



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/45/179 ✓  
S/21204  
23 March 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-fifth session  
Items 26 and 35 of the preliminary list\*  
CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC  
CONFERENCE  
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 22 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of  
the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

At the request of the Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations and in my capacity as Acting Chairman of the Islamic Group at the United Nations, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement by His Excellency Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 26 and 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed M. AL-KAHTANY  
Chargé d'affaires

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ANNEX

Statement by the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, following the fire, of doubtful origin, which broke out in the industrial complex of Rabta in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

The General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference learned with serious concern about the fire that broke out last week in the industrial complex of Rabta in the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

This unfortunate event occurred following the propaganda and accusations campaign launched by the American authorities against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, so as to substantiate the thesis that the industrial complex of Rabta is working to manufacture chemical weapons.

In this respect, the General Secretariat recalls and emphasizes with interest the assurances given, several times, by the Libyan authorities as to the peaceful vocation of the Rabta industrial complex, as well as the preparedness to welcome there an international verification mission.

The Organization of the Islamic Conference, which feels honoured to count Libya as one of its founding members, knows and appreciates the eminently peaceful dispositions of its proud Muslim people.

Therefore, the threat and pressures exercised against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya prove to be totally baseless and unjustified, while those who exert pressures and threats are the very ones who, ironically, in conniving silence and in a wait-and-see policy, refrain from denouncing the development by Israel and South Africa, over long years, in nuclear technology and other fields for military purposes.

The General Secretariat strongly denounces these threats and pressures and declares its full solidarity vis-à-vis the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the right of the latter to equip itself with the means liable to assure to its proud people the economic and social progress for which they very legitimately aspire.

Jeddah, 20 March 1990

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