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Thirty-fourth session  
FIRST COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 46 (a)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING  
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES

Algeria, Botswana, Cuba, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guyana, Madagascar  
Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Draft declaration on the inadmissibility of intervention and  
interference in internal affairs of States

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item, "Implementation of the Declaration on the  
Strengthening of International Security",

Conscious that, with the emergence of more than 100 new independent States  
since the establishment of the United Nations, the struggle for the total  
emancipation and independence of countries and for freedom and dignity of peoples  
has received a new historic unparalleled dimension,

Reaffirming the fundamental principles of international law and of the Charter  
concerning the duty of States not to intervene and not to interfere in matters  
within the domestic jurisdiction of any State and not to threaten or use force  
against their territorial integrity or political independence,

Alarmed by the frequent recourse to foreign military interventions, threats or  
use of force, open aggression, intimidations, escalation of military presence with  
the aim of intervening in the internal and external affairs of independent States  
and overthrowing Governments and régimes, established according to the will of  
their people,

Deeply concerned that, apart from direct military interventions, numerous  
violations of the principle of non-interference pose a threat to the independence  
of States and the freedom of peoples as well: different forms of infiltration,

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subversion, subtle forms of destabilization; instigation by foreign pressure groups and lobbies for the ends of local and expatriate groups, whose actions are aimed at affecting the independence, unity and territorial integrity of sovereign States; use of mercenaries to undermine the independence of States and obstruct the struggle of national liberation movements against colonial rule; financial, economic and technological pressures and aggression; defamatory campaigns through monopoly over mass media and information,

Determined to promote the development of a new democratic system of international relations with a view to eliminating policies of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, including zionism and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, interference or hegemony as well as bloc policies and spheres of influence, domination and exploitation,

Conscious of the fact that such policies endanger the political independence of States, freedom of peoples and persons and permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, adversely affecting thereby the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that full observance of the principle of non-intervention of States or other political and economic agencies or institutions in the internal and external affairs of sovereign States and peoples is essential to the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Considering that any violation of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal and external affairs of sovereign States poses a threat to the independence, freedom and unhindered political, economic, social and cultural development of countries and peoples, and also endangers international peace and security,

Recognizing the right to self-determination, freedom and independence of peoples under colonial or racist régimes, other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation as well as their right to wage both political and armed struggle to that end and to seek and receive support in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Deploring the existence of massive and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Fully recognizing the principle of the inalienable right of every people to freely choose, determine and develop its own political, economic, social and cultural systems, to determine and conduct its foreign policy and to defend these rights by all means at their disposal without any foreign interference under any pretext whatsoever, from any source,

Recalling its resolution 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965 containing the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty and its resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970 containing the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,

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Recalling further its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of resolution 31/91 of 14 December 1976 on non-interference in the internal affairs of States,

Convinced that strict observance by States of the obligation not to interfere in the internal affairs of any States is an essential condition for a stable international situation, for the maintenance of peaceful relations between States and for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that in the light of the experience and of practice of States since the adoption of the Charter of the United Nations, a declaration on the inadmissibility of intervention and interference in internal affairs of States will contribute to their greater observance by States,

1. Solemnly declares that the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal or external affairs of States comprehends the following:

(a) No State or other political or economic agency or institution has the right to intervene or interfere directly or indirectly, for any reason whatsoever, in the internal or external affairs of other States. Consequently, armed intervention and all other forms of interference or threats against the personality of the State or against its political, economic, social and cultural system are condemned as contrary to the Charter. Therefore:

- (i) The Member States reiterate their commitment and obligation not to intervene against, and to respect fully, the national independence, sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity, equal security of other States and reaffirm the right of States and peoples not to recognize situations brought about by the threat or use of force;
- (ii) States and peoples have the inalienable right to determine freely, and without interference from other States or outside forces, their political, economic, cultural and social system and pursue foreign policy aimed at promoting international peace and equal friendly relations among States and peoples and in accordance with their national interests;
- (iii) Every State has the right and duty to participate actively on the basis of equality in solving outstanding international issues, thus actively contributing to the removal of causes of conflicts and interference;
- (iv) Every State is free to develop with other States relations not designed or leading to interference in the internal affairs of third States;

(v) No State or group of States is allowed to use force or any other means of pressure, intimidation, subversion or vilification or other acts designed to disrupt the political, social or economic order of other States or to cause unrest or disorder between it and other States;

(vi) The use of force or any other means to deprive peoples of their national identity and cultural heritage constitutes a violation of their inalienable rights and of the principle of non-intervention;

(b) Every State has the sovereign and inalienable right to freely determine its own economic system and to develop its international economic relations in accordance with the will of its people without outside interference, coercion or threat in any form whatsoever. To this end, inter alia:

(i) No State should be subjected to action which either denies to it the right to exercise permanent sovereignty over its natural resources or, in any other way, limits its ability, or denies to it the right, to restructure its society;

(ii) The denial of economic assistance or the withholding of economic assistance aimed at influencing the path of economic development chosen by a State, is contrary to the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of States:

(iii) The employment of protectionist practices and measures and other related actions directed against exports of developing countries on a discriminatory basis as a means of pressure constitutes interference in the internal affairs of those States;

(iv) The exercise of influence by States or groups of States within private or multilateral lending agencies to ensure denial of development funds to a particular State as a means of influencing the path of its economic development is contrary to the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of States;

(v) No State or other political or economic agency or institution shall interfere in the sovereign right of States to regulate their foreign economic activity and exercise their authority over foreign investment within their national jurisdiction in accordance with their laws and regulations and in conformity with their national objectives and priorities;

(vi) Any unilateral economic reprisal or blockade by one State or group of States against another constitutes an intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States;

(c) Every State must ensure against the occurrence of conduct within its territory aimed at subverting the sovereignty and territorial integrity and political independence and unity of another State; this obligation devolving upon a State to ensure against such conduct applies with equal force in the case of a territory for the international relations of which that State is responsible:

- (i) Every State has an obligation, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to undertake measures aimed at preventing any hostile act or activity from taking place within its territory and directed against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of another State;
  - (ii) Every State has the duty to prevent the recruitment of mercenaries within its territory and the sending of such mercenaries into the territory of another State, regardless of the character of their mutual relations. In addition, every State has the duty to deny facilities for the equipping and transit of mercenaries and, in every other way, to deny aid to mercenaries recruited for use against another State;
  - (iii) Any form of interference, overt or covert, direct or indirect used by one State or group of States and directed at another State or group of States, and any act of military, political, cultural, economic interference by one State in the internal affairs of another State, regardless of the differences in their political, economic and social systems, is contrary to the principles of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States;
- (d) Every State has the right to fully develop its system of information and mass media as an integral part of its over-all national progress and with the aim of realizing its right to inform and to be informed in an objective and integrated manner. To this end:
- (i) No State or group of States shall interfere with the right of other States to develop their information system and to combat the monopolizing of information;
  - (ii) States shall respect the right of every State to use its information media in order to make known and to defend its interests, aspirations and its political, moral and cultural values;
  - (iii) States shall respect the right of all States and peoples to be informed in a rapid, objective and complete manner;
  - (iv) States shall promote the exchange of information among themselves and nations under conditions of equality;
  - (v) States shall endeavour to ensure the spread of authentic and objective information in their territories;
  - (vi) States have the right and duty to combat, within their constitutional prerogatives, the dissemination of false or distorted news which can be interpreted as interference in the internal affairs of other States and harmful to friendly relations among States and nations;

(vii) States shall abstain from any defamatory campaign, vilification or hostile propaganda aiming at influencing the political, economic and social development of other States;

(e) States reconfirm their obligation to observe, promote and respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to realize the full dignity and worth of the human person:

(i) Efforts by the international community to accord priority to causes and cases, recognized by the General Assembly of the United Nations, of massive and flagrant violations of human rights of peoples and persons, shall not be considered as interference in the internal affairs of States;

(ii) The exploitation and the distortion of human rights issues as a means of exerting pressures on States, or the creation of distrust and disorder within and among States or groups of States constitutes interference in the internal affairs of States;

2. Declares that the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of States set out above are in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, that they are interrelated and that, in their interpretation and application, each principle should be construed in the context of the other principles;

Nothing in this Declaration shall prejudice in any manner the provisions of the Charter or the rights and duties of Member States under the Charter and other instruments of international law;

Nothing in this Declaration shall prejudice in any manner the right to self-determination, freedom and independence of peoples under colonial or racist régimes, other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation as well as their right to wage both political and armed struggle to that end and to seek and receive support in accordance with the principles of the Charter;

3. Declares further that, bearing in mind the great importance of these principles to the international community, the appropriate agency of the United Nations should ensure the widest dissemination of this Declaration to States, specialized agencies of the United Nations and other organizations in association with the United Nations and other appropriate bodies;

Action taken by States in accordance with decisions of the United Nations taken under Chapters VI, VII, or VIII of the Charter or authorized by the United Nations in support of any of its decisions and recommendations is not contrary to the principles of non-interference.

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