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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE
ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN
STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 29 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative
of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Final Communiqué and the Muscat Declaration adopted by the tenth summit of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, from 18 to 21 December 1989 (see annexes).

I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States", "Question of Palestine", "The situation in the Middle East", "Consequences of the prolongation of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq", "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", "Development and international economic co-operation" and "Peaceful settlement of disputes between States", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Salim Bin Mohammed AL-KHUSSAIBY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

Final Communiqué of the tenth summit of the Supreme Council of
the Gulf Co-operation Council, held in the Sultanate of Oman,
19 to 22 Jumada Al Awal 1410 (18 to 21 December 1989)

In response to an invitation from His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said, the tenth summit of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) was held in Muscat during the period from 19 to 22 Jumada Al Awal 1410 Hijri (18 to 21 December 1989) with the participation of:

His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates;

His Highness Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Emir of Bahrain;

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia;

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said, Sultan of Oman;

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar;

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait.

The Supreme Council has discussed all aspects relating to the progress of the GCC's course of action, as well as ways of enhancing it according to the Council's statutes. The Supreme Council also discussed the security situation in the region in the light of the latest developments concerning the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the dimensions of the Palestinian uprising, the situation in Lebanon and the efforts exerted by the Arab League's Tripartite Committee as well as the Taif Agreement, the recent international developments and changes in Europe and the international situation following the Malta summit.

The GCC activities

By following up the progress of the GCC activities and considering the requirements of collective action in line with the principles and goals, stipulated in the Council's statutes, and in affirmation of the contents of the Riyadh Declaration of 1987 and the Manama Declaration of 1988, particularly those on intensifying joint ventures, and after reviewing the recommendations of the Ministerial Council on the stages set for the implementation of the economic agreement, and in affirmation of the Council's determination to continue to take appropriate steps to implement the rest of the provisions of that agreement in order to create a unified Gulf market, the Council decided the following:

- It approves the Rules on exclusion from the exemption on customs duties in accordance with article 24 of the economic agreement.

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- It approves the Ministerial Council's recommendation of the unified customs Tariff.

The Council reaffirms its determination to implement the rest of the provisions of the economic agreement in order to create a unified Gulf market.

Security co-operation

Believing in the importance of military and security co-operation among the GCC member States in order to maintain their security and stability, and out of the desire to take further steps towards greater co-ordination and integration in that field, the Supreme Council has endorsed the recommendations forwarded by the Ministers of Defence concerning the building of indigenous military power in accordance with the collective perception based on the defence policies document.

Peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran

The Council discussed the progress of negotiations between the two countries in the light of Security Council resolution 598 (1987). The Council expressed appreciation for the efforts being exerted by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar and his representative Jan Eliasson to eliminate obstacles hindering negotiations.

The Council reaffirmed its support for those efforts which aim at achieving a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement to the conflict and to enhance security and peace in the region. The Council expressed the belief that these efforts will be crowned with success in view of the positive indications that clearly show the desire of the two sides to achieve peace and to begin a new stage of normal relations characterized by mutual respect.

The Supreme Council called upon the Security Council, particularly the Council's permanent members, to support the continuing efforts and sustain them with all available means, including the direct negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General. The Council also called for the freeing of prisoners of war and their return to their countries without delay, to put an end to the prisoners' sufferings and those of their families in accordance with the interests of the two sides, as a contribution towards the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987).

The Council appealed to the world community to make increased efforts to achieve a just peace that takes into account the legitimate interests of all parties.

The current Arab situation

The Supreme Council reviewed the current situation in the Arab World in view of the resolutions adopted by the recent Casablanca emergency Arab Summit on the Palestinian uprising, and ways of supporting it and the Palestinian people's struggle, as well as their right to self-determination and to establish their own independent state on their territory. The Council commended the heroic uprising

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and expressed appreciation of the sacrifices of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The Council affirmed GCC member States' support for the heroic uprising to achieve its goals. The Council appealed to the world community to give support to the uprising and to expose the oppressive and terrorist Israeli practices against Palestinians in the occupied territories, and to put an end to the Israelis' oppressive measures, including the deportation of Palestinians and the demolishing of houses, which run counter to the principles of human rights and international norms and conventions.

The Supreme Council renews its support for the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in order to achieve a lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine.

The situation in Lebanon

The Supreme Council was briefed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques on the Taif Agreement and on the efforts made by the Higher Tripartite Committee and on the contacts being made by the Committee. The Council expressed its appreciation of the major role the Committee played, especially the pioneering role of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, to achieve the Taif Agreement and reaffirmed its support for the efforts exerted by the Higher Tripartite Committee and voiced appreciation for the efforts of His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid. The Supreme Council also affirmed its readiness to contribute towards the enhancement of the contacts and efforts made by the Committee. The Council reaffirmed its support for His Excellency Elias Hrawi, the President of Lebanon and the Government of National Conciliation, as well as for the principles stipulated in the Taif Agreement, in order to achieve Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity.

The Supreme Council urges the world community to support the efforts of the Higher Tripartite Arab Committee to support the Lebanese legitimacy firmly and clearly, and to respect in their dealings with the Lebanese State the developments arising from the recognition of legitimacy there.

The Supreme Council urges all factions in Lebanon to practise self-restraint and to address matters at this critical stage with wisdom in line with the Taif Agreement and within the framework of legitimacy as a fundamental basis for solving the existing problems and eliminating the current obstacles, so as to ensure Lebanon's and the Lebanese people's unity and to foster the country's freedom, sovereignty and independence.

International changes

The Council follows with profound interest the developments and events taking place in the world and calls for steps to be taken to eliminate tension and the causes of division in the world. The Council expresses hope that such developments will lead to international understanding and to just solutions to regional conflicts, especially Middle East issues.

The Council expresses the hope that the world will witness closer economic co-operation based on mutual interests and improved economic development programmes in the developing countries.

Negotiations with the European Community

The Supreme Council expressed satisfaction at the completion of the process of ratification of the co-operation agreement between the GCC member States and the European Community, which will enter into force on 1 January 1990.

The Council recalled its resolution adopted during the Bahrain Summit which authorized the Ministerial Council to begin official trade talks with the European Community, and expressed hope that the two sides would reach a balanced trade agreement that will contribute to the improvement and freeing of trade exchanges between the two communities and will respond to the development requirements of the GCC member States.

The Supreme Council, while welcoming the holding of the first meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council in Muscat in March 1990, expresses the hope that relations between the two communities will experience a positive development commensurate with the important relations and the nature of the mutual interests of the two sides.

The Supreme Council expresses its appreciation for the initiative made by His Excellency President Francois Mitterand for the resumption of an Arab-European dialogue, and hopes that the meetings of Arab and European Foreign Ministers will achieve positive results in the interests of both parties.

The leaders of the GCC States expressed their profound appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said for the warm welcome and the hospitality accorded to them, and for the outstanding arrangements made to ensure the summit's success.

The leaders also paid tribute to His Majesty's initiative in honouring Gulf citizens who have made major contributions to the well-being of their societies and countries, and affirmed the significance of that initiative in deepening coherence and unity among the GCC peoples.

The Council looks forward to its eleventh session in Qatar in December 1990, in response to the invitation from His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar.

ANNEX II

Muscat Declaration adopted by the tenth summit of the
Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council

The political, social and economic changes that have taken place on the international scene since the GCC ninth summit in Bahrain have led the countries of the world to develop their policies governing dealings with each other, and to adopt a new approach, characterized by a broader understanding and wider exchanges that at the same time enable each individual country to preserve its national identity.

The new climate in today's world makes it necessary for all countries to consolidate their relations on a basis of co-operation and to reject those confrontations and conflicts which inflicted only ruin and devastation on humanity.

The GCC member States have made a number of constructive contributions on both Arab and Islamic levels as well as on the international scene at large.

The Council's six members have set a fine example of collective fraternal action that respects the national sovereignty of each of the members.

Their Majesties and Highnesses, the leaders of the GCC were determined that their tenth summit would contribute towards the enhancement of the spirit of peace and understanding that prevails in the world at this time. Thus to reflect the ties of fraternity, faith and unanimity of destiny that exists among the GCC member States as well as deepening the concept of the genuine co-operation that is gaining momentum at all levels, and in order to further the joint interests of the peoples of the GCC States in establishing a deep relationship between their countries.

Their Majesties and Highnesses, the leaders of the GCC announce:

- First: The affirmation of the principle of good-neighbourliness as a fundamental and legal norm to which the GCC members will be committed in their dealings at an international level in accordance with the principles of the tolerant Islamic faith, and international laws and customs.
- Second: The affirmation of mutual respect for national sovereignty as a fundamental basis that should be enhanced.
- Third: The endorsement of dialogue and negotiations as an effective means of solving disputes between countries according to the principles of peaceful co-existence advocated by the United Nations and ratified by international laws.
- Fourth: The enhancement of joint Arab action within the framework of the Arab League, under the roof of which all Arabs meet to achieve stability and development for their nation, as well as offering the hand of friendship and co-operation to all peace-loving nations in the world.

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- Fifth:** The consideration of the principle of peaceful co-existence between countries as the cornerstone for the achievement of world peace and security in the world at present, to promote the principle of peaceful coexistence in order to create the opportunity for the peoples of the world to direct their full potential to the solution of their problems especially those of poverty, illiteracy, disease and the pollution of the environment.
- Sixth:** The furtherance of efforts to enhance peace between Iraq and Iran and to give continuing support to the sustained efforts which are being made to resolve the Lebanese crisis on a basis of legitimacy and national unity as well as affirming the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization.
- Seventh:** The acclamation of the policy of détente between the two super-Powers and call for further steps to be taken to enhance that policy to realize more achievements on the international scene. They also acclaimed the growing détente between European countries in a way to eliminate causes of confrontation and disputes in the European continent and thus contribute towards the enhancement of world security and peace.
