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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES
QUESTION OF NAMIBIA
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS
AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EAST
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 30 December 1989 from the Permanent Representative of
France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the English and French versions of the text of the conclusions adopted by the Heads of State or Government of the 12 States members of the European Community at the meeting of the European Council held at Strasbourg on 8 and 9 December 1989 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Report of the Security Council", "Report of the Economic and Social Council", "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa", "The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives", "Question of Namibia", "The situation in the Middle East", "Question of Palestine", "Question of Cyprus", "General and complete disarmament", "United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East", and "Development and international economic co-operation", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pierre-Louis BLANC

ANNEX

Conclusions adopted by the Heads of State or Government of the
Twelve States members of the European Community at the European
Council, held on 8 and 9 December 1989 at Strasbourg, France

I. EUROPEAN POLITICAL CO-OPERATION

1. The European Council discussed the following subjects of political co-operation:

- (a) Central and Eastern Europe;
- (b) Middle East;
- (c) Lebanon;
- (d) Euro-Arab Conference;
- (e) Southern Africa;
- (f) Ethiopia;
- (g) Chile;
- (h) Central America.

It approved the statements set forth below.

2. Cyprus

The European Council expressed its deep concern that the tragic division of Cyprus, a country belonging to the European family, remains unchanged despite the renewed efforts over 15 months by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

It also reiterated its appeal to all parties to co-operate with Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar and his representative on the spot so as to overcome the obstacles to the pursuit of dialogue. It asked them not to miss this opportunity for a just and lasting settlement that will safeguard the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

3. Human rights

The European Council took note of the report of the Political Committee summing up the activity of the Twelve in the field of human rights in the course of 1989. In this connection, it approved the text of a press release.

II. STATEMENT ON CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Each day change is asserting itself more strongly in Central and Eastern Europe. Everywhere a powerful aspiration towards freedom, democracy, respect of human rights, prosperity, social justice and peace is being expressed. The people are clearly showing their will to take their own destiny in hand and to choose the path of their development. Such a profound and rapid development would not have been possible without the policy of openness and reform led by Mr. Gorbachev.

Expressing the feelings of the people of the whole Community, we are deeply gladdened by the changes taking place. These are historic events and no doubt the most important since the Second World War. The success of a strong and dynamic European Community, the vitality of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) process and stability in the area of security, in which the United States of America and Canada participate, have contributed greatly to them.

These changes give reason to hope that the division in Europe can be overcome in accordance with the aims of the Helsinki Final Act, which seeks, through a global and balanced approach and on the basis of a set of principles that retain their full value, to establish new relations between European countries, whether in the area of security, economic and technical co-operation, or the human dimension.

We seek the strengthening of the state of peace in Europe, in which the German people will regain its unity through free self-determination. This process should take place peacefully and democratically, in full respect of the relevant agreements and treaties and of all the principles defined by the Helsinki Final Act, in a context of dialogue and East-West co-operation. It also has to be placed in the perspective of European integration.

Already the hopes that we expressed a year ago in the Rhodes Declaration have begun to take shape. The progress recorded in the negotiations on conventional and chemical disarmament, the greater freedom of movement of persons and ideas, the greater assurance of respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the different agreements concluded between the Community, and certain of these countries are substantially changing the climate of relations in Europe.

The European Council is convinced, in the present circumstances, that everyone must demonstrate, more than ever, a sense of responsibility. The changes and transitions that are necessary must not take place to the detriment of the stability of Europe, but rather must contribute to strengthening it.

Far from wanting to derive unilateral advantages from the present situation, the Community and its member States mean to give their support to the countries which have embarked upon the road to democratic change. They deplore all the more that in certain countries this process is still hindered.

The Community and its member States are fully conscious of the common responsibility which devolves on them in this decisive phase in the history of Europe. They are prepared to develop with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and with Yugoslavia, in so

far as they are committed to this path, closer and more substantive relations based upon an intensification of political dialogue and increased co-operation in all areas. The Community has in particular decided to support the economic reforms undertaken in these countries by contributing - in collaboration with its Western partners - to the establishment of healthy and prosperous economies within the framework of appropriate structures.

The European Council has drawn up conclusions that illustrate this intention.

For the future and in accordance with the developments taking place, the Community is willing to implement still closer forms of co-operation with these countries.

At this time of profound and rapid change, the Community is and must remain a point of reference and influence. It remains the corner-stone of a new European architecture and, in its willingness to openness, a mooring for a future European equilibrium. This equilibrium will be still better ensured by a parallel development of the role of the Council of Europe, the European Free-Trade Association (EFTA) and the CSCE process.

Construction of the Community must therefore go forward: the building of European Union will permit the further development of a range of effective and harmonious relations with the other countries of Europe.

III. STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST

The European Council wishes once more to stress the overriding need to find a political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. In this regard, it recalls that the position of the Twelve is defined in the Madrid Declaration of 27 June 1989. In all of its elements, this declaration remains fully valid.

It is in this spirit and with the guarantees specified in the Madrid Declaration that the Twelve supported the proposal for elections in the Occupied Territories, considered as a step in a process towards an overall settlement. Similarly, they encourage efforts that seek to establish dialogue between the parties directly concerned. They recall the efforts that they themselves take to this end, while respecting the principles which guide their search for a settlement. An illustration is the recent mission carried out by the Ministerial Troika.

Seriously concerned by violations of human rights in the Occupied Territories and recalling the need for the occupying Power to observe strictly its obligations under the fourth Geneva Convention to which it has notably not conformed in such basic areas as education and health, the European Council deplores the continuous deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Territories, which seriously affects the living conditions of the people, compromises in a lasting fashion the future of Palestinian society and prevents the economic and social development of the Territories.

The Community and its member States are determined to increase substantially their aid to the inhabitants of these Territories. Within the framework of the new 1990/1992 triennial convention, the Community will continue with and increase its aid to Palestinians through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which has amounted to more than 388 million ECUs since 1971. It wishes to see the activities of UNRWA carried out without hindrance. During the same period, the European Council establishes as an objective the doubling of the Community's direct aid which, since 1981, has amounted to 23 million ECUs. The Community thus intends to contribute to the economic and social development of the Occupied Territories and, by its efforts in the area of health and education, as well as by support for local Palestinian institutions, to help to preserve the common future of the Palestinian people.

IV. STATEMENT ON LEBANON

Deeply concerned at the recent developments in Lebanon that have produced a further threat to the preservation of the country's unity, the European Council reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of the Taif Agreements. It expresses its conviction that, in the present circumstances, there is no alternative to the process of national reconciliation and peace envisaged under those Agreements.

The European Council therefore calls on all parties concerned to lend their support to these objectives, in such a way that they are furthered through dialogue and consultation to the exclusion of any recourse to violent means, the upholding of the cease-fire being a main priority.

The European Council expresses its support for the constitutional order in Lebanon embodied by the President of the Republic and the Government appointed by him, so that in accordance with the aspirations of the whole population, the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon can be restored. This process implies the withdrawal of all foreign armed presence, so that the Lebanese people will be fully masters in their own house. The Council recalls the very positive role played by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

V. STATEMENT ON THE EURO-ARAB CONFERENCE

The European Council expresses its desire to make closer the ties that unite the Twelve to the Arab world from one side of the Mediterranean to the other. It is in this spirit that a Conference has been organized, which will meet in Paris on 21 and 22 December, whose purpose will be to give a new impetus to the Euro-Arab dialogue in order to strengthen and develop their co-operation.

VI. DECLARATION BY THE TWELVE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

Southern Africa has, for a year, been the scene of developments of such importance as to demand consistently the attention of the Twelve.

The most obvious of these concerns Namibia. Almost a year ago the signature of the New York Agreements opened the way for implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) as the Twelve have constantly wished. Up to now, the transitional process has unfolded in a satisfactory manner and the Twelve wish, on this occasion, to express their appreciation of the vital role played by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his Special Representative for Namibia. The first valid and free elections have permitted the appointment of a Constituent Assembly that truly reflects the wishes of the Namibian people. The foundations of the new State are taking shape before our eyes.

The needs for an independent Namibia will be significant. The Community and its member States are already prepared to contribute to meeting these through appropriate aid programmes. This effort will be in addition to the assistance envisaged by all of the member States on a bilateral level. Namibia will also be welcomed into the new Lomé Convention as soon as it expresses a wish to join it. The Troika has already made known this position to the representatives of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States at their recent ministerial meeting to discuss southern Africa.

A measure of progress has also been achieved in the process of national reconciliation in Angola and Mozambique. A favourable international climate has been availed of with courage and determination on the part of those with authority in these two States in order to make significant advances on the road to peace. The recent mission of the Troika of political directors to Angola brought out the real will of the leaders of this country to put an end to the conflict which has for too many years encumbered the economic development and well-being of its people.

The Community and its member States are resolved to match these developments by efforts to aid the reconstruction and development of both these countries.

Finally, in South Africa, President De Klerk's accession to power has been followed by several acts of clemency and a degree of freedom of expression which the Twelve have welcomed. These measures, however, are still insufficient with respect to the immense task posed by the dismantlement of apartheid. The objective of the Twelve remains the achievement through peaceful means of a democratic and multi-racial system in South Africa. In this regard, they support any process which can lead rapidly to the cessation of violence on all sides and to a dialogue between the parties. Only broad-based negotiations bringing together the true leaders of the different constituent parts of the South African people can result in a lasting settlement. In this respect, the Conference for a Democratic Future, held at Johannesburg from 9 to 12 December, is a step in the right direction.

In this context, the Community and its member States have recalled their support for the programme of positive measures intended to help the victims of apartheid. With a view to preparing for the developments which are inescapable in South Africa, this programme will be strengthened over the next two years by granting new scholarships for study in Europe and in multi-racial South African universities. The purpose of this action is to facilitate exchanges between the different communities, while allowing their least privileged members to attain a better level of education and thus to contribute to the training of the skilled

personnel of which a multi-racial South Africa will have crucial need in the medium term.

The Community and its member States have, moreover, decided to maintain the pressure that they exert on the South African authorities in order to promote the profound and irreversible changes which they have repeatedly stood for and to reconsider it when there is clear evidence that these changes have been obtained.

A new South Africa, free from racial discrimination, in which all South Africans can live in peace and harmony and enjoy equal rights, is not a Utopian ideal. Its achievement will also be of vital importance to the peace, stability, security and economic development of the whole region and will allow South Africa once more to find its proper place within the international community.

VII. STATEMENT ON ETHIOPIA

The European Council welcomes the steps undertaken to advance towards negotiated solutions, and expresses its conviction that only the conclusion of a political agreement between all parties will enable the conflict to be brought to an end. They call upon the parties concerned to pursue negotiations so as to achieve as soon as possible a settlement acceptable to all, in a spirit of national reconciliation.

The European Council expresses its deep concern at the gravity of the food shortage which affects the northern regions - in Erythraea and Tigré in particular - and threatens the life of millions of persons.

It affirms the determination of the European Community and its member States to come to the assistance of the populations who are victims of famine. It urges all parties concerned, in collaboration with the agencies of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and other non-governmental organizations, not to obstruct but on the contrary to facilitate the delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance and emergency aid in the afflicted areas.

VIII. STATEMENT ON THE EVE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN CHILE, 14 DECEMBER 1989

The European Council, which has constantly expressed its wish for the re-establishment of freedom in Chile, views the situation in that country with hope.

The results of the plebiscite of 5 October 1988 showed clearly the will of its people to put an end to the 16 years of the military régime and to renew its democratic traditions.

The European Council today welcomes the prospects offered by the forthcoming presidential and legislative elections at the end of a process which should finally permit a return to a State founded on law.

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The Community and its member States have already provided the Chilean people with assistance in various sectors. The European Council reiterates its intention to contribute to the economic and social development of a democratic Chile. In particular within the framework of a future co-operation agreement between the Community and that country.

IX. STATEMENT ON CENTRAL AMERICA

The European Council, concerned at the renewal of tensions in Central America and particularly at the recent explosion of violence in El Salvador, considers that a peaceful solution in accordance with the aspirations of the peoples of the region can only come through dialogue, the safeguarding of human rights and respect for democracy. In this spirit, they call upon all parties in the region to strive for a resumption of the regional peace process based on the Esquipulas Agreements.

X. PRESS STATEMENT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE TWELVE IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Co-operation in the field of human rights, which led earlier, in 1986, to a ministerial declaration and, in 1987, to the setting up of a special working group in accordance with the wishes of the European Parliament, has developed further in 1989.

This has been a year of contrasts in human rights, marked by progress, particularly in some Eastern European countries, but also by disappointed hopes and the continuation of disturbing situations. Confronted with such events, the Twelve have made their voice heard. The interventions they have made in international forums (CSCE and the United Nations, where, for the first time last February, the Twelve made a joint intervention in the debate of the Commission on Human Rights), together with the positions they have adopted in the form of declarations, give witness to their will to react to such situations regardless of the continent in which they might occur. In certain cases (Islamic Republic of Iran, Romania, China, Panama), the measures taken have been made public.

The question of human rights has become an important element in the dialogue and co-operation entered into with the developing countries. Respect of human rights is essential to lasting developments.

Actions in the field of human rights have also been carried out by way of numerous démarches made during the year to several Governments, most often through the Ambassador of the Presidency or Heads of Mission forming the "Troika". For reasons of efficacy, most of these démarches have remained confidential. The purpose of some of them has been to protect or save persons who were victims of arbitrary treatment or racial discrimination, in particular apartheid. Others have marked the concern of members of the European Community with regard to certain particularly serious attacks on human rights (summary executions, torture, arbitrary arrests ...).

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The adoption in 1988 within the CSCE framework of a special procedure that both enables attention to be drawn to situations where human rights in Europe are not being respected and contributes to their resolution through dialogue between States has also led the Twelve to act jointly. Thus the Presidency, making use of this procedure, has intervened on a number of occasions in 1989 in four countries of Eastern Europe.

Co-ordination between member countries of the Community is accompanied by and relies increasingly upon enhanced on-the-spot co-operation between their Missions in countries where fundamental freedoms are violated.

Particular attention has been paid to questions and resolutions of the European Parliament concerning human rights.

All in all, the actions undertaken by the Community and its member States in 1989 in the area of human rights have marked a new stage in their common commitment to the respect of human rights.
