



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/9545  
5 April 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Sixth special session  
Item 7 of the provisional agenda\*

STUDY OF THE PROBLEMS OF RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 5 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of  
Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a message by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamerh on the occasion of the convening of the sixth special session of the General Assembly to consider the question of raw materials and development. I have the honour to request that this message be transmitted to the President of the special session and circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Fereydoun HOVEYDA  
Permanent Representative of Iran  
to the United Nations

\* A/9543.

ANNEX

Message by His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamerh

The convening of the special session of the General Assembly to deal with the question of raw materials and development is an event of profound significance that can turn into a historical landmark.

It is only fitting that a problem of such significance, so directly affecting the day-to-day lives of all peoples, should become the concern of this most representative assembly of nations. Nothing better reflects the spirit of our time than the fact that this special session, unlike previous ones, emanates not from war and conflict among nations but comes out of a growing recognition of interdependence among them. The crucial question that will be put to the test in your deliberations is whether we now possess the vision and the courage to move, in a truly planetary spirit, to readjust the world economic order in a way that would ensure the legitimate interests and aspirations of all nations, developed and developing alike.

For too long now, the third world has been penalized for its inability to protect itself against the economic preponderance of the developed economies. Its outcry against unfair trade has struck a silent chord of apathy. Its raw materials offered at cheap prices and in abundance have glutted the developed markets, leading not only to further affluence of the rich nations but also to much unrestrained waste. The economies of the developing countries have become increasingly vulnerable to the fluctuations in the world money markets, in the regulation of which they wield no significant influence. Inflationary trends have transcended boundaries hitting the developing countries hardest. Those countries have been denied unfettered access to world markets while no adequate international division of labour has yet materialized.

The time has now come to make a beginning towards a more rationalized world economy. This means, among other things, that the raw material in the hands of the developing nations should maintain constant and real value in relation to the prices of goods imported from the industrialized market. Trade must be made an instrument of progress for all while recognizing that the prosperity of the poor need not diminish the affluence of the rich.

Rationalization of the world economy also requires that efforts to close the gap between the developed and the developing countries should be given strong new impetus.

For our part, we have not been oblivious of the plight of the developing countries. I have already announced Iran's intention to contribute significantly

/...

A/9545  
English  
Annex  
Page 2

to easing their economic burdens. We have contrived a far-reaching aid programme, the full dimension of which will be explained to the Assembly by my representatives. I earnestly hope that the major industrialized countries and those developing countries with surplus capital will join Iran in this undertaking.

You have my best wishes for the success of your deliberations.

MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI

-----