishment, during the twentieth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, of the Special Emergency Assistance Fund for Drought and Famine in Africa and appealed to the international community, particularly the developed countries, to contribute generously to that Fund.

XXII. ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH IN THE WAKE OF UNPRECEDENTED FLOODS

144. The Ministers expressed deep concern and anxiety over the devastating impact of sudden and unprecedented floods in Bangladesh, the worst in living memory. They called upon all Non-Aligned countries in a position to do so to respond urgently to the appeal launched by the Government of Bangladesh for assistance towards immediate relief and rehabilitation and also to consider longer-term measures for reconstruction of the severely damaged infrastructure of the country.

XXIII. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN

145. The Ministers recalled United Nations General Assembly Resolution 43/8 on emergency assistance to the Sudan and called upon Non-Aligned countries and international community to contribute generously in emergency assistance to the Sudan as well as in financing Sudan/World Bank reconstruction and rehabilitation programme.

XXIV. ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN, IN THE WAKE OF HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS

146. The Ministers took note of the heavy rains and floods in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen during March and April 1989 which took a heavy toll in terms of human life and animal wealth. The consequences included the destruction of a large number of houses; the washing away of dams, irrigation canals and soil; damage to crops and agricultural machinery; and the filling of wells. This has caused work on the development projects included in the third five-year socio-economic plan to come to a halt. The Ministers expressed their high appreciation of the assistance extended by the Arab and other countries, the

United Nations agencies and organizations and the governmental and non-governmental organizations to extend all forms of assistance to Democratic Yemen in order to overcome the aftermath of this natural disaster. They also expressed their solidarity with the people and Government of Democratic Yemen in their efforts to overcome these natural disasters.

XXV. SITUATION OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA

147. The Ministers noted with deep concern the massive flows of refugees in Africa, together with the adverse socio-economic effects which the refugee burden continues to impose on the countries of asylum.

148. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to and reiterated the validity of the objectives of the 1984 Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa. They called on the international community, the United Nations and its specialized agencies to provide the necessary co-operation for the implementation of the projects adopted by the Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa and urged all countries to assist in the relief and rehabilitation of all African refugees and returnees.

149. The Ministers were also deeply concerned at the magnitude and the plight of displaced persons in Africa and in this context urged all States members of the United Nations and its organs, organizations and specialized agencies to provide the utmost assistance to affected countries in dealing with such problems.

150. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the outcome of the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa, held in Oslo, Norway, from 22 to 24 August 1988. In this context, they welcome United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/116, which endorsed the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action on this subject and called upon the international community to provide increased assistance to the countries of southern Africa to enable them to strengthen their capacity to provide the necessary facilities and services for the care and well-being of the refugees, returnees and displaced persons in their countries. The Ministers expressed their deep gratitude to the Government of Norway for hosting this important Conference and to all the Nordic countries for their generous assistance towards the convening of the Conference, demonstrating once more their traditional solidarity with the struggling peoples of southern Africa for freedom, equality and democracy. They commended the Organization of African Unity for having convened the Conference and for focusing the attention of the international community on the grave humanitarian problems of the southern African region.

151. The Ministers reiterated that the apartheid regime of South Africa and its policies of military aggression and economic destabilization against the States and peoples of the region were the root cause of the increased number of refugees and displaced persons in that sub-region. In this context, they reaffirmed the right of the Front-line States and other independent African States in the region to receive and give shelter to the victims of apartheid. The Ministers expressed their full support for the measures taken by the United Nations General Assembly and by the Organization of African Unity with a view to granting financial and material assistance to the southern African States and to the national liberation movements, so as to enable them to resist South Africa's acts of destabilization.

XXVI. LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

152. The Ministers expressed grave concern over the rapid deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine as a result of the policies and measures of the occupying power, Israel. The Ministers strongly condemned Israel for its brutal crimes against the Palestinian people, which included the killing of defenceless civilians, bombardments of Palestinian refugee camps, shootings, assassinations, deportation, limb-breaking, detentions, torture, the demolition of houses, the burning of crops and harvests and the imposition of military and economic sieges, and they called for their immediate cessation.

153. The Ministers expressed great admiration and support the heroic Intifadah of the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation, including its economic and social policies, and reaffirmed that the elimination of that occupation was a pre-requisite for the development of the Palestinian national economy. They supported the endeavours of the Palestinian people to de-link their besieged national economy from the Israeli economy and to achieve a high degree of economic self-reliance, and they called upon sources of external aid to help the Palestinian people in their efforts to help themselves. The Ministers stressed their commitment to continue providing material and moral assistance to the Palestinian people, to enable them to exercise their inalienable national rights.

154. The Ministers requested all States and donors that provided any form of aid to the Palestinian people to maintain and increase that aid and channel it to the Palestinian people through their sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and, whenever necessary, through the relevant United Nations bodies, in close co-operation and co-ordination with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

155. The Ministers welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/178, on assistance to the Palestinian people, by which the General Assembly decided, inter alia, to extend to the occupied Palestinian territory the same preferential treatment accorded the least developed countries, pending the elimination of the Israeli occupation and the assumption of full control by the Palestinian people over their national economy without external interference.

156. The Ministers took note of the desire of the State of Palestine to become party to the United Nations specialized agencies and its acceptance of the obligations associated therewith. They decided to support the State of Palestine in becoming a member of those agencies. The Ministers reaffirmed their decision to oppose any attempt to give the occupying power, Israel, membership on any United Nations regional economic commission.

XXVII. LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE ARAB SYRIAN CITIZENS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB SYRIAN GOLAN

157. The Ministers expressed grave concern over the rapid deterioration in the living conditions of the Arab Syrian citizens in the occupied Arab Syrian Golan as a result of the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities, particularly the recent restrictions imposed to the Arab Syrian citizens' agricultural products. They have prevented them from exporting their products; rejected their proposal that their products be marketed within their motherland, Syria; prevented them from either constructing dams or utilizing other water resources in the irrigation of their land; and continued to establish settlements and confiscate agricultural land, etc. The Ministers reaffirmed that only the elimination of the Israeli occupation could secure decent living conditions for the citizens and a prompt resumption of the socio-economic development of their country.

158. The Ministers called on all States and international institutions and organizations to put the greatest possible pressure on Israel and take every decisive action to compel the Israeli occupation forces to end their boycott of agricultural produce and remove the restrictions they have imposed on its marketing. They further called on them to force the Israeli occupation authorities to implement the relevant United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions as well as fulfil all their commitments in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the protection of civilians in times of war.

XV VIII. CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA

159. The Ministers noted with concern that the acute economic crisis persisted in most of the African countries. The adverse international economic environment continued seriously to debilitate those economies, making their recovery even more difficult.

160. The Ministers expressed concern that, three years after the adoption of UNPAAERD, the economic situation of Africa had deteriorated and short-, medium- and long-term prospects remained bleak in spite of the vigorous and significant policy reforms of African countries, which have exacted severe social and political costs. In this context, they expressed concern that the developed countries had not provided sufficient support at the required levels to create an international environment favourable to the process of reform and restructuring and to the full implementation of UNPAAERD.

161. The Ministers welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/27, containing the mid-term review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and recommendations for the acceleration of its implementation. They stressed that the sustained and unfaltering efforts made by the African countries must be matched by substantial, urgent and decisive actions by the international community to accelerate and ensure effective implementation of the Programme during its remaining term.

162. They noted with concern that, at a time when African countries are in dire need of financial resources, they have become net exporters of resources as their heavy debt servicing obligations and revenue losses caused by a sharp decline in commodity prices have been more than the capital inflows to the continent. They therefore called on the developed countries and the multilateral financial and development institutions not only to increase, in real terms, resource flows to Africa but also to improve the terms and conditions on which resources are disbursed to African countries.

163. The Ministers considered the economic consequences of the destabilization policies that the racist regime of South Africa has applied against the Front-line States and reaffirmed their full support for and solidarity with those countries as well as the liberation movements in overcoming the devastating effects of destabilization. In this regard, they commended the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) for the significant progress it had made in initiating programmes in important economic sectors vital to economic growth and

collective self-reliance and in lessening the dependence on South Africa of the economies of its member countries. They also urged the Non-Aligned countries to provide greater support for SADCC programmes and projects in order to give concrete content to their solidarity with the Front-line States.

164. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the results of the meetings of the Committee for the AFRICA Fund held in New Delhi, India, Brazzaville, the Congo, and Lima, Peru. They urged all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to provide the Fund with adequate financial and material resources for fully reaching its targets.

XXIX. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA

165. The Ministers reviewed the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and noted with regret that, although the end of the decade was approaching, the progress achieved so far was inadequate. They welcomed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/179, which declared the period 1991-2000 the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and appealed to donor countries and international financial institutions to intensify their support for the accelerated development of transport and communications in Africa.

XXX. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

166. The Ministers welcomed the decision of ESCAP to conduct a mid-term review of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific in close consultation with the governments of the region and expressed the hope that funding from the United Nations Development Programme and other sources would be forthcoming for the remaining sixteen projects.

XXXI. LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

167. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the continued deterioration in the overall socio-economic situation of the least developed countries and over their greatly reduced ability to overcome the negative impact of external factors, due to profound structural constraints and handicaps. Shortfalls in export earnings, discriminatory trade restrictions, increasing protectionism and the further decline in capital flows have led to a sharp reduction in their external purchasing power and levels of investment. The heavy burden of servicing external debts continues to pose a serious impediment to their growth and development prospects. All the above difficulties, coupled with natural disasters, limited the capacity of the least developed countries to develop their economic potential and to improve

their socio-economic plight. In this regard, the Ministers recognized the crucial and urgent need to promote concerted international measures for the immediate rehabilitation and reactivation of short- and long-term development processes.

168. The Ministers expressed their grave disappointment that the unanimously adopted Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries remained largely unfulfilled. They strongly reaffirmed the full validity of the Substantial New Programme of Action and called upon the international community to take urgent, concrete and adequate measures for its implementation so as to assist the least developed countries to overcome their profound structural difficulties, ensure acceptable standards of living for their populations and attain self-reliant development. In this connection, they supported General Assembly resolution 42/177, to convene a high-level United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Paris in September 1990 to review progress and formulate national and international policies and measures for accelerating the development process in the least developed countries during the 1990s in line with their long-term socio-economic objectives. They endorsed United Nations General Assembly resolution 43/186, on the convening of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and urged the Non-Aligned and other developing countries, inter-governmental and multilateral institutions and the developed countries to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations are made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the preparatory meetings for the Conference as well as in the Conference itself. The Ministers expressed the hope that the 1990 UN Conference on LDCs will adopt a New Plan of Action to reactivate growth and development in the LDCs during the decade of 1990s.

169. The Ministers noted the measures outlined in the Economic Declaration of the Toronto Summit of the seven major industrial nations, which are welcome developments and constitute positive steps towards finding viable and long-lasting solutions for the developing countries' external debt problems, and they expressed the hope that those measures would soon be implemented and followed by more comprehensive and concrete actions urgently needed for sustainable global recovery.

XXXII. LAND-LOCKED COUNTRIES

170. The Ministers recalled all the previous decisions of the Non-Aligned Movement concerning the land-locked developing countries and noted with concern that the measures taken so far had not been sufficient for tackling their serious problems. They stressed that the land-locked developing countries, which are in a particularly handicapped position, have been seriously affected by the adverse world economic situation. They called upon the international community, especially the developed countries and multilateral financial and development organizations, to take the necessary measures and to provide the required aid and new technology in transport to assist them in overcoming their difficulties.

171. The Ministers also recognized that most transit countries were themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of an adequate infrastructure in the transport sector, and thus required assistance from the international community, especially the developed countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, to assist them in overcoming those problems.

172. They recalled once more Article 125 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, on the right of free access of land-locked developing countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit, which should be realized in accordance with its Sub-articles 2 and 3, so that any programme of action related to transit arrangements should be undertaken in consultation with, and with the approval of, the transit country concerned.

173. In this connection, the Ministers strongly condemned South Africa's measures aimed at delaying the free transit from and to the sea of goods and persons originating in Zambia and Zimbabwe, in a clear attempt to disrupt and weaken the economies of those two countries, in flagrant violation of the principles of international law set forth in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the United Nations Convention on Transit Trade of Land-locked Countries, as well as fair trade practices.

XXXIII. ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

174. The Ministers recognized the acute problems faced by the island developing countries, arising from their small size, remoteness, proneness to natural disasters, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, extremely limited internal markets, scarcity of natural resources, limited availability of fresh water, heavy dependence on imports and on a few commodities, depletable and non-renewable resources, shortages of administrative personnel, fragility of the environment and heavy financial burdens.

175. The Ministers, bearing in mind the goals and objectives of the International Development Decade, decision 86/33 of the United Nations Development Programme and resolutions 41/63 and 43/189 of the United Nations General Assembly, called upon all countries, international organizations and financial institutions to respond positively to the specific needs of the island developing countries at the national, regional and inter-regional levels.

176. They underlined once more that the criteria, terms and conditions governing the flow of bilateral and multilateral financial and technical assistance to island developing countries should be geared to the special needs and problems of each of the countries concerned and that a major proportion of such aid should be made on a grant basis.

XXXIV. DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

177. The Ministers underlined their deep apprehension and concern over the growing problem of drug abuse and the escalation of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. They stressed not only that those grave problems had a devastating effect on the health of the population and community life in every State but also that drug abuse and illicit trafficking were a scourge that seriously weakened the social fabric of nations, threatening their security and undermining their social, legal, economic and cultural structures. The Ministers further underlined that drug abuse and illicit trafficking entailed sizeable direct and indirect costs to governments, thus hampering their efforts for development and progress. They stressed that, in order to combat and eradicate this scourge, it was absolutely essential for all States to exert their political will and to undertake concerted and coherent action to tackle, simultaneously, the problems of the illicit consumption, production and transit of and trafficking in narcotic drugs. They likewise urged all States to provide economic and technical assistance to countries where production takes place in order to accelerate the whole process in the search for acceptable economic alternatives.

178. The Ministers reiterated the full validity of the principle of shared responsibility in the struggle against the improper use and production of and the illicit traffic in drugs. They also appealed to the international community and the specialized financial agencies to increase financial and technical flows in international co-operation. Because of its purpose, such co-operation should be unstinting and not subject to any kind of qualifying criteria; however, it should strictly respect national sovereignty and jurisdiction.

179. The Ministers commended the concerted and determined efforts of the international community to combat the scourge of drug abuse and illicit trafficking. They welcomed the adoption of the Declaration and the Comprehensive Multi-disciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, held in Vienna from 17 to 26 June 1987.

180. The Ministers stressed the urgent need to take concrete action at the national and regional levels, especially in the financial markets of some industrialized countries, to achieve international agreements on the seizure of money and property derived from drug trafficking and prevent the laundering of drug profits.

181. The Ministers, keeping in mind the use of chemical inputs and products essential for the manufacture of drugs, underlined the pressing need for the countries that produce those inputs to strictly supervise their marketing. They likewise expressed the need to draw up an ad hoc international convention to regulate and supervise that activity as an effective means in the struggle against the international traffic in drugs.

182. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the signing of the International Convention against Illicit Trafficking Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances that took place in Vienna in December 1988 and called for its prompt and effective application. They therefore urged the signatory parties to immediately proceed to the process of ratification and urged those countries that have not yet signed it to do so.

183. The Ministers welcomed the 25 April 1989 signing in Managua of the Regional Co-operation Agreement on the Eradication of Illicit Trafficking in Drugs, agreed upon by all the Central American governments on the basis of a proposal formulated by Nicaragua.

XXXV. ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

184. The Ministers stressed that economic co-operation among developing countries had become a tangible reality that had evolved into innovative concepts based on the principles of collective self-reliance. Those concepts were crystallized into precise objectives and translated into detailed programmes and projects in several sectors of economic co-operation.

185. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the progress made in furthering economic co-operation among developing countries since the adoption at the Seventh Summit Conference of the Declaration on Collective Self-Reliance among Non-Aligned Countries to further promote self-reliant development as an indispensable and integral part of the efforts of developing countries to restructure international economic relations and establish the New International Economic Order.

186. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the outcome of the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on South-South Co-operation, held in Pyongyang, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 9 to 13 June 1987, and they urged the Non-Aligned countries to make every possible effort to implement the recommendations of the Conference.

187. The Ministers stressed the pressing and urgent need for accelerating the pace of economic co-operation among developing countries, particularly in view of the present adverse world economic environment and the continuing deadlock in the restructuring of international economic relations. They urged that the vast potential of economic co-operation among developing countries be fully explored, in order to reduce the developing countries' vulnerability to economic and other pressures exerted against them. They recognized the need for making optimal use of existing complementarities of the human, natural, financial and technological resources of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries as well as the opportunity of co-operation among developing countries enterprises. They also underlined the importance of the need to revitalize the economic integration process among developing countries. They reaffirmed their view that co-operation among developing countries was neither a substitute for nor an alternative to co-operation between developing and developed countries. They urged all Non-Aligned countries to consider according preferential treatment for the procurement of expertise, equipment and supplies from one another and asked the appropriate agencies to play a greater role in compiling and disseminating information on the possibilities of economic co-operation. They recommended that focal points advise governments and governmental institutions of the need to adopt appropriate measures, including legislative ones, to facilitate economic co-operation among developing countries.

188. The Ministers noted the assessment made by the Sixth Meeting of the Inter-governmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee (IFCC) of the Group of 77, held in Havana from 7 to 12 September 1987, particularly the recommendations derived from the sectoral analyses of the Caracas Programme of Action and the Report of the Meeting of Heads of National Focal Points for ECDC/TCDC and those relative to the distribution of resources of the ECDC Trust Fund. The Ministers welcomed the agreement

reached at the Sixth IFCC Meeting on the necessity to reaffirm and strengthen the commitment to action-oriented measures that would regenerate the momentum for the consistent implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action with a full sense of solidarity and realism.

189. The Ministers called on the United Nations system to take more effective concrete measures to promote economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in the course of the implementation of its programmes and projects. In this regard, they urged the United Nations system to increase the utilization of consultants and procurement of equipment from developing countries.

190. The Ministers welcomed the coming into force of the Agreement on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries, which constituted the cornerstone of co-operation in the field of trade between Non-Aligned and other developing countries. Its importance was even greater at a time of grave erosion of the multilateral trading system, increased resort to protectionism by some developed countries and the unfavourable terms of trade. The Ministers urged the signatory countries which have not yet done so to ratify the Agreement and deposit the instruments of ratification expeditiously. They also urged all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to consider joining the GSTP Agreement.

191. The Ministerial called upon the signatory countries and other interested members of the Group of 77 to expedite, on receipt of the required ratification, the setting up of the committee of participants and requested that committee to urgently consider taking up preparatory work for the second round of negotiations.

192. They considered it essential that the second round of GSTP negotiations, in addition to an increased membership and enlarged coverage of products and improved tariff concessions, should also include other envisaged approaches and modalities agreed upon by the Negotiation Committee at the Ministerial-level meeting in Brasilia in 1986.

193. The Ministers reaffirmed their resolute commitment to provide political support for strengthening co-operation among Non-Aligned and other developing countries in accordance with the Action Programme adopted by the Group of 77 at Caracas in May 1981, the Plan of Action of the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on South-South Co-operation adopted in Pyongyang in June 1987 and the Proposals of the Meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic Co-operation held in Harare in 1988. The Ministers recalled the recommendations of the Eighth Summit Conference on the

harmonization and co-ordination of the action programmes of the Non-Aligned Movement and Group of 77 and expressed their conviction that efforts would be continued to that end in order to make them mutually complementary.

194. The Ministers reiterated the validity of the Harare Action Programme and the decision to regroup the spheres of action and welcomed the progress that had been made thus far in the majority of the spheres. They considered that there was a need to intensify co-ordination and co-operation in the economic field among Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

195. The Ministers noted with concern that some of the institutions established by Non-Aligned and other developing countries, such as the International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries, in Ljubljana, and the Documentation Centre of Non-Aligned Countries, in Colombo, had been encountering serious financial problems.

196. The International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries has accumulated sufficient experience and expertise and increased its capacities to assist and support the role of public enterprises and make use of facilities and expertise for their public enterprises management development, modernization and reform programmes as well as for exchange of experience, in promoting the development process in the fields of finance, trade, technology, joint ventures, industry, agriculture, consultancy, human resources development and the integration of women in development. The Ministers invited Non-Aligned and other developing countries which have not done so to join the International Centre for Public Enterprises and to make use of its services and urged member countries to fulfil regularly their financial obligations towards ICPE.

197. They also welcomed the increased activities of the Association of State Trading Organizations (ASTRO) and urged those interested State Organizations of developing countries which have not yet done so to join ASTRO and participate in its activities.

198. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the progress made in carrying out recommendations of the previous Summit Conference in the sphere of science and technology and recommended that the Non-Aligned and other developing countries make all possible efforts to master new technology, particularly in the fields of micro-electronics, bio-technology, new materials and non-conventional energy sources. They expressed profound satisfaction that the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries had been made operational on a provisional basis, pending the completion of the ratification process, and appreciated India's efforts in

convening the first meeting of the Governing Council of the Centre in 1989 to finalize its administrative structure, work programme and funding arrangements. They welcomed the convening in India in October 1988 of the first Inter-governmental Consultative Conference of Experts of Interested Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on New and High Technologies, aimed at enhancing scientific and technological co-operation.

199. The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress made thus far in the sphere of research and information and recommended that the research and information system continue to broaden and intensify its contacts with other institutes and information systems, with a view to becoming a professional focal point for the dissemination of economic and financial information pertinent to the Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

200. The Ministers recognized the urgent need for accelerating the pace of ECDC in food and agriculture, particularly in view of the current critical situation of aggravated poverty, hunger and malnutrition. In this context, they took note of the intention of the DPR of Korea to host a Ministerial Meeting on Food and Agriculture at the appropriate time, after consultations, to assess the implementation of ECDC and TCDC decisions adopted by previous Summit Conferences of Non-Aligned countries and device co-operation steps in this field.

201. The Ministers welcomed the formulation of the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, its submission to the General Assembly and the adoption by consensus on 12 May 1988 of resolution 42/231 and of resolution 43/210 on 20 December 1988 and urged that the efforts being made under the Esquipulas II Agreements to achieve peace and economic and social development be supported.

202. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the activities of the Josip Broz Tito Gallery in promoting the cultural and artistic values of Non-Aligned countries. They appreciated the work undertaken concerning the transformation of the Gallery into a joint institution of Non-Aligned countries in accordance with the decision by the Seventh Summit and invited the Co-ordinating Bureau to finalize the draft Statutes (submitted by the Gallery) so that they could be approved by the next Summit.

203. The Non-Aligned and other developing countries are invited to participate in the 1989 Third Havana Biennial, convened by the Wifredo Lam Centre to disseminate the artistic creation of Third World countries. The Ministers also welcomed the generous offer by Cuba to host in 1989 the Third Conference of Ministers and Officials in the Sphere of Physical Education and Sport of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

204. The Ministers proposed that the Movement explore the possibility of holding an annual Trade Fair of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

XXXVI. ACTION PROGRAMME FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

205. The Ministers considered the report of the Sixth Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation of Non-Aligned Countries. They noted the progress achieved in the implementation of the Action Programme in several spheres of co-operation as well as the varied recommendations put forth in the report for future action to implement the priorities and guidelines set out in the Eighth Summit Conference.

206. The Ministers endorsed the recommendations of the Sixth Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries on co-operation in various fields as contained in the final report of that Meeting. In this regard, they recognized the importance of convening Ministerial meetings in different spheres of economic co-operation. They stressed the need for accelerating the pace of implementation of the recommendations through the early implementation of time-bound programmes and projects.

207. The text of the Introductory Chapter of the Final Document of the Sixth Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation of Non-Aligned Countries reads as follows:

III. SPECIAL DECLARATION ON NAMIBIA

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Countries, meeting in Harare from 17 to 19 May, 1989, reviewed and analyzed developments in Namibia since the beginning of the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence on 1st April 1989.

The Ministers expressed shock and dismay at the tragic events at the beginning of April which resulted in the loss of lives of many Namibians and disrupted the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). They noted that these events were the result of inadequate UNTAG presence in Namibia at the commencement of the transition process, and that this shortcoming had played into the well-known designs and machinations of the Pretoria regime.

The Ministers expressed deep concern that the registration of non-Namibians on the voters' roll, the retention of discriminatory laws, the intimidation and harassment of SWAPO supporters, the cold-blooded murders of SWAPO leaders and activists in the custody of the South African authorities as well as the malicious campaign of disinformation against SWAPO being waged by South Africa, constituted serious obstacles to the implementation of the Namibian independence plan and continued to compound the grave situation created by the events since the beginning of April.

The Ministers noted that South Africa's continued refusal to comply with the provisions of resolution 435 by, inter alia, failing to order all its forces to bases, is now the main obstacle to the effective implementation of the Namibian independence plan.

They reiterated that only the full implementation of Resolution 435 in its original and definitive form can ensure the conditions conducive to a peaceful and stable transitional process in Namibia. They, therefore, demanded the deployment of the full complement of the military component of UNTAG and an increase in the UNTAG police monitors in proportion to the strength of the existing South African police force. In this regard, they welcomed the Secretary General's decision to appoint a Deputy Special Representative and to increase the police component of UNTAG.

The Ministers further demanded the immediate dismantling of Koevoet and other para-military forces which South Africa has deceitfully integrated into its police force in Namibia. They recalled that all elements of the South African police to be integrated into the Namibian police force should be subjected to a suitability test in conformity with Resolution 435.

The Ministers called upon the United Nations to set up an independent international investigation into the circumstances leading to, and events associated with, the cold-blooded murder of SWAPO activists at Oshakati prison and other places. In this context they called for the provision of adequate protection for SWAPO leaders.

They also demanded the immediate de-registration of all non-Namibians and an end to the intimidation of SWAPO supporters.

The Ministers called upon the United Nations Security Council to reassert its authority under Resolution 435 for the implementation of the independence plan for Namibia and to immediately provide UNTAG with the means to carry out its mandate.

The Ministers urged the international community to urgently extend assistance to the UNHCR and SWAPO for purposes of the speedy repatriation of all Namibians in order to enable them to participate in the forthcoming election. At the same time, they urged the UNHCR and other UN Agencies concerned to take adequate measures in their respective fields of competence, to ensure the early rehabilitation and resettlement of returning Namibians.

The Ministers further urged all Members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and those of good will in the international community to provide material and financial assistance to SWAPO in order to enable it to carry out its responsibilities to the Namibian people during the period leading to independence.

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CO-ORDINATING BUREAU OF THE MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ON ACTIVITIES OF THE MOVEMENT DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1988 TO MAY 1989

INTRODUCTION

At the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Nicosia, Cyprus, from 5 to 10 September 1988, the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau presented a Report on the activities of NAM during the period October 1987 to September 1988. The present Report covers the activities of the Movement since the Nicosia Ministerial Conference (i.e. October 1988 to May 1989).

Significant developments and trends continued to unfold in international affairs during the period under review. These developments further vindicated the validity of the principles and objectives of non-alignment. The Movement continued to contribute actively and constructively to the efforts aimed at the relaxation and elimination of focal points of conflict and tension on the international scene. The Co-ordinating Bureau made continuous efforts to implement the important decisions taken by the Eighth Summit Conference as well as by subsequent Ministerial Meetings. It remained preoccupied with matters of disarmament and areas of conflict in various regions, particularly Southern Africa, the crisis in the Middle East, Central America, South West Asia and South East Asia. Economic issues also continued to receive the attention of NAM, with several meetings convened within the framework of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation (APEC) in preparation for the Sixth Review Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries. At the United Nations, the Co-ordinating Bureau, the various Committees and Working Groups of the Movement, as well as the NAM Caucus in the Security Council, intensified the co-ordination of the views and actions of Non-Aligned Countries on issues before the General Assembly and the Security Council of concern to NAM.

Since the Nicosia Ministerial Conference efforts to explore ways of enhancing the effectiveness of NAM and efficient working methods within the Movement were intensified and received attention at Ministerial level.

DISARMAMENT ISSUES

During the period under review, the Non-Aligned Countries continued to co-ordinate their actions and views on disarmament issues at the United Nations and other international fora. In pursuance of the decision of the Meeting of the Ministers and Heads of Delegation of Non-Aligned Countries to the 42nd Session, the Non-Aligned Countries presented at the 43rd Session a draft resolution on bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations welcoming the ratification of the INF Treaty and calling upon the United States and the Soviet Union to exert every effort to achieve the goal they set themselves of a treaty on a 50 per cent reduction in strategic offensive arms as part of the process leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. The draft was adopted by the General Assembly as resolution 43/75A. The Movement also sponsored resolution 43/75B on the relationship between disarmament and development calling upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take action for the implementation of the programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

The representative of the Chairman of the Movement participated at the Conference on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons held in Paris from 7 to 11 January 1989. During the Conference the participating Non-Aligned countries held several meetings to exchange views and co-ordinate their positions on the issues under consideration. Several NAM position papers as well as amendments to the Chairman's paper were submitted to the Conference as a result of the co-ordinated consultations among the Non-Aligned participants.

MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE

The Movement continued to closely monitor developments relating to the acute crisis in the Middle East and to push for efforts to break the impasse in the peace process during the period under review. The situation in the occupied territories continued to deteriorate as the Israeli occupation army stepped up its brutalities against defenceless Palestinians in an attempt to suppress the popular uprising of the Palestinian people (Intifadah). However, fresh opportunities for re-launching the peace process were opened up as a result of the

bold decisions taken at the Extraordinary "Intifadah Session" of the Palestinian National Council held in Algiers in November 1988, including the proclamation of the State of Palestine, as well as the important peace initiative made by Chairman Yasser Arafat in Geneva in December 1988. On 21 November 1988 the Committee of Nine met and heard a report from the Representative of Palestine at the United Nations on the decisions taken by the PNC. The Chairman of the Movement, President Robert G. Mugabe, issued a Statement welcoming the proclamation of the Palestinian State and urging all Non-Aligned Countries to recognize it. The Chairman was also represented at the PNC Algiers meeting at which the State was proclaimed.

Due to an initiative by the Committee of Nine on Palestine, the 43rd Session General Assembly scheduled an early debate on Israeli practices in the occupied Palestinian territories before the scheduled general debate on the item on the Question of Palestine. The debate helped focus the attention of the international community on the intensification by Israel of its repressive acts at a time when the Palestinian leadership was offering important peace initiatives.

The Co-ordinating Bureau held two meetings in December 1988 to consider the decision by the United States to deny a visa to Chairman Arafat who intended to address the 43rd Session of the General Assembly in New York. The Bureau appealed to the United States to reconsider and reverse its decision, and as this appeal, which also came from the vast majority of the international community, went unheeded, NAM played an active part in the successful efforts to transfer the debate to Geneva. The Chairman of the Movement sent a message to the Secretary-General of the United Nations deploring the United States' decision and calling upon the international community to ensure that Chairman Arafat was accorded an opportunity to address the United Nations and apprise it of the important decisions taken by the PNC. A message was also sent to the then United States President Ronald Reagan expressing the Movement's concern at the decision to deny Chairman Arafat a visa.

The Chairman of the Movement was represented by the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe at the transferred session of the General Assembly. In pursuance of its decision at the meeting held in Nicosia in September 1988 the Committee of Nine convened a Ministerial level meeting during the Geneva Session of the 43rd General Assembly session. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat

participated at the meeting and briefed the Committee on the important decisions taken by the "Intifadah Session" of the PNC as well as on the peace initiatives undertaken by the PLO.

The decisions taken by the Ministers in Geneva were further discussed by the Committee and the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York at various meetings in January and February 1989. Both the Committee of Nine and the Co-ordinating Bureau also mandated the Chairman of the Bureau to make a Statement during the Security Council debate on developments in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Bureau issued three Communiques on this subject in January and February 1989.

Following a decision taken by the Committee of Nine after reviewing the discussions between the Ministers and Chairman Arafat in Geneva, the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau, accompanied by the Permanent Representatives of Algeria and Yugoslavia, and officials from Senegal and Palestine, met with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 20 March 1989 to convey to him NAM's concern at the lack of any movement on the Middle East peace process and at the continuation of Israeli repression in the occupied territories. The delegation also informed the Secretary-General of NAM's wish to get the Security Council to take steps to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories, and requested him to press the Permanent Members of the Council to make effective use of the opportunities offered by the initiatives made by the PLO in Algiers and in Geneva and set the peace process in motion. The delegation's message was well-received by the Secretary-General, who in turn briefed it on the contacts he was currently undertaking with the Permanent Members, aimed at ascertaining their views on ways of moving the peace process forward. The delegation also conferred with the Permanent Representative of Senegal on 21 March in her capacity as President of the Security Council on the same subject.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

The period under review saw some important developments regarding the situation in Southern Africa. The signing of the New York agreements by Angola, Cuba and South Africa brought to an end South Africa's invasion of Angolan territory, and the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia commenced on 1 April-1989. However, the system of apartheid in South Africa, as well as the Pretoria regime's persistent destabilization of the Front-line and other

neighbouring States has continued to be the fundamental problem in the region.

The Non-Aligned countries at the United Nations closely co-ordinated their views and demonstrated their unity in playing an active part in the negotiations within the Security Council leading to the implementation of Resolution 435. A Group of 18 NAM Countries on Namibia was constituted by the Co-ordinating Bureau to monitor developments relating to the implementation of resolution 435 and to participate in the negotiations on that subject together with the NAM Caucus in the Security Council. In three months of intensive lobbying during December 1988 and January and February 1989, the Group pressed for the full implementation of resolution 435 in its original form. NAM gave particular priority to fighting against the reduction of the military component of UNTAG and the moves intended to hamper the free and safe return of Namibian refugees.

The Chairman of the Movement also personally intervened in an effort to prevent the reduction of UNTAG. He wrote to the five Permanent Members of the Security Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressing concern that the downsizing of the military component of UNTAG would prejudice the full and fair implementation of its mandate and appealed for the deployment of the full complement of UNTAG as a minimum requirement for the smooth implementation of resolution 435.

Following the eruption of South African violence against SWAPO combatants beginning 1 April 1989, the Co-ordinating Bureau held an urgent meeting and issued a Communique expressing dismay at the genocidal campaign which came at a time when the process of bringing genuine independence to Namibia was already under way. The Bureau expressed outrage at the fact that UNTAG was wholly unprepared to assume its responsibilities by 1 April, the designated date for the commencement of the implementation of resolution 435.

The Chairman of the Movement sent a message to the Secretary-General of the United Nations following these incidents, emphasizing again the need to deploy the full complement of UNTAG.

The Co-ordinating Bureau also continued to monitor closely the developments inside South Africa. The Nicosia Ministerial Conference called for the convening in 1989 of a special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to apartheid and its destructive consequences in Southern Africa. During the 43rd Session of the General Assembly, Members of the Movement sponsored a resolution (43/50G) through which the Assembly decided to convene the Conference on a date to be determined by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Special Committee against Apartheid.

On 26 October 1988 the Co-ordinating Bureau held an urgent meeting in New York at which it issued a Communique condemning the racially segregated municipal elections held on the same date throughout South Africa. The liberation movements of South Africa briefed the Bureau on the implications of the elections which were an exercise through which South Africa intended to place its hand-picked puppets on the so-called "President's Council."

NON-ALIGNED SOLIDARITY FUNDS FOR NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE AFRICA FUND

The Non-Aligned Solidarity Fund for Namibia now stands at \$434,985.64 while the Solidarity Fund for the Liberation of South Africa amounts to \$179,577.54.

The Fourth Meeting of Senior Officials of the NAM AFRICA Fund was held in New Delhi from 14 to 17 February 1989. A separate Report on this Fund is to be submitted by its Chairman, India.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ISSUES

The Committee of Nine on Central America continued to monitor closely developments relating to the situation in Central America and to render NAM's support to the implementation of the Esquipulas Accords.

On 25 October 1988, the Committee of Nine was briefed by the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations on the devastation caused in that country by Hurricane Joan. The Co-ordinating Bureau issued a Communique on 26 October appealing for international assistance to Nicaragua for relief and reconstruction after being briefed by Nicaragua on its needs arising from the destruction by the hurricane.

Following the signing of the Tesoro Beach Accords, the Committee of Nine met on 13 February for a briefing by the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua in New York on consultations between the United Nations and Central American States regarding participation by the United Nations in the verification process for the implementation of the Esquipulas Accords.

At a meeting attended by the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, who briefed the Non-Aligned Countries on recent developments in Central America on 15 March 1989, the Co-ordinating Bureau issued a Communique welcoming the agreements reached by the Central American Presidents in February in El Salvador, and at the same time expressing its serious concern at the renewal of the policy of intervention in Central America as a result of the demand by the government of the United States to the Government of Honduras that the "contras" remain on Honduran territory for one more year, contrary to the accords reached by the Presidents.

During this period, the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations also kept the Co-ordinating Bureau informed of the situation in that country resulting from the United States' interference in its internal affairs and the policy of coercion and threat of use of force against Panama.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

The Movement continued with its efforts to contribute to a durable and peaceful solution to the Kampuchean question during this period by lending its support to the regional peace initiative started by the Jakarta Informal Meeting in July 1988.

The Nicosia Ministerial Conference decided to establish a Committee under the Chairmanship of Zimbabwe on the question of Kampuchea, comprising thirteen Members, whose names were to be submitted to the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegations to the 42nd Session of the General Assembly held in New York on 3 October 1988. The composition of the Committee was finalized on 3 October 1988 following consultations within the Co-ordinating Bureau and among the Foreign Ministers attending the 42nd Session of the General Assembly. The list of Members of the Committee as approved by the Ministers is as follows: Algeria, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Peru, Palestine, Singapore, Vietnam, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

The Committee held its first meeting at Ministerial level in New York on 5 October. The meeting reviewed the Committee's mandate and its future programme of work. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia and the Vice-Foreign Minister of Vietnam briefed the Committee on developments relating to the Kampuchean issue, and the Committee decided that after the series of meetings scheduled to take place in the context of the JIM process, the Chairman would consult with the Foreign Minister of Indonesia and set a date for the next meeting. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia has kept the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe informed of the results of the meetings that took place during the early part of 1989. On 20 April 1989, the Committee met in New York in order to be briefed by the representative of Indonesia and Vietnam on the outcome of the latest of the meetings convened under the aegis of JIM.

THE MEDITERRANEAN

In pursuance of the objective of strengthening security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region and in extending its support for the transformation of that area into a region free from conflict and confrontation, the Movement continued to monitor closely developments in the area during this period. On 3 January 1989, the Bureau held an urgent meeting at which it issued a Communique expressing concern at the disinformation campaign as well as threats of aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the United States. The Bureau met again and issued a Communique on 5 January 1989 condemning the use by the United States of the pretext of alleged chemical weapons plants to launch fresh attacks against Libya, including the downing of two Libyan reconnaissance planes. The Caucus called for a meeting of the Security Council at which the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau made a Statement on behalf of the Movement.

The Committee on Cyprus continued to follow developments on the Question of Cyprus and was briefed on this subject by the Foreign Minister of Cyprus on 6 April 1989.

WORKING GROUP ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

At Nicosia, the Foreign Ministers approved the following formula for the establishment of an open-ended Working Group on Peaceful Settlement of Disputes as mandated by the Seventh and Eighth Summits, with a core body of five Members from Africa, four from Asia, three from Latin America and the Caribbean and one from Europe, with the Chairman of the Movement as an ex-officio Member. The Ministers also entrusted the Co-ordinating Bureau with the task of nominating the Members of the core body without delay. Following consultations with the Members of the Movement from the various regions, the following States were selected to serve on the Working Group:

AFRICA

Kenya
Mozambique
Nigeria
Sao Tome and Principe

ASIA

India
Jordan
Pakistan
Sri Lanka

EUROPE

Yugoslavia

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Argentina
Jamaica
Nicaragua

Members from North Africa are yet to identify a Member to take up the fifth seat allocated to them. The Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau has requested Non-Aligned countries that have prepared Working Papers on peaceful settlements of disputes to submit them in order to enable the Working Group to study them and present its report to the Ninth Summit.

IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

The Chairman of the Movement personally maintained contact with the Secretary-General of the United Nations as well as with Iran and Iraq regarding the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 598. During his visit to New York in September 1988, the Chairman conferred with the United Nations Secretary-General on this subject.

On 19 October 1988 the Chairman received a special message from President Saddam Hussein of Iraq delivered by a special envoy regarding the negotiations on the implementation of resolution 598. In December 1988, a special message from Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayatti of Iran was also received.

AFGHANISTAN

The period under review witnessed the completion of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in accordance with the Geneva Accords. The Chairman of the Movement continued to hold consultations with the various parties to the Afghan dispute in pursuit of a peaceful solution to the problem in line with the Geneva Accords. In this regard, the Chairman sent a special envoy to confer with the authorities in Islamabad and Kabul.

THE KOREAN PENINSULA

The Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations kept the Co-ordinating Bureau briefed on a regular basis of the developments in the Korean Peninsula.

In November 1988, the Deputy President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea visited Zimbabwe and consulted with the Chairman of the Movement on the situation in the Korean Peninsula.

In March 1989, the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe received a letter from the Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea drawing the attention of NAM to the threat posed by the joint military manoeuvres by the United States and South Korea in the Peninsula. Both the letter from the Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the response of the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe were circulated to all members of the Movement.

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

The Nicosia Ministerial Conference decided to suggest to the United Nations General Assembly that it declare the 1990-2000 ten-year period as the "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism" in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. During the 43rd Session of the General Assembly, the Non-Aligned Countries tabled a resolution (43/47) through which the Assembly declared the Decade.

STRENGTHENING OF COLLECTIVE ACTION

The Nicosia Ministerial Meeting entrusted the Co-ordinating Bureau with the task of carrying out consultations aimed at defining the manner in which the Harare Declaration on the Strengthening of Collective Action should be implemented and to identify specific guidelines for the functioning of the mechanism of collective action in order to submit a report at the Ninth Summit Conference. At its meeting in New York on 20 April 1989, the Bureau requested the Non-Aligned experts participating in the work of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, to begin the consultations and to submit recommendations to the Bureau as soon as possible.

CO-OPERATION WITH OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

The Chairman of the Movement was represented at the Eighteenth Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in March 1989. In November 1988 the Chairman sent a message of solidarity to the Seventh Congress of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization held in New Delhi.

FINANCIAL CRISIS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau, as mandated by previous meetings of Ministers and Heads of Delegations to the Regular Sessions of the General Assembly, continued intensive consultations among members of the Movement, inter alia, on the issue of the financial crisis of the United Nations and the reform process in the Organization.

ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND WORKING PROCEDURES OF THE MOVEMENT

Following the mandate from the Nicosia Ministerial Conference, the Co-ordinating Bureau remained seized with the task of examining ways of enhancing the effectiveness of NAM and improving the methodology of work within the Movement and to prepare for the meeting of the Ministerial Committee established by the Nicosia Conference under the Chairmanship of Cyprus to consider this subject. The Bureau held several meetings in November and December 1988 and in January 1989, and prepared a Report covering all aspects of the subject which was submitted as a working document to the Meeting of the Ministerial Committee held in Nicosia in January 1989.

The Meeting of the Ministerial Committee in Nicosia exchanged views on the subject on the basis of a working document prepared by Cyprus as well as on the Bureau's Report and on papers submitted by individual members, and mandated the Foreign Minister of Cyprus to consult and prepare a Report to be considered during the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau in Harare.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL MINISTERIAL MEETING OF NAM ON PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW TO BE HELD AT THE HAGUE

The Nicosia Ministerial Conference entrusted the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau with the task of carrying out the pertinent consultations and the preparatory work regarding the convening of the Special Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Peace and International Law to be held at The Hague from 26 to 30 June 1989.

The Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau visited The Hague in January 1989 to confer with the Government of The Netherlands and other relevant institutions on preparations for the meeting. The Chairman briefed the Bureau on the positive outcome of that visit.

Following the establishment of the Working Group on Peaceful Settlement of Disputes, the Co-ordinating Bureau decided to entrust the Working Group with the task of examining all aspects pertaining to the preparatory work for the meeting and to report to the Bureau on a regular basis. The Working Group held several meetings in March and April 1989 in pursuance of its preparatory tasks.

The Group is currently considering a draft document for the meeting submitted by the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau. Invitations to the meeting have also already been issued to all Members, Observers and Guests of the Movement.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE NINTH SUMMIT

Following the proposal by the Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia during the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegation to the 43rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 3 October 1988 that the Ninth Summit Conference be convened during the month of September in 1989, the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau received a Note from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations on 1st February 1989, proposing specific dates for the Summit. The proposed dates were endorsed by the Co-ordinating Bureau at its meeting on 20 April as follows:

- 31 August 1989 -
Preparatory Meeting at the level of Senior Officials
and Ambassadors**

- 1 - 2 September 1989 -
Preparatory Meeting at Ministerial level**

- 4 - 7 September 1989 -
Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government**

The Chairman of the Movement paid a State visit to Yugoslavia from 23 to 26 January 1989 during which he conferred with President Raif Dizdarevic on preparations for the Ninth Summit Conference.

The Bureau considered and endorsed a request from New Zealand to be invited to the Ninth Summit as a Guest of the Movement. Applications for Guest status were later also received from Canada and the International Centre for Public Enterprise. These requests are still under consideration by the Bureau.

On 25 April 1989 the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau received an application from Venezuela to become a full member of NAM. The application was considered and unanimously endorsed by the Bureau on 27 April.

To date the following States have submitted their candidatures for the posts of Vice-Chairmen reserved for Members of the Movement from the various geographical regions:

Liberia, Syria, Togo, Vanuatu, Zaire and Democratic Yemen.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

During the period following the Nicosia Conference, the Members of the Movement continued to exchange views and ideas regarding the expansion of economic co-operation among Non-Aligned and other developing countries. A number of meetings were convened in the spheres of Health, and Science and Technology under the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation. The record of the activities of the Movement relating to economic matters are fully covered in the Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation held from 10 to 12 May 1989, as well as in the Joint Report submitted by the Chairmen of the Co-ordinating Bureau and the Group of 77.

Regarding other matters not covered in the above Reports, the Chairman of the Movement sent messages to all leaders of Non-Aligned countries in January 1989, appealing for assistance to the people of Bangladesh, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Sudan and other States who had fallen victims to the devastation caused in those countries by floods and hurricanes. The Chairman of the Movement also participated at the annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum held in Zurich in January 1989, which considered the grave economic problems facing the developing countries, particularly the debt burden.

V. REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR-GENERAL

1. The Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement was convened in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 17 to 19 May 1989. It was preceded by the Preparatory Meeting of Ambassadors and Senior Officials which held two sessions on 15 May 1989.
2. The following Countries and Organizations which are Members of the Non-Aligned Movement participated in the Ministerial Meeting: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South West Africa People's Organization, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen Arab Republic, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. The following Countries, Organizations and National Liberation Movements attended the Ministerial Meeting as Observers: Brazil, Mexico, Mongolia, Philippines, Venezuela, African National Congress, Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Organization of Africa Unity, Socialist Party of Puerto Rico and the United Nations.
4. The following Countries and Organizations attended the Ministerial Meeting as Guests: Australia, Austria, Finland, Greece, Holy See, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Special Committee

against Apartheid, Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, South Commission, Group of 77, Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and International Committee of the Red Cross.

5. The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Mr. Robert Gabriel Mugabe, Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, opened the Ministerial Meeting and delivered an important and inspiring address at the inaugural session on 17 May 1989. The Ministerial Meeting decided by acclamation to circulate the statement as an official document of the Meeting. (NAM/CON.8/MM/DOC.7)
6. Statements expressing votes of thanks were delivered by the Representatives of all the regional groups of the Non-Aligned Movement and the National Liberation Movements.
7. His Excellency, Mr. N. Shamuyarira, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe, was elected Chairman of the Ministerial Meeting by acclamation.
8. On the recommendation of the Preparatory Meeting of Ambassadors and Senior Officials, the Ministerial Meeting decided that its Bureau be constituted as follows:

Chairman:	Zimbabwe
Vice Chairmen	
for Africa:	Botswana Chad Ghana Libya Uganda
for Asia:	India Iran Iraq Kuwait
for Europe:	Yugoslavia

for Latin America and the Caribbean:

Bolivia
Jamaica
Panama

for the National Liberation Movements:

SWAPO

Rapporteur-General:

Mr. Saviour F. Borg
(Malta)

Chairman of the Political Committee:

H.E. Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi
(Palestine)

Chairman of the Economic Committee:

H.E. Mr. Andreas Pirishis
(Cyprus)

9. The Ministerial Meeting adopted the report of the Preparatory Meeting of Ambassadors and Senior Officials (NAM/CONF.8/SOA/Doc.4/Rev.1).
10. The Ministerial Meeting endorsed the recommendation adopted by the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York on the application of Venezuela to full membership in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. The meeting also took note of the objection raised by Panama to the application. The Ministerial Meeting decided to transmit both its recommendation on the application of Venezuela and the note of objection of Panama to the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government.
11. The Ministerial Meeting decided to accept the request of New Zealand to participate as a Guest in the Non-Aligned Movement.
12. The Ministerial meeting requested the Co-ordinating Bureau to continue consultations with regard to the applications by Canada and the International Centre for Public Enterprise for participation as Guests in the Non-Aligned Movement.

13. The Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau submitted a report (NAM/CONF.8/MM/DOC.5) on the activities of the Movement during the period October 1988 to May 1989. The report was duly noted.
14. The Ministerial Meeting adopted its agenda (NAM/CONF.8/MM/Doc.3/Rev.1) and its organization of work (NAM/CONF.8/Doc.4/Rev.1).
15. The Political Committee and the Economic Committee were established on 15 May 1989 and began consideration of the draft final declarations of the Ministerial Meeting.
16. A large number of Members participated in the general debate in Plenary. Observers and Guests also took part.
17. The general debate in Plenary and the discussions in the Political and Economic Committees were carried out in an atmosphere of friendship and co-operation. Speakers touched on wide-ranging issues and in particular on the international political and economic situations, the implementation of the decisions of the Eighth Summit Conference and of Ministerial Conferences and Meetings of Non-Aligned Countries as well as on strengthening the role of the Non-Aligned Movement.
18. Reference was also made to the Ministerial Committee on Methodology, which met on 16 May 1986 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. George Iacovou, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus. The Ministerial Committee endorsed its report, as submitted by the Chairman, and authorized him to submit the report to the Ninth Summit Conference, to take place in Belgrade in September 1989.
19. H.E. Mr. Budimir Loncar, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, delivered a statement on the preparations being undertaken by the Yugoslav Government for the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in September 1989.
20. The Ministerial Meeting endorsed the proposed dates as follows:

31 August 1989

Preparatory Meeting at the level of Senior
Officials and Ambassadors

1-2 September 1989
Preparatory Meeting at Ministerial level

4-7 September 1989
Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government

21. The Ministerial Meeting took note of the draft agenda (NAM/CONF.8/SOA/DOC.3) for the Ninth Summit Conference.
22. The Ministerial Meeting took note of the report of the Political Committee.
23. The Ministerial Meeting took note of the report of the Economic Committee.
24. The Ministerial Meeting adopted the report of the Rapporteur-General.
25. The Ministerial Meeting adopted by acclamation the final documents.
26. The Ministerial Meeting adopted by acclamation a Special Declaration on Namibia.
27. The closing session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement was held on 19 May 1989. The closing remarks were delivered by His Excellency Mr. N. Shamuyarira, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe.
28. Votes of thanks were moved by the representatives of all the regional groups and the national liberation movements.
