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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING  
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 8 July 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer, firstly, to the previous decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the question of the Sahara under Spanish domination, and, secondly, to the previous conversations and official communications you have had with or from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco on the same subject.

In order that you may be kept fully informed of the current trend of events, I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to communicate to you herewith some additional details and the text of the message which has just been addressed by His Majesty King Hassan II to Generalissimo Franco, Head of the Spanish State.

The Spanish Government is pursuing in this Territory a policy which is decided upon and put into effect unilaterally without any consideration for the true interests of the people. This policy is based on the establishment of such organs as the Djamaa, or local assembly totally subservient to it, and on the continuation of a process designed to produce faits accomplis which will consolidate the foreign hold over this region, its people and its wealth for a long time to come.

This process has lately been once again accelerated, to the detriment of our fundamental interests and in the absence of any international supervision. The Spanish Government has recently confirmed that the measures which have just been or are being taken are the practical application of the new trend in Spain's colonial policy.

Since the question of the Sahara under Spanish domination is still before the General Assembly of the United Nations, I would request you to circulate the text of this message as an official General Assembly document.

(Signed) Mehdi Mrani ZENTAR  
Permanent Representative

\* A/9600/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Text of the message addressed by His Majesty King Hassan II  
to Generalissimo Franco, Head of the Spanish State

Your Excellency,

The conversation which Mr. Cortina, Minister for Foreign Affairs, had with Our Ambassador to Your Excellency suggests to Us that Spain is about to embark on a new policy in the Sahara under its administration.

We feel obliged to state that, if this should prove to be the case, the consequence would be a profound deterioration in our relations, something that We have always avoided because of Our belief that, between Spain and Morocco, the imperatives of neighbourliness and the higher interests which we have in common should spare us misunderstandings and clashes.

Any unilateral action undertaken by Spain in Saharan territory would necessarily oblige Us to safeguard Our legitimate rights, Our Government and Ourselves, reserving Our right to act accordingly.

We continue to believe that Your Excellency will be able, once again, in concert with Us, to preserve the age-old friendship between our two countries which constitutes, both for Spain and for Morocco, a heritage worthy of being the guarantee of our common future.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of Our highest consideration.

Hassan II  
King of Morocco

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