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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 20th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. TUERK (Austria)

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**20 October 1989**

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 139: MEASURES TO PREVENT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH ENDANGERS OR TAKES INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES OR JEOPARDIZES FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND STUDY OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THOSE FORMS OF TERRORISM AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH LIE IN MISERY, FRUSTRATION, GRIEVANCE AND DESPAIR AND WHICH CAUSE SOME PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE HUMAN LIVES, INCLUDING THEIR OWN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO EFFECT RADICAL CHANGES  
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(a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

(b) CONVENING, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO DEFINE TERRORISM AND TO DIFFERENTIATE IT FROM THE STRUGGLE OF PEOPLES FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION (continued) (A/44/378, A/44/456, A/44/578; A/C.6/44/L.2)

1. Ms. CHATOOR (Trinidad and Tobago) expressed her Government's deep concern at the escalation of acts of terrorism throughout the world. In view of the increased dangers resulting from new technological developments, the work being done in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) on the preparation of a new legal instrument regarding the marking of explosives for detectability was particularly to be welcomed.
2. The struggle against terrorism required not only strict compliance by all parties with existing international conventions relating to various aspects of the problem, but also constructive measures to combat and eradicate the underlying causes of terrorism, such as social, political and economic injustice, hegemonism, expansionism and neo-colonialism, and racial and ethnic discrimination. Violent acts of terrorism had to be differentiated from actions taken in the legitimate struggle of peoples for self-determination and independence. Nevertheless, while noting the numerous General Assembly resolutions affirming the right of subjugated peoples to struggle for their national liberation, her Government believed that efforts should be made wherever possible to resolve all conflicts by peaceful means.
3. In view of the new threat arising from the growing connection between terrorist groups and drug traffickers, there was urgent need for increased co-operation in international counter-terrorism activities and for mechanisms to ensure the prosecution of offenders. The international community should exert greater pressure on States which provided a safe haven for terrorists. Her Government wholeheartedly endorsed the declaration made in that connection at the Ninth Summit Meeting of Heads of State or Government of the Non Aligned Countries.
4. Suggesting that the term "positive peace" might be employed to describe the absence of structural violence or social injustice and that of "negative peace" the mere absence of armed conflict, she said that the international community should strive to achieve both, exhibiting the political will needed in order to overcome terrorism by eliminating the root causes of all terrorist activity. Her delegation supported the idea of convening an international conference to define terrorism and

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(Ms. Chatoor, Trinidad and Tobago)

to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation, and reaffirmed its readiness to participate in all international efforts to eradicate international terrorism.

5. Mr. MALEBESWA (Botswana), remarking that terrorism could be practised at the individual, group or State level, said that the last of those categories of terrorism was common in southern Africa, as indeed in many other parts of the contemporary world. When discussing terrorism it was necessary to appreciate that some peoples were still colonized or living under brutal and racist régimes. The line between genuine fighters for freedom and those who carried out sporadic acts in order to capture publicity was not easy to draw, but it was surely ironic that national liberation movements recognized by regional or international bodies should be labelled terrorist organizations by members of the same bodies.

6. Botswana was a party to the ICAO Conventions of 1963, 1970 and 1971 and the fact that it did not condone terrorism was further demonstrated by its close co-operation with international bodies such as Interpol. Whenever South African forces had crossed the border into Botswana for the alleged purpose of destroying African National Congress bases there, the Government of Botswana had asked for evidence that would enable it to deal with the situation under its own domestic laws; yet South Africa, in flagrant disregard for international law and opinion, had continued making the raids. Although bound to grant political asylum to political refugees under the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951, and the 1967 Protocol thereto, Botswana had consistently refused to serve as a launching pad for attacks on any of its neighbours, upholding that refusal in a most principled manner. Any person found in illegal possession of firearms and ammunition or posing a threat to security in any way was prosecuted in Botswana's courts of law. If anyone carrying firearms and ammunition slipped into any neighbouring country through Botswana undetected, the Government of Botswana could not be blamed.

7. The situation in South Africa and, by extension, in southern Africa as a whole, could be resolved only by the eradication of apartheid. To believe that apartheid could be reformed was a fallacy. South Africa had to abolish the Group Areas Act, the Population Registration Act and other pieces of racist and repressive legislation which were the corner-stones of its racist and separatist policies. In conclusion, while conceding that it would be difficult to arrive at an internationally acceptable definition of terrorism, he said that the effort was worth making because a definition would go a long way towards removing the double standards currently so manifest in international relations.

8. Mr. SOBOLEV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) expressed his country's unconditional condemnation of acts of international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever, by whomever and for whatever motive they were committed. Only wide international co-operation could overcome the evil of international terrorism. However, while adopting measures directly aimed at preventing terrorism, States should also respect in their policies and practice the sovereign right of all peoples to choose their own way to development. Co-operation among

(Mr. Sobolev, Byelorussian SSR)

States in the field of counter-terrorism had to be built on constructive foundations and on the observance of generally recognized standards of international law in strict compliance with the Charter of the United Nations. His Government objected to attempts to identify terrorist acts with national liberation struggles, reaffirmed the inalienable right of peoples to self-determination and independence and reiterated its support for their legitimate struggles.

9. It was important that all States which had not yet done so should become parties to existing international agreements in the counter-terrorism field and should abide strictly by the obligations deriving therefrom. As a party to those agreements, his country was aware of the need for new instruments of international law in that sphere. In that connection, his delegation welcomed the adoption of the 1988 Montreal Protocol supplementary to the 1971 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, and the Rome Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol thereto of 1988, as well as the work currently in progress at ICAO, in accordance with Security Council resolution 635 (1989), on the preparation of a new legal instrument regarding the marking of explosives for detectability. In the same context, it attached great importance to the Mongolian proposal relative to the prevention of possible acts of terrorism using nuclear elements.

10. His delegation took the view that fuller use should be made of the United Nations with a view to instituting co-operation among States to combat terrorism. The elaboration of an agreed basis for such co-operation, as proposed by the socialist countries in their joint letter of 23 July 1987 addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/416) would represent an important step in that direction. His delegation also endorsed proposals put forward in the Committee at the current session for the creation of an international infrastructure for co-operation and co-ordination in preventing acts of international terrorism, the further development of international law with a view to the eradication of international terrorism, *inter alia*, in respect of the protection of nuclear, chemical and biological materials, and the convening of an international forum to consolidate the efforts of States in the struggle against terrorism and to elaborate generally acceptable and effective measures in that field.

11. Mr. SUN Lin (China) said that although the struggle against international terrorism had made appreciable progress in recent years, international terrorist activities were still rampant and were continuing to expand. China had always condemned and firmly opposed all forms of international terrorism and was also opposed to the waging of political struggles by terrorist methods. It had become a party to most international conventions against international terrorism and had always strictly abided by its treaty obligations, *inter alia*, by adopting appropriate domestic legislative measures to establish jurisdiction over international terrorists and punish their crimes as felonies under its domestic law. China supported and had actively participated in various international anti-terrorist law-making activities and would continue to support all efforts to combat international terrorism by the United Nations and other international organizations.

(Mr. Sun Lin, China)

12. Effective measures against international terrorism should comprise the following basic elements: first, countries should firmly oppose all forms of international terrorism. Any terrorist activity, wherever and by whomever it was committed, was an international crime and should be punished in accordance with international and domestic law. No country should engage in, instigate or finance terrorist activities in other countries, and all countries should adopt practical and effective measures to prevent, within their territories, terrorist activities aimed at other countries and their citizens. Second, international co-operation should be strengthened and expanded and existing international mechanisms should be utilized more effectively, with more extensive application of the principle of "either prosecution or extradition", establishment of the principle of international penal law, and development of judicial assistance and information exchange in the field of counter-terrorism. Third, any methods of combating terrorism which were contrary to the norms of international law should be avoided. Fourth, a strict distinction should be drawn between terrorist activities and the legitimate struggles of national liberation movements; and fifth, efforts to combat international terrorism should be integrated with the long-term goal of eliminating the underlying causes of terrorism.

13. With reference to the question of convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation, he said that a clear definition of international terrorism established by the international community and broadly accepted throughout the world would unquestionably be of great benefit; while the difficulty of arriving at such a definition should not be underestimated, his delegation believed that a solution could be found through sincere co-operation and full consultation among delegations.

14. Mr. DA COSTA (Angola) stressed the gravity of the problem of international terrorism in the contemporary world and the necessity for States to co-operate in combating it in a constructive spirit based on respect for the Charter of the United Nations and the generally accepted principles and norms of international law. Angola strongly condemned the illegal actions of States which, under the pretext of combating terrorism, violated the sovereignty of other States and exerted military, political and economic pressure on them. The greatest terror perpetrated by man consisted in denying dignity to other men on account of their colour. The institutionalized racism of apartheid affected not only South Africa but all its neighbouring States. South Africa's criminal invasion of Angola, its sponsorship of UNITA in Angola and its supply of weapons to RENAMO in Mozambique were among the worst terrorist activities which had taken place in Africa since the Second World War. Anti-terrorist action in Africa should begin with the liquidation of that scourge.

15. In condemning acts of international terrorism, Angola took exception to any attempts to equate terrorist activities with the struggle of peoples for their national, economic and social liberation. The fact that most terrorist acts, especially in the so-called third world, did not emanate from national liberation movements was often ignored. In Latin America, acts of terrorism were being

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(Mr. Da Costa, Angola)

perpetrated against the people of Nicaragua, while in the Middle East terrorism was being practised through massacres of innocent civilians, aggression against Arab countries, occupation of Arab and Palestinian lands and the terrorizing of Arab and Palestinian people in the occupied territories. It was the countries which practised State terrorism that were trying to promote narrow definitions of terrorism in order to block the oppressed peoples' attempts to regain their fundamental rights. In conclusion, he reaffirmed his Government's readiness to take an active part in the international community's efforts to eradicate international terrorism and to co-operate closely in the consideration of any concrete proposals on the item under consideration.

16. Mr. SENE (Senegal) said that the many tragic events which had taken place in various parts of the world since 1987, when the issue of terrorism had last been considered by the General Assembly, had highlighted two major facts deserving of the international community's close attention. The first was that no country and no region was safe from terrorism. The United Nations itself had fallen victim to terrorist acts of the most repugnant kind in the Middle East and Namibia. His delegation reiterated its condemnation of the abduction and assassination of Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Higgins while in the service of the United Nations as a member of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The circumstances of that crime were a source of deep concern for the future of peace-keeping operations, one of the Organization's tools most needed in the modern world. The second disturbing fact revealed by the terrorist acts of the past two years was the extraordinary development of the phenomenon of international terrorism in terms both of the sophistication of the new technologies employed and of its degree of organization and the width of its scope. In that connection, Senegal, which had taken an active part in the Security Council deliberations leading to the unanimous adoption of resolution 635 (1989), particularly welcomed the work in progress at ICAO on the preparation of a new legal instrument regarding the marking of explosives for detectability. As for the widening scope of terrorist activities, the Colombian Head of State in his historic address to the General Assembly on 29 September 1989 (A/44/PV.13) had made it clear that illegal drug trafficking had become one of terrorism's preferred fields of action.

17. His country had always condemned terrorism and continued to do so. But the time had come to go beyond condemnations. The repugnance and indignation which terrorism inspired in all States had to be translated into acts, and, to that end, international co-operation had to be strengthened with a view to preventing and eliminating terrorism.

18. His country, which attached special importance to the rule of law and respect for human life, was a party to a number of international conventions relating to international terrorism. It was currently considering acceding to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, and would probably do so. His Government welcomed and would study carefully the new instruments recently adopted by ICAO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

(Mr. Sene, Senegal)

19. In order to be effective, international co-operation against terrorism must be based on unity and solidarity among States. Terrorist acts, by virtue of their brutality and cruelty, could not be tolerated regardless of who committed them and why. At the same time, however, internationally recognized national liberation movements - including the African National Congress of South Africa, the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania, the South West Africa People's Organization or the Palestine Liberation Organization - should not be equated with terrorist organizations. Such movements pursued objectives supported by the United Nations, including the right of peoples to self-determination, and their activities were legitimate in situations in which negotiations did not result in the observance of those rights.

20. The effort to equate national liberation movements with terrorist organizations for repressive purposes could not prevail against the determination of peoples struggling to end colonialism, foreign occupation and racism. In Namibia and South Africa, the organizations formerly characterized as terrorist by Pretoria were being seen increasingly as central partners in the process of establishing an independent State in Namibia and a non-racial régime in South Africa. In the Middle East, meanwhile, Israel continued to accuse the leaders of a Palestinian State recognized by more than half the States Members of the United Nations of being terrorists.

21. Such attitudes, far from fostering international co-operation against terrorism, had created confusion and misunderstanding, a situation which had led the non-aligned countries to call for the convening of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation. No attempt was being made, as some States implied, to justify acts of terrorism committed by individuals or groups claiming to represent national liberation movements; rather, the conference would enable the international community to combat terrorism more effectively without causing harm to recognized liberation movements. Accordingly, his country continued to support the proposal to convene such a conference.

22. His country was concerned at the tendency of some States to resort to force or other illegal means under the pretext of fighting terrorism. Greater attention should be paid to ensuring that States complied strictly with their obligations under international law to refrain from organizing or assisting terrorist acts in other States.

23. While the international community had made considerable efforts to prevent international terrorism, efforts should be redoubled to eliminate its underlying causes. Although the improvement in the international situation in recent years had cooled down the hotbeds of tension, just and lasting solutions to situations involving massive violations of human rights had not yet been found. Furthermore, the feelings of despair created by the growing impoverishment of certain segments of the population were causes of violence which should be eliminated. He hoped that a consensus on the question of terrorism, which was essential to success in combating it, could be restored at the current session.

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24. Ms. de MIRANDA (Suriname) said that her delegation attached great importance to the current discussion, since the elimination of international terrorism required co-operation and agreement among States. The international community had already taken certain measures to cope with the problem, such as the adoption of a series of legal instruments to which her country was a party. She urged those States which had not yet done so to become parties to the existing conventions as soon as possible.

25. Her delegation had always condemned all forms of international terrorism, regardless of its origin, causes and purposes. Currently, States too were engaging in terrorist activities under the pretext of self-defence. Accordingly, it had become necessary to elaborate new legal instruments to counter the new forms of international terrorism.

26. She welcomed the adoption of new instruments by ICAO and IMO. Her country would soon accede to those conventions. It also supported the work by ICAO on the marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection.

27. In order to combat international terrorism effectively, the international community should adopt a clear, universally accepted definition of terrorism. She urged all States to pay special attention to situations involving violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. One of the basic principles of international law was the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of all people under colonial and racist régimes. People who were deprived of their basic rights, like the majority of people in South Africa and the Palestinians, had the right to resist. In that regard, her Government differentiated between the legitimate struggle of peoples for national liberation and international terrorism. It might therefore be advisable to request the International Law Commission to propose a definition of international terrorism as distinct from such struggles.

28. She agreed with the representative of Argentina that the most important aspect of preventing international terrorism was agreement among States to refrain from instigating or assisting terrorist acts against other States.

29. Mr. EL MANSOUR (Bahrain) said that violence and terrorism had taken on increasingly serious dimensions in recent times and the savage and cowardly methods used by racist régimes were tantamount to a devastating undeclared war in many parts of the world. Because of its belief in the teachings of Islam, the principles deriving from its Arab heritage and its international commitments, Bahrain accorded great importance to the matter and to the efforts of the United Nations to prevent terrorism and to study its underlying causes. Accordingly, it had acceded to a number of the existing international conventions relating to various aspects of the problem of international terrorism.

30. Characterizations and definitions of acts of violence had varied greatly. It had therefore become necessary to establish a precise criterion that would differentiate among them on objective grounds so that they would not be open to



(Mr. El Mansour, Bahrain)

different interpretations in different political circumstances. Despite the fact that the relevant international instruments had condemned terrorism and declared it to be a crime, the international community was duty bound to assume the task of defining terrorism and differentiating it from the legitimate struggle of national liberation movements. It was extremely important that that distinction should be made and that the stigma of terrorism should not be attached to national liberation movements striving by all means available to them for the elimination of the tyranny under which their peoples suffered.

31. Certain circles, such as the racist régimes, had attempted to depict the national liberation movements waging their legitimate struggle as terrorist organizations. In order to correct such misconceptions, the true reasons for the emergence of national liberation movements in response to historical injustice must be addressed.

32. The struggle being waged by the Palestine Liberation Organization, was that of a people that had been uprooted from its land, and it could not be considered as terrorism. It was a legitimate struggle and had historical causes that had been acknowledged by the United Nations. Israel's policies and practices against the Palestinian people and the Arab States and those of the Pretoria régime against the people of South Africa and against neighbouring States were prominent examples of State terrorism. The Palestinian people and the people of South Africa were paying a heavy price for their resistance to such State terrorism.

33. The Charter of the United Nations had established the principle of self-determination as one of the major goals of the Organization and, in successive resolutions, the General Assembly had reaffirmed that principle. In its resolution 42/159, the General Assembly had upheld the legitimacy of the struggle of all peoples under colonial and racist régimes in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and the principles of international law. Any attempt to equate terrorism with the struggle of peoples for national liberation was therefore incompatible with the principles, purposes and resolutions of the Organization.

34. His delegation supported the convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation. Such a definition would make it possible to identify the underlying causes of terrorism, and it should take account of the past, of current needs, of the link between the issue and the violation of human rights and of the principles established by the Charter and the relevant international instruments. Agreement on a definition would put an end to attempts to distort the concept of the legitimacy of resistance to occupation and racism and its stigmatization as terrorism.

35. Any effective ways and means of putting an end to terrorism, including State terrorism, would derive their strength and vitality from concerted international efforts to achieve that goal.

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36. Mr. KOTEVSKI (Yugoslavia) said that in the past two years, the international community had demonstrated its resolve to strengthen the legal mechanisms for dealing with the problem of international terrorism. The elaboration by ICAO and IMO of new legal instruments which filled some gaps in international law, and the unanimous adoption by the Security Council of resolution 635 (1989) on the marking of plastic or sheet explosives for the purpose of detection and resolution 638 (1989) on hostage-taking and abduction, were important steps in that regard.

37. Furthermore, the Ninth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries had adopted a document condemning all acts of terrorism, whether committed by individuals, States or groups of States, and expressing the resolve to counter them by every national and international legal means possible, while reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination and the legitimacy of their struggle for independence and against colonialism, racism and all other forms of foreign domination and occupation.

38. However, despite the progress achieved in the regulation of aspects of international terrorism, it continued to be a serious threat to international peace and security. His country resolutely condemned all acts of terrorism, regardless of where and by whom they were committed. In order to combat international terrorism, it was necessary to strengthen international co-operation further and to take all measures for the prosecution, punishment and extradition of terrorists. Another important obligation of States was to take all measures in their territories to prevent the organization or instigation of terrorist acts against other States or their citizens.

39. A successful struggle by the international community against international terrorism required the elimination of its causes. In that regard, the policies of States as manifested in aggression, occupation and interference in the internal affairs of other States, and the attempts by colonial, racist and occupying régimes to deny the legitimate rights of peoples to self-determination and independence could be conducive to terrorist acts. Such policies were contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and international law and should be eliminated from international relations.

40. The struggle against international terrorism could also be enhanced by the establishment of a generally agreed definition of the phenomenon. Accordingly, the document adopted by the Non-Aligned Countries had supported the convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation, an issue to which his country attached particular importance. There could be no doubt that the right of peoples to self-determination and the legitimacy of their struggle was in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and must not be equated with terrorism. He urged the adoption by the United Nations of a common position on that important issue.

41. Mr. TA-AMA (Togo) said that international co-operation on the basis of General Assembly resolutions 40/61 and 42/159 was needed in order to eliminate the underlying causes of terrorism and punish terrorist acts. It was essential to

(Mr. Ta-Ama, Togo)

increase the number of States parties to the international instruments relating to terrorism. His country had acceded to the principal conventions listed in the annex to document A/44/456 and was working to promote bilateral, regional and multilateral co-operation in that area.

42. The international community should continue to identify the aspects of terrorist activities which were not yet covered by existing international instruments. He therefore welcomed the instruments recently adopted by ICAO and IMO. His country was considering becoming a party to those instruments and would take a decision in that regard as soon as possible.

43. The principle of the right to self-determination was a corner-stone of his country's foreign policy. The struggle of peoples for national liberation had been recognized by the international community as a legitimate right. At the same time, however, that right must be exercised in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. Criminal violence could not be justified as a means to any end, however legitimate, if other solutions existed such as negotiation, economic pressure and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

44. Accordingly, his country would support any resolution which reaffirmed the criminal nature of international terrorism and the need to combat it in accordance with international law, without losing sight of the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for self-determination, independence and freedom.

45. Mr. NAGAI (Japan) said that his country had always been firmly opposed to all forms of terrorism, and accordingly, supported the efforts of the General Assembly, the Security Council, ICAO, IMO and other bodies gradually to establish a legal framework for combating terrorism. General Assembly resolutions 40/61 and 42/159 were based on such a realistic and step-by-step approach.

46. His delegation could only regard the call for a definition of terrorism as counter to the mainstream of efforts by the international community. In the light of experience, his country was convinced that another attempt to define terrorism would result merely in abstract and unproductive argument.

47. Draft resolution A/C.6/44/L.2, of which his delegation was a co-sponsor, was aimed at further elaborating the basic principles of the previous resolutions. He hoped that all Member States would once again demonstrate their commitment to those resolutions by unanimously supporting the draft resolution.

48. Mr. AL-SABEEH (Kuwait) said that, as a responsible State and one with an active role to play in the international community, his country accorded particular importance to the question of terrorism. On the basis of its own painful experience, it called upon the international community to take action to prevent the spread of that phenomenon and to eliminate it through international co-operation and the refusal to accede to terrorist blackmail.

(Mr. Al-Sabeeh, Kuwait)

49. At the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, the Amir of Kuwait had called for international co-operation against sectarian racist and State terrorism while paying due regard to the difference between terrorism and the legitimate right of peoples to defend themselves and assert their rights.

50. A distinction should be made between terrorism and the right of peoples to fight for just causes and for freedom. That position was also supported by the resolutions of the Gulf Co-operation Council, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations. His delegation therefore supported the idea of the convening, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation. The struggle of the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine and that of the people of Namibia were striking examples of the legitimate struggle of peoples against occupation and colonialism. Although the topic was fraught with complications, the world should not wait until such time as agreement was reached on a precise definition of terrorism before acting to halt that criminal manifestation.

51. Kuwait supported the efforts made by the United Nations to combat terrorism within the framework of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism. In its awareness of the serious character of acts of terrorism, Kuwait had ratified the 1963 Tokyo Convention, the 1970 Hague Convention and the 1971 Montreal Convention. At the beginning of 1989, it had acceded to the 1979 International Convention against the Taking of Hostages and the 1973 Convention on the Prevention of Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents.

52. The greatest possible degree of international co-operation was necessary in order to address the phenomenon of terrorism and devise radical solutions. In order to achieve that goal, States must endeavour to prevent the preparation and organization in their territories of terrorist acts and subversive acts directed against other States and their citizens, ensure the apprehension and prosecution or extradition of perpetrators of terrorist acts, co-operate with one another in exchanging information on the prevention of terrorism, refuse to comply with the demands of terrorists, accede to the relevant bilateral, regional and international conventions and harmonize their domestic legislation with the existing international conventions.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.