



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/40/854
S/17610

7 November 1985

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fortieth session

Agenda items 18, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29,

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WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 5 November 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Angola to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward a copy of the Final Political Declaration (annex I) and Economic Declaration (annex II) adopted by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries held at Luanda from 4 to 7 September 1985, with the request that it be circulated among Member States as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 18, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79, 82, 84, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 102, 104, 109, 110 and 111, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elisio de FIGUEIREDO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

Final Political Declaration

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries was held at Luanda, People's Republic of Angola, from 4 to 7 September 1985.
2. The Conference was preceded by a meeting of senior officials on 2 and 3 September 1985.
3. Representatives of the following countries and organizations which are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries participated in the Conference: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cyprus, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palestine Liberation Organization, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, South West Africa People's Organization, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
4. Representatives of the following countries, organizations and national liberation movements attended the Conference as observers: Brazil, Philippines, Mexico, UNO, OAU, ANC, PAC, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela.
5. Guest delegations were present at the Conference from the following countries and organizations: Austria, United Nations Council for Namibia, Organization of the Islamic Conference, ICRC, Finland, Arab States League, UNIDO, UNDP, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Holy See, Sweden, Switzerland, UNESCO, AAPSO.
6. At its inaugural session, the Conference was honoured to hear an inspiring and important address by His Excellency, José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the People's Republic of Angola. The statement was acclaimed as a significant contribution and a fitting keynote to the Conference and was adopted as an official document thereof.
7. The Conference was privileged also to receive a message from His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

The Conference also was privileged to receive a message from His Excellency Monsieur Abdou Diouf, current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity.
8. The Conference paid tribute to the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement, an indefatigable champion of non-alignment who brought her dynamism and vitality to bear on the leadership of the Movement and left a lasting impression upon it.

9. The Conference rendered homage also to the memory of the late President Forbes Burnham of Guyana, a firm pillar of the Non-Aligned Movement, who made an outstanding contribution to it.

10. The Ministers noted the marked deterioration of the situation in South Africa and the entire southern African region, as a result of the policies of apartheid which posed an ever greater threat to peace and security in this context, they emphasized the special political significance of convening the Conference in the People's Republic of Angola, a front-line State in the vanguard of the struggle against the abhorrent system of apartheid. They expressed the full solidarity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries with the Government and people of Angola on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the independence of that country, in their efforts to consolidate their national independence, preserve their territorial integrity and freely to undertake the task of national development. They likewise expressed their solidarity with the oppressed peoples of South Africa and Namibia, as well as the front-line States, who have borne the brunt of Pretoria's policy of aggression, intimidation and destabilization.

To this end they addressed a message of support to Nelson Mandela and, through him, to the oppressed majority in South Africa for its legitimate struggle to recover its civil and political rights on the basis of equality, justice and democratic principles.

11. The Conference assumed special significance on account of its being convened on the eve of the commemoration by the United Nations of the fortieth anniversary of that Organization. The Ministers noted that firm faith in the United Nations had always been a cardinal attitude of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, since the United Nations represented the highest aspirations of mankind for peace, freedom, progress and human dignity.

12. The Ministers reaffirmed the principled commitment of the non-aligned countries to faithfully abide by the original principles and objectives of the policy of non-alignment as set out at successive Summit Conferences in Belgrade, Cairo, Lusaka, Algiers, Colombo, Havana and New Delhi, emphasizing that such commitment remains essential for the Movement to continue to play its major role in international affairs.

II. ROLE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

13. Conceived in the context of the struggle against colonialism and the growing polarization of international relations resulting from military blocs, military alliances and the cold war, the Movement has consistently struggled for the all-round emancipation of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and other parts of the world. Through the years, despite many obstacles, the Movement and the policy of non-alignment have achieved significant successes and have continued to play a decisive role in efforts to promote a new world order based on equality, justice and peace.

14. The recent evolution of the international situation fully justifies the policy of non-alignment, its principles and objectives, as a positive, non-bloc independent, global factor in international relations. This policy continues to contribute to efforts to promote peace, disarmament, the relaxation of international tensions, the just and peaceful solution of international problems and economic development. The Non-Aligned Movement was the inevitable result of the felt need of newly independent countries in all parts of the world to protect and strengthen their national independence. These countries saw in non-alignment a decisive instrument for exercising their full sovereignty in political and economic matters.

15. The Ministers noted that the Conference was being held on the eve of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at the first Summit Conference, held at Belgrade in 1961. They further noted with satisfaction that through nearly two and a half decades of its existence the Movement has demonstrated its abiding appeal, relevance and vitality and played an increasingly significant role in international relations.

16. The Ministers underscored the universal scope of the political contribution of the Non-Aligned Movement to contemporary international relations as well as that of the principles and goals of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. The policy of non-alignment, based on its original principles and character, consists of the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, hegemonism, foreign aggression, occupation and domination as well as against apartheid, racism including zionism, and all forms of dependence, intervention, interference and pressure as well as to the division of the world into blocs and spheres of influence. It rejects categorically any pre-conditioning of the policies of member States on the basis of affiliation with blocs, military pacts or alliances.

17. In the interest of international peace and security, the Non-Aligned Countries struggle for general and complete disarmament, the elimination of hotbeds of tension and aggression, promotion of just and peaceful settlement of international disputes, the elimination of all structures of domination, discrimination, exploitation and inequality and the solution of the serious economic problems of developing countries through establishment of the new international economic order, based on independence, equality, justice and co-operation among peoples.

18. The principles and goals of the Movement remain entirely topical today and assume broad significance owing to the persistence of colonial and racist domination and the increasing polarization of international relations. To these challenges new ones have been added, particularly the extension of spheres of influence and above all, the international economic crisis, which is assuming increasingly acute proportions and an undeniably political dimension. Today, more than ever, the magnitude of these problems warrants strict observance of the principles and goals of non-alignment as well as the strengthening of the Movement's capacity for resolute action aimed at the establishment of a new system of international relations ensuring freedom, peace, equality and development for all peoples.

19. Against the background of intensifying rivalry between the blocs and the resulting serious deterioration in the international situation, the Ministers strongly reaffirmed that the members of the Non-Aligned Movement could best contribute to the defusing of international tension by abiding strictly to their principled commitment not to be parties to or to take any action which would facilitate, great Power confrontation and rivalry or strengthen existing military alliances and interlocking arrangements arising therefrom, particularly through participation in military arrangements or through the provision of military bases and facilities for external military presence conceived in the context of great Power rivalry. In this context, the Ministers expressed grave concern at the military presence, activities and manoeuvres of the great Powers in the territories, air space and territorial waters, or in the vicinity, of non-aligned countries and considered these as breeding tension and instability, endangering peace and security and posing the threat of intervention in the internal affairs of these countries.

20. The Ministers reaffirmed the need for strict adherence to the principles of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States, which are basic principles of non-alignment. The violation of these principles is unjustifiable and unacceptable under any circumstances.

21. The Ministers observed with concern that an increasing number of Non-Aligned Countries are being subjected to all kinds of pressures designed, directly or indirectly, to weaken the unity of the Movement and to divert it from its original principles and objectives. In this context they expressed their conviction that unity and solidarity among the Non-Aligned Countries are all the more necessary in the present international crisis.

III. ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

22. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the continued exacerbation of the international political and economic situation due to the persistence of acute crises and tensions in international relations and resistance to the legitimate aspirations of peoples and countries to emancipation and unfettered development. Bloc rivalries and policies aimed at extension of spheres of influence continue unabated and have given rise to an accelerated arms race, particularly the nuclear-arms race, of increasing qualitative and quantitative dimensions. This race is being extended to new areas, including outer space. The threat of nuclear annihilation continues to hang over humanity. The threat or use of force, interference and intervention, destabilization, occupation, aggression as well as all forms of pressure are ever more frequently resorted to. Along with the increasingly acute crisis in international economic relations, these negative developments endanger international peace and security and imperil the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unhindered economic and political development, primarily of non-aligned and other developing countries.

23. The world is faced with increasingly difficult problems resulting from deep-rooted and interrelated contradictions in international political and economic relations. The global economic crisis is manifested in the drastic widening of the

gap between the developed and developing countries, as also in the critical economic situation of developing countries, many of which are unable to meet even the most fundamental need of their people and their essential development requirements. Problems such as increasing protectionism, continued deterioration in the terms of trade, persistent high interest rates and a mounting problem of foreign debt that has assumed serious political dimensions, endanger the stability of non-aligned and other developing countries. The arms race, apart from threatening the very survival of mankind, diverts enormous resources indispensable for development, further aggravating the crisis.

24. Even though another global conflagration has mercifully been avoided for the last four decades, conflicts, tension and instability continue to afflict various parts of the world, persisting also among non-aligned countries, resulting in human and material loss and threatening the delicate fabric of international peace and security. The extension of East-West confrontation to local and regional disputes complicates them further, renders difficult their resolution and jeopardizes world peace. Attempts to erroneously characterize the struggle of people for independence and human dignity in the East-West context amount to denying them the right to determine their own destiny and realize their legitimate aspirations. There can be no stable peace under conditions of confrontation and rivalry between great Powers and blocs as well as the persistence of the inequitable international economic order.

25. The Ministers observed that the global crisis, which has affected all areas of international relations, can best be solved through dialogue, particularly through multilateral negotiations within the framework of the United Nations system and the broad international community. Only such negotiations, in which all countries participate on an equal footing and which are based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations can ensure a comprehensive solution of pressing international problems such as peace and security, disarmament and development and encourage progress in various other fields, in the interest of all mankind. Non-aligned countries remain resolved to exert maximum efforts towards this end. The Ministers stressed their determination to take concerted action on disarmament and international security and to further strengthen the United Nations through appropriate means.

26. The Ministers viewed with serious concern attempts to weaken the foundations of the system of multilateralism and to undermine the United Nations, which represents the best hopes of mankind for a better future. Such attempts run contrary to the aspirations of the peoples of the world for peace, development and human dignity. The non-aligned countries are determined to counter this trend and reaffirm their unflinching support to the United Nations and the concept of multilateralism.

27. The Ministers welcomed the launching of negotiations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. While noting with concern that these had not produced concrete results so far, they expressed the hope that this dialogue would lead to a relaxation of tension in their mutual relations and in the world at large and contribution to safeguarding international peace and security. In view of the impact of relations between the great Powers on the

general international climate and on peace and security, the Ministers called upon them to eschew mutual confrontation, overcome mistrust and embark upon responsible and fruitful negotiations, with a forward-looking approach and in a spirit of goodwill, bearing in mind the interest of all mankind.

28. The Ministers underscored that for this dialogue to be fruitful and universally beneficial, it is necessary to conduct it in strict conformity with the goals of the United Nations and with a view to establishing a genuine system of collective security. In this context, they reaffirmed their conviction that a lasting alleviation of international tension and an effective *détente* can only be achieved at the global level.

29. While noting that the resumption of this dialogue would reflect a will to contribute to the settlement of regional crises, the Ministers emphasized that such a process must necessarily take into account the clear and principled positions of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries with regard to these problems as well as the aspirations, interests and objectives of the countries concerned and not be based upon great Power perceptions.

30. The Ministers reaffirmed that there is no viable alternative to co-operation and peaceful coexistence among States, regardless of their political, economic and social systems, size or geographical location. *Détente*, in order to be durable, must be universal and comprehensive, and open to universal participation, in the interest of all States. Only such *détente* can lead to equitable and meaningful solutions to key problems and provide the basis for lasting peace. The Ministers emphasized that non-aligned countries should play an active and positive role and participate in this process on an equal footing and continue to make a constructive contribution, in the interest of the entire international community.

IV. DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

31. The Ministers reaffirmed that disarmament, relaxation on international tension, respect for the right to self-determination and national independence, the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the strengthening of international peace and security are directly related to each other. Progress in any of these spheres has a beneficial effect on all of them; in turn, failure in one sphere has negative effects on others.

32. The Ministers noted with concern the renewed escalation in the arms race particularly in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, in spite of the fact that these practices provoke an increase of the risk of nuclear war and thus endanger the survival of mankind.

33. The danger of nuclear war flows from the very existence of nuclear weapons which are much more than weapons of war. They are instruments of mass annihilation. The threat of nuclear catastrophe is not one issue among many. Preventing such a horror is the pre-condition of all endeavours. Economic and social development and the construction of justice and human dignity will be in vain if nuclear disaster is not prevented. The existence of the risk of nuclear

war is enough, for annihilation only needs to happen once. For almost 40 years the survival of mankind has been hostage to the perceived security of a few nuclear-weapon States and their allies and most notably of the two major nuclear-weapon States. To rely on nuclear leverage is to accept a perpetual community of fear that contradicts the United Nations Charter and the approach and principles of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament and those contained in the declarations of the non-aligned Summit Conferences. The concept of the maintenance of world peace through the process of deterrence is the most dangerous fallacy that exists. Doctrines of nuclear deterrence, far from being the cause of the maintenance of international peace and security, lie at the root of the continuing escalation in quantitative and qualitative development of nuclear weapons and lead to greater insecurity and instability in international relations. The Ministers therefore find it unacceptable that the security of all States and the very survival of mankind should be held hostage to the security interests and state relations among a handful of nuclear-weapon States. Measures for the prevention of nuclear war and of nuclear disarmament must take into account the security interests of nuclear weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States alike and ensure that the survival of mankind is not endangered. They rejected all theories and concepts pertaining to the possession of nuclear weapons and their use under any circumstances.

34. The Ministers reaffirmed the principle that outer space - the common heritage of mankind - should be preserved exclusively for peaceful purposes, for the welfare and interest of all countries, irrespective of their level of economic, social or scientific development and open to all States. They recalled the obligation of all States to abstain from the threat or use of force in their outer space activities and urged all States, particularly the two major States to contribute actively to the utilization of outer space for peaceful purposes and to adopt immediate measures to avoid the extension of the arms race to outer space, in order to preserve international peace and security. In this respect, they reaffirmed that general and complete disarmament, under an effective international control, demands that outer space be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not be transformed into a theatre of the arms race. The Conference on Disarmament should conclude an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent the extension of an arms race to outer space and to prohibit its use for hostile purposes.

35. The research, testing, production and deployment of new generations of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery system have led to aggravation of the arms race and heightened the confrontation among the major nuclear-weapon States and their alliance systems. Powerful States are now taking steps which would lead to the militarization of outer space through the introduction of new technologies aimed at building up defensive systems against nuclear weapons, based on the search for so-called "strategic stability" through new types of offensive and defensive weapons systems. The maintenance of security through strategic defence is as illusory as the reliance on nuclear deterrence. Such reliance on strategic defence threatens to exacerbate rather than ameliorate the present global instability based on the threat of mutual annihilation and leads to an unprecedented escalation in the nuclear arms race. The development of new weapon systems would blur the

distinction between nuclear and conventional weapons and legitimize the possession of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

36. The Ministers noted the agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to begin negotiations on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms to be considered and resolved in their interrelationship, and declared objective of the negotiations "to work out effective agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on Earth with the ultimate goal of achieving the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere".

37. However, the resumption of this dialogue between the major nuclear-weapon States has not so far produced any concrete nuclear results. The Ministers called on the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to conduct these bilateral negotiations in good faith and produce early and effective agreements in accordance with the demands of the world community, as expressed inter alia in numerous resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the declarations of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Ministers expressed the hope that the two States will reach an urgent agreement to reaffirm the ban on the emergence of space weapons with agreements for significant reductions in their enormous and growing strategic and intermediate range nuclear-weapon systems.

38. They also considered that the two negotiating parties should bear constantly in mind that not only their national interest but also the vital interest of all peoples of the world are at stake and, accordingly, should keep the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament duly informed of the progress of their negotiations, without prejudice thereto. Bilateral negotiations should not in any way diminish the urgent need to initiate multilateral negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

39. The Ministers stressed the urgent need for a comprehensive treaty on the prohibition of testing of all types of nuclear weapons in any medium for all times. This objective has been pursued for more than 25 years and is a matter of the highest priority for the non-aligned countries. The continuance of nuclear-weapon testing intensifies the nuclear arms race and increases the danger of nuclear war. It is deplorable that, due to the persistent obstruction of a few States, the Conference on Disarmament has been unable to initiate multilateral negotiation of a treaty for the prohibition of all nuclear-weapon tests. There is no valid reason for delaying the conclusion of such a treaty. The existing means of verification are adequate to ensure compliance with a nuclear-test ban. Assertion about the absence of such means of verification should not be used as an excuse for further development and refinement of nuclear weapons. It is imperative that the nuclear-weapon States and their allies cease to regard nuclear weapons as an essential element of their security at the expense of the security of the rest of the world, and begin the process of halting the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. They also called upon nuclear-weapon States to give proof of their political will in order to facilitate the early conclusion of this treaty.

40. While negotiations are under way for a nuclear-weapons test-ban treaty, there should be a moratorium on all nuclear testing and production and deployment of nuclear weapons.

41. The Ministers reiterated their conviction that international peace and security can only be ensured through general and complete disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. In order to prevent effectively the horizontal and vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear-weapon States should adopt urgent measures for halting and reversing the nuclear-arms race. Pending the achievement of nuclear disarmament, the Ministers, in the name of humanity, demanded an immediate prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons by all nuclear-weapon States. They further called for a freeze on the development, production, stockpiling and deployment of nuclear weapons.

42. Pending nuclear disarmament the Ministers also urged all nuclear-weapon States to make a commitment and pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

43. They also reiterated that the nuclear-weapon States have an obligation to guarantee that non-nuclear-weapon States will not be threatened or attacked with nuclear weapons and should revise their unilateral declarations. Accordingly, the Ministers recommended that negotiations should proceed without delay for the conclusion of an agreed international instrument on effective international arrangements to ensure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

44. The Ministers expressed their concern over the ever more frequent use of force and military intervention against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of non-aligned and other developing countries and territories under colonial or alien domination whose people have not yet exercised their legitimate right to self-determination and independence and to freely determine their own destiny. This has increased the threat to security of a number of non-aligned and other developing countries.

45. The Ministers also stressed their determination to take concerted action on disarmament and common security and to further strengthen the United Nations.

46. The Ministers also pointed out that the limitation and reduction of military activities of great Powers and blocs beyond their boundaries would constitute an important element to the strengthening of the security of non-aligned countries. Therefore, they expressed their conviction that the gradual military disengagement of the great Powers and their military alliances from various parts of the world should be promoted.

47. The Ministers affirmed that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constituted an important disarmament measure. The establishment of such zones in different parts of the world should be encouraged with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons.

48. The Ministers meeting in Africa stressed that the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), constitutes an important measure aimed at preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and is a safeguard for international peace and security. In this context, they condemned the insistence of the racist South African régime in acquiring a nuclear military capability and denounced the collaboration of certain member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Israel in the development and strengthening of the nuclear potential of the South African racists, totally disregarding many United Nations resolutions on this question. The Ministers noted with great concern that this collaboration undermined the objective of maintaining Africa as a nuclear-weapon-free zone and sabotaged the efforts undertaken in favour of disarmament, international peace and security in the region.

49. The Ministers expressed grave concern that certain nuclear-weapon States have deployed or intend to deploy nuclear weapons in various regions of the world.

50. The Ministers emphasized that while nuclear disarmament has the highest priority, efforts should be made to conclude without further delay a treaty banning the use, development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons. They urged all States to undertake negotiations in good faith and to abstain from any action that could impede the early conclusion of a chemical weapon convention. The Ministers considered the use of chemical weapons, by any State and under any circumstances, deplorable and called for strict observance of the 1925 Geneva Protocol on the use of chemical weapons.

51. The Ministers noted with deep concern that the qualitative development of conventional weapons adds a new dimension to the arms race, especially among States possessing the largest military arsenals. Conventional disarmament should also be pursued, at the global, regional and subregional levels, as appropriate, within the context of progress towards general and complete disarmament. The adoption of such disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner so as to ensure the right of each State to security and that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage. At each stage the objective should be undiminished security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces. The Ministers took note with great satisfaction of the unilateral initiatives that some non-aligned countries have adopted to limit weapons and reduce military expenditures, considering them valuable contributions to the creation of a favourable climate that will make the regional measures on conventional disarmament possible and urge the arms-supplying countries to co-operate in reaching this goal.

52. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the initiative taken by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania in their joint declarations of 22 May 1984 and 28 January 1985 in which the nuclear-weapon States were called upon to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be followed by substantial reduction in their nuclear forces. The six leaders had further urged that this first step must be followed by a continuing programme of arms reduction leading to general and complete disarmament accompanied by measures to strengthen

the United Nations system and to ensure the urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race into social and economic development. The Delhi Declaration of 28 January 1985 had further specified two specific steps which required special attention: the prevention of arms race in outer space and the early conclusion of a comprehensive test-ban Treaty.

53. The Ministers reiterated the universality of concern for the adverse effects of the arms race and consequently the interest of all States in the negotiation of effective collective measures for disarmament within the framework and under the auspices of the United Nations. In this context, they drew attention to the cardinal purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in its attainment.

54. The Ministers underlined the central role and primary responsibility of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. They underlined that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in disarmament negotiations, the right to participate on an equal footing in disarmament negotiations affecting their national security and an inherent right to contribute to their success. Bilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament should facilitate and complement, rather than hinder or preclude, each other. Therefore, the Conference on Disarmament should be kept appropriately informed of all steps in bilateral negotiations and enabled to fulfil its mandate as the sole multilateral negotiating body in the field of disarmament and to adopt concrete measures of disarmament, in particular, nuclear disarmament.

55. The Ministers reaffirmed the three objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign of informing, educating and developing public understanding of and support for the United Nations objectives in the sphere of disarmament. They reaffirmed the need to strengthen the role of regional bodies in the materialization of this Campaign and the realization of its objectives. In this connection they welcomed the decision of the recent Lomé Ministerial Conference on security, disarmament and development from 12 to 15 August 1985, to set up on the African continent a centre for disarmament research.

56. The Ministers reiterated the need to urgently convene and set the date for the third special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

57. The Ministers welcomed the adoption without vote of United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/160 of 17 December 1984 which decided to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, to be preceded by thorough preparation. Ministers noted with satisfaction that the Preparatory Committee established by the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session for the purpose of making recommendations on the provisional agenda, procedure, place, date and duration of the Conference, had successfully discharged its mandate. The Ministers called upon the General Assembly at its fortieth session to renew the mandate of the Preparatory Committee to make substantive preparations, so that the International Conference on Disarmament and Development may be convened in Paris in June-July 1986. The Ministers expressed the hope that the forthcoming Conference would review the relationship between disarmament and development in all its aspects and dimensions, undertake an examination of the implications of the level

and magnitude of the continuing military expenditures, in particular those of nuclear-weapon States, and major military blocs on the world economy and the international economic and social situation, particularly for developing countries, and make recommendations for remedial measures. They particularly felt that the Conference should consider ways and means of realizing additional resources through disarmament measures for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries. They noted that the gap between the rich and poor had continued to widen, to the further detriment of the peoples of developing countries. They expressed the conviction that the economic and social consequences of the arms race militate against the creation of the new international economic order, and declare that durable peace could be assured only through a restructuring of the world economy with a view to establishing the new order and bridging the economic gap between developing and developed countries. The Ministers called for a demonstration of greater political will by the developed countries in this regard. The Ministers urged all countries to participate at high political level in the Conference.

V. ANTARCTICA

58. Recalling the relevant provisions of the Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 7 to 12 March 1983, the Ministers noted the increasing international interest in the continent of Antarctica, as evidenced by the deliberations which took place during the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly in the meetings of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries and at the recent OAU Summit and by the growing membership of the Antarctic Treaty. In this context, the Ministers reaffirmed their conviction that in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes, should not become the scene or object of international discord and should be accessible to all nations.

59. Convinced that the interest of the international community in the continent can be enhanced by keeping the United Nations fully informed of developments in Antarctica, the Ministers noted that the General Assembly should remain seized of the question of Antarctica.

60. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General for the study on the question of Antarctica and welcomed the adoption without vote of resolution 39/152 of 17 December 1984. They expressed the hope that this study would contribute to a more comprehensive examination at the fortieth session of the General Assembly of the item on Antarctica, with a view to taking appropriate action, taking into account the concerns of members of the Movement.

VI. INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

61. The Ministers reaffirmed the determination of the non-aligned States to continue their endeavour towards the attainment of the objectives embodied in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and as considered at the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean in July 1979, as well as at the subsequent meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. They reiterated their conviction that the presence in the Indian Ocean area of any manifestation of great Power military presence, foreign bases, military installations and logistical supply facilities, nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction conceived in the context of great Power rivalries, constitute a flagrant violation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

62. The Ministers viewed with disquiet and concern the continuous escalation of great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean area, including the expansion of the existing bases, the search for new base facilities and the establishment of the new military command structures of the great Powers against the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and other non-aligned countries. These activities endangered the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States in the area.

63. The Ministers extended their full support to the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971 and urged its early implementation. They also noted that, notwithstanding the efforts of the non-aligned countries, the convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo had been inordinately delayed due to the unhelpful attitude adopted by some States. They urged the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee to complete its preparation for the Conference strictly in accordance with its mandate.

64. The Ministers decided to continue their efforts to ensure that the Conference on the Indian Ocean would be held at Colombo during the first half of 1986. In this context, they urged full and active participation in the Conference by all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users as well as co-operation of these States with the littoral and hinterland States, which was essential for the success of the Conference.

VII. PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

65. The Ministers, recalling the decisions of the non-aligned countries, stressed the exceptional importance of international co-operation among the non-aligned and other developing countries in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This co-operation is of special significance in fields where these countries can achieve a greater degree of self-sufficiency.

66. The Ministers affirmed the inalienable right of all States to apply and develop their programmes for peaceful uses of nuclear energy for economic and social development in conformity with their priorities, interests and needs. All States should have unhindered access to and be free to acquire technology,

equipment and materials on a non-discriminatory basis for peaceful uses of nuclear energy, taking into account the particular needs of the developing countries. They deplored the pressures and threats against developing countries aimed at preventing them from pursuing their programmes for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

67. They also expressed their concern, in this respect, regarding the obstacles which the developed countries place in the way of transfer of technologies related to the peaceful uses of atomic energy by fixing conditions which are incompatible with the sovereignty of the developing countries. Each country's choices and decisions in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be respected without jeopardizing fuel cycle policies or international agreements and contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

68. The Ministers also stressed the need for observance of the principles of non-discrimination and free access to nuclear technology and reaffirmed the right of each country to develop programmes for the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in conformity with their own freely determined priorities and needs.

69. In this connection, the Meeting reiterated that non-proliferation should not be made a pretext for preventing States from exercising their full rights to acquire and develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes geared to economic and social development in accordance with their priorities, interests and needs, determined in a sovereign manner.

70. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the progress made in the preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy for social and economic development, in the interest of developing countries and the international community as a whole. They expressed their satisfaction at the results of the work of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference and underlined the necessity for continuing detailed preparations, with the active participation of all countries, in order to fully realize the goals of the Conference. Proceeding from the positions of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, the participants in the Conference reaffirmed their conviction that the results of the Conference should contribute to free and unhampered access on a just and non-discriminatory basis to the nuclear technology, equipment and materials needed for the development of national programmes of peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

VIII. SOUTHERN AFRICA

71. The Ministers analysed the situation existing in southern Africa and noted with deep concern the continuing state of war in that part of the continent. They concluded that the racist Pretoria régime and its agents are not only the root cause behind the situation, but also are directly responsible for other crimes which threaten international peace and security, namely, aggression, terrorism and mercenary activities. They stressed that there can be no peace, stability or security in Southern Africa until apartheid is completely eliminated.

72. The Ministers stressed that apartheid constituted a permanent threat to peace and security in southern Africa in particular and in the world in general. Apartheid - rightly declared a crime against humanity and an affront to the universal conscience - has its roots in the same racist and bellicose ideology which provoked the Second World War and caused untold deaths and destruction. The Ministers expressed grave concern that this inhuman policy is aided and abetted through economic, financial, military and diplomatic assistance given to that régime by some Western countries, themselves victims formerly of Nazi aggression.

73. The Ministers condemned the policies and practices of State terrorism of the racist Pretoria régime against the front-line and other neighbouring States through acts of sabotage training, financing and infiltration of bandits and mercenaries in the sovereign territories of those States in an attempt to overthrow those countries' legitimate Governments.

74. In this context, the Ministers reaffirmed the unconditional support of the Non-Aligned Movement towards the States and peoples of southern Africa and condemned, once again, the continued aggression of the racist régime of Pretoria against them. They stressed the special position and the positive role played by the front-line States in the struggle against the racist régime of Pretoria and commended them for their firm support to the national liberation movements of Namibia and South Africa.

75. They also undertook to dispatch a team of experts to go and assess the needs of all countries in the region, with a view to formulating and presenting to the Bureau recommendations aimed at assisting them to withstand the economic and military effects of South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization.

76. The Ministers strongly condemned the Pretoria régime for the continued military occupation of part of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola and considered this an act of aggression against the entire Non-Aligned Movement.

77. They called for a complete and unconditional withdrawal of the South African troops from the territory of Angola and decided to increase material support to the Angolan Government, to enable it to consolidate its national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

78. The Ministers hailed the Government of the People's Republic of Angola for its political will and diplomatic flexibility in the search for a peaceful and negotiated solution of the problems of southern Africa, mainly through the submission by President José Eduardo Dos Santos to Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, on 17 November 1984 of a platform for comprehensive negotiations. They welcomed and fully supported this initiative of the Angolan Government which constitutes an equitable basis for the re-establishment of peace and international security in the region.

79. The Ministers strongly condemned, on the other hand, the duplicity and bad faith of the racist régime of Pretoria in its negotiations with the Government of the People's Republic of Angola as evidenced by the acts of aggression, such as the recent sabotage attempt on the oil complex installations of Malongo in the Cabinda

Province, and the attempt to supply large quantities of war material in Malange by serial means, to the puppet and mercenary groups. In this context, they welcomed the Security Council resolution 567 (1985) of 20 June 1985.

80. The Ministers expressed grave concern about the massive concentration of South African troops along the Angolan-Namibian border, which poses a new and a grave threat against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola. The Ministers condemned the use of the international territory of Namibia as a springboard for aggression.

81. Given that the Clark Amendment was designed to terminate American involvement in the internal affairs of Angola in 1975, the Ministers condemned the recent repeal of the Clark Amendment. The Ministers supported OAU Summit Declaration AGH/Decl.3 (XXI) which states inter alia:

"2. Any American covert or overt involvement in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola, directly or through third parties, will be considered a hostile act against the Organization of African Unity; and

3. Any renewal of clandestine operations against the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola, would constitute gross interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola and the latter reserves the right to take any appropriate action it may deem necessary."

82. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the acts of political, economic and military destabilization against Mozambique. In this regard they reiterated their firm condemnation of the utilization of South African territory for the infiltration of armed bandits which perpetrate massacres against defenceless population and causes the destruction of economic and social infrastructure.

83. The Ministers reaffirmed their total support for the people and the Government of Mozambique for the preservation of peace, independence and national sovereignty. They appealed to all members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the International Community as a whole to render diplomatic, political, financial and material assistance to Mozambique in order to enable it to strengthen its defence capability.

84. The Ministers strongly condemned the recent racist aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Botswana and the Kingdom of Lesotho.

85. They expressed their full support to the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council on this matter and demanded the immediate cessation of these acts against these countries.

86. The Ministers affirmed those countries' rights to receive and give sanctuary to the victims of apartheid in accordance with their traditional practice, humanitarian principles and international obligations.

87. They supported the demand for full and adequate compensation by South Africa to the Republic of Botswana for the damage to life and property resulting from South Africa's act of aggression of 14 June 1985.

Namibia

88. The Ministers energetically condemned the continued illegal and colonial occupation of Namibia by the racist South African régime in flagrant violation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and other international forums, and declared that the illegal occupation of Namibia is an act of aggression against the Namibian people, in contravention of resolution 3314 (XXI) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1974.

89. They reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the people of Namibia to self-determination, national independence and to safeguarding their territorial integrity, including Walvis Bay, the Penguin Islands and other adjacent offshore islands in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

90. The Ministers confirmed the legitimacy of the Namibian people's struggle for liberation by all available means, including the armed struggle, and reiterated their solidarity and full support for the just and heroic struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole authentic and legitimate representative.

91. They condemned the activities of foreign economic interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and reiterated the incompatibility of these activities with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice in June 1971 and Decree 1 of the United Nations Council for Namibia, adopted in 1974 for the protection of the natural resources of Namibia.

92. In this context, they welcomed the decision by the Council for Namibia to initiate legal proceedings in the domestic courts of States in implementation of Decree No. 1.

93. The Ministers commended SWAPO for its exemplary leadership of the Namibian people during the last 25 years. They also commended SWAPO for its flexible and mature approach to diplomatic initiatives and co-operation with the United Nations in the search for a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Namibian question. SWAPO's constructive attitude stands in contrast to racist South Africa's intransigence, duplicity and bad faith.

94. The Ministers reiterated their support for the United Nations Plan for Namibia, as contained in Security Council resolution 435 (1978), as the only valid basis for the peaceful settlement of the Namibian question, and emphasized the urgent need for its immediate and unconditional implementation.

95. The Ministers categorically rejected the linkage or parallelism being drawn by the current United States administration and the racist Pretoria régime between the independence of Namibia and the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist forces from Angola, and insisted that these attempts have not only retarded Namibia's independence, but also constitute a gross and unwarranted interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola.

96. The Ministers urged all States to refrain from rendering any type of assistance to South Africa that might encourage it to continue pursuing its policy of State terrorism and systematic acts of aggression and destabilization against its neighbouring countries. They also requested all States to cease forthwith all political, economic, diplomatic, military, nuclear, cultural, sports and other relations with the racist Pretoria régime, in conformity with United Nations Security Council resolution 283 (1977) so as to hasten the termination of its illegal and colonial occupation of Namibia.

97. The Ministers pointed out that the massive militarization of Namibia by South Africa and the use of that territory as a springboard for aggression and subversion against independent African States constitute a serious threat to peace and security in the region.

98. The meeting rejected all manoeuvres aimed at diverting attention from the central issue of the decolonization of Namibia by introducing East-West confrontation, to the detriment of the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people to self-determination, freedom and national independence.

99. The Ministers commended and expressed their full support for the efforts undertaken by the People's Republic of Angola towards the establishment of an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence, understanding and a durable and just peace in southern Africa, in conformity with the Lusaka Communiqué of 16 February, 1984 and the Platform for Global Negotiations contained in Security Council document S/16838 of 26 November 1984.

100. The Ministers endorsed the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries on Namibia, held at New Delhi from 19 to 21 April 1985.

101. The Ministers expressed full support for the Vienna Final Document adopted by the Extraordinary Plenary Meetings of the United Nations Council for Namibia in June 1985.

102. The Ministers welcomed the release from Robben Island of Andimba Toivo ya Toivo, Secretary-General of SWAPO, and other leaders and considered it a victory for the international campaign for their release. They demanded once again the immediate and unconditional release of all the Namibian political prisoners held in racist prisons, as well as the according of prisoner-of-war status to all captured freedom fighters under the Geneva Convention of 1949 and Article 44 of the Additional Protocol thereto.

103. The Ministers strongly condemned the racist régime of South Africa for the installation, in Namibia, of a so-called interim government, in violation of resolution 435 (1978) of the Security Council. The Ministers, furthermore, gave full support to the Council resolution 566 (1985) declaring that action to be illegal and null and void; and they, therefore, urged all States not to accord any form of recognition to it or to any representative or organ of the puppet administration. The Ministers called on the Council to meet again and decided to renew the call for the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter against racist South Africa in the event of Pretoria's non-compliance with the provisions of Council resolution 566 (1985).

104. The Meeting reaffirmed its full support for the United Nations Council for Namibia in its role as the legal administering authority of Namibia until independence.

105. The Ministers urged all States to render increased material, financial, political, diplomatic and military assistance to the legitimate armed struggle waged by the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole authentic and legitimate representative, and in conformity with the urgent appeal for material assistance to the National Liberation Movements made by the forty-first session of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa held in February 1984.

106. The Ministers called for the convening of a special session of the General Assembly on Namibia in 1986 during the week preceding the beginning of the forty-first regular session of the General Assembly to mark the twentieth anniversary of the termination of the South African mandate over Namibia. In this connection, the Ministers, conscious of the unique responsibility which the United Nations has assumed by this historic decision, also urged the United Nations Council for Namibia, as the legal administering authority over the territory, to make provisions in its programme of work for 1986 to facilitate the holding of an international consultative conference on Namibia in Western Europe not later than the end of May 1986.

107. The Ministers called upon member States, especially those which have not yet done so, to contribute to the Solidarity Fund for Namibia to enhance SWAPO's capability to prosecute the national liberation struggle.

South Africa

108. The Ministers strongly condemned the racist régime of Pretoria for its policies and practices which constitute the root cause of all violence and instability in southern Africa, as well as for the policy of "bantustanization" which perpetuates the colonial situation existing in South Africa and serves as a hotbed for fratricidal conflict.

109. The Ministers further condemned the barbarous acts of oppression, repression and discrimination against the overwhelming majority of the population, the arbitrary arrests, imprisonment and detention of all those who oppose the apartheid

régime and the imposition of the "state of emergency" that has increased to alarming proportions the tragic and brutal massacres of the defenceless population, including schoolchildren.

110. The Ministers noted with profound indignation the charge of high treason proffered against the leaders of the United Democratic Front, and demanded their immediate and unconditional release.

111. The Ministers reiterated that only the total eradication of the apartheid system and the establishment of a non-racial democratic society would constitute a solid foundation for a just, durable and universally acceptable solution of the situation in South Africa. The Ministers reiterated that solidarity with and support for the oppressed people of South Africa in their legitimate struggle to achieve their inalienable right to self-determination, freedom and justice and urged all States to go beyond expression of support and render effective assistance to the liberation movements of South Africa recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

112. The Ministers commended the oppressed people of South Africa for categorically rejecting the fraudulent constitutional reforms, considered by the United Nations as null and void, as contained in Security Council resolutions 554 (1984) and 556 (1984). In particular, they hailed the heroic freedom fighters of South Africa on the victories scored in their struggle against the apartheid régime.

113. They observed with satisfaction that the African National Congress (ANC) had further intensified the arms struggle. They appealed for greater moral, political and material support to the ANC and PAC for their legitimate struggle and for the intensification of political mobilization of the masses within the country.

114. The Ministers expressed their utter dismay at the continued pursuit of the policy of "constructive engagement" by the Government of the United States. They reaffirmed their conviction that the policy has served only to give aid and comfort to the régime and encouraged it in its defiance of international public opinion. It has emboldened the régime in its brazen acts of aggression against the neighbouring States. The Ministers consequently condemned the so-called policy of constructive engagement. They welcomed the increasing rejection of that policy in particular within the United States. They urged the Government of the United States to abandon that policy.

115. The Ministers paid tribute to the growing anti-apartheid movement in Western Europe, North America and Australasia for their intensified campaign against apartheid.

116. The Ministers expressed their grave concern at the growing militarization of the racist Pretoria régime and the increase of its nuclear capability which constitute a threat to international peace and security. They condemned the continued military and nuclear collaboration between South Africa and certain NATO member countries and Israel and urged all States and international organizations to sever contacts with the criminal apartheid régime.

117. The Ministers urged all national and international financial institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, to cease such assistance to South Africa, as the granting of such assistance buttresses the régime and strengthens its policy of State terrorism within South Africa and abroad.

118. The Ministers also noted with concern the official visits by the Prime Minister of the racist South African régime to Portugal, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Italy, the Vatican and private visits to France and Austria, all aimed at undermining the international campaign to isolate that odious régime. They urged all States and institutions to refrain from any action that would undermine the international campaign to isolate the apartheid régime.

119. The Ministers reiterated the urgent need for the Security Council to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. To that end the Ministers endorsed the OAU proposal for the convening of a World Conference on Sanctions against racist South Africa to coincide with the tenth anniversary of the Soweto uprising of June 1976.

120. The Ministers appealed to the forthcoming Commonwealth of Nations Conference in the Bahamas to seriously consider the adoption and implementation of effective measures, especially by lending its valuable support for the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa by the United Nations.

121. The meeting reaffirmed its firm support for the activities of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, initiated in 1983, in conformity with United Nations resolution 38/14 of 22 November 1983, and called for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela, Zephania Mothopeng, and all other political prisoners, as well as respect for prisoner-of-war status to all captured freedom fighters under the Geneva Convention of 1949 and Article 44 of the Additional Protocol thereto.

IX. NUCLEAR COLLABORATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND ISRAEL

122. The Ministers meeting in southern Africa expressed their deep concern in view of the fact that certain Western countries in flagrant violation of the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations, have continued collaborating actively with the racist régime of South Africa and the Zionist régime of Israel in the military and nuclear spheres, thus allowing these countries to acquire nuclear capability for repressive and aggressive purposes and to be used as an instrument of blackmail. This collaboration poses an imminent danger to international peace and security, compromises the security of African and Arab States and increases the risk of nuclear weapons proliferation. In this connection, the Ministers condemned all forms of nuclear co-operation between any State, corporation, private institution or entity, and the racist régime of South Africa and the Zionist régime of Israel.

X. WESTERN SAHARA

123. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the persistence of the conflict in Western Sahara. They considered that the existing situation in that territory poses a serious threat to peace, security and stability in all the region.

124. The Ministers deplored the fact that all the efforts made to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Western Sahara had achieved no results.

125. The Ministers reaffirmed that the question of Western Sahara constituted a problem of decolonization and could only be solved when the people of Western Sahara exercised their inalienable right to self-determination and independence.

126. The Ministers, in accordance with the decisions of the OAU and the United Nations, expressed their conviction that the solution to the question of Western Sahara lay in the implementation of resolution AHG/Res.104 (XIX) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its nineteenth ordinary session, and of General Assembly resolution 39/40 of 5 December 1984, which establish the ways and means to reach a just and final political situation to the conflict in Western Sahara.

127. To this end, the Ministers urged the parties to the conflict, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario front to hold direct negotiations with a view to reaching a ceasefire agreement, to create the necessary conditions for a just and peaceful referendum of self-determination for the people of Western Sahara, a referendum under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, without any administrative or military constraints.

128. In this context, the Ministers expressed satisfaction at the efforts deployed by the current Chairman of the OAU and the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the implementation of the provisions of these resolutions, and urged them to continue their efforts to reach a just and final solution to the question of Western Sahara.

XI. MAYOTTE

129. With regard to the Comorian Island of Mayotte, which is still under French occupation, the Ministers reaffirmed that it is an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros. They also expressed their active solidarity with the people of Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover the Comorian Island and preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of Comoros. The Ministers expressed regret at the stand taken by the French Government, which had hitherto not taken a single step or initiative that could lead to an acceptable solution to the problem of the Comorian Island of Mayotte in spite of its repeated promises. The Ministers called upon the French Government to respect the just claim of the Islamic Federal Republic of Comoros to the Comorian Island of Mayotte.

XII. MALAGASY ISLANDS

130. In relation to the Malagasy Islands - Glorieuses, Juan De Nova, Europa and Bassas da India - the Ministers reaffirmed the immediate need to preserve the national unity and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and urged all concerned parties to initiate immediate negotiations in conformity with the relevant resolutions and decisions taken by the United Nations, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Organization of African Unity, particularly, resolution 34/91 adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly and resolution 784 of the thirty-fifth Ministerial Conference of the Organization of African Unity.

XIII. MAURITIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO, INCLUDING DIEGO GARCIA

131. The Ministers expressed, in particular, their full support for Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos archipelago, including Diego Garcia, which was detached from the territory of Mauritius by the former colonial power in 1965 in contravention of General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 2066 (XX). The establishment and strengthening of the military base at Diego Garcia has endangered the sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of Mauritius and other States. They called for the early return of Diego Garcia to Mauritius.

XIV. CHAD

132. The Ministers welcomed the agreement for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad, and hoped that this would allow Chad to safeguard its independence and territorial integrity.

133. They also took note of resolution AHG/Res.143 (XXI) adopted at the twenty-first Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of OAU and lent their full support to OAU efforts for national reconciliation and the establishment of a lasting peace in Chad without foreign interference.

134. The Ministers finally urged the international community to contribute to the national reconstruction of Chad.

XV. SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

135. The Ministers expressed concern over the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East caused by Israel's continued practice of aggressive and expansionist policies in the region, which poses a grave threat to international peace and security.

136. They reaffirmed the active solidarity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries with the Arab countries victims of Israeli aggression and with the just struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), its sole and legitimate representative for the restoration of their usurped national rights and the recovery of the occupied territories.

137. They reaffirmed that the question of Palestine is the core of the Middle East crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict and, that both issues are dialectically interrelated. In view of this they cannot be resolved separately or partially for the achievement of a comprehensive and just political solution to the situation in the Middle East.
138. The Ministers emphasized that a just and comprehensive peace in the region can only be based on Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and the restoration of all inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homeland, the right to self-determination without foreign intervention and the right to establish their own independent and sovereign States on their national territory.
139. The Ministers strongly condemned the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, the Judaization of Jerusalem and its proclamation as the capital of the Zionist State and reaffirmed that all measures carried out by Israel aiming to alter the political, cultural, religious, demographic and other features in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories are illegal and null and void.
140. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs reaffirmed that Israel's decision taken on 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Syrian Arab Golan Heights is null and void and is invalid. It is also considered an act of aggression under provisions of Article 39 of the United Nations Charter.
141. The Ministers condemn anew Israel's insistence on its continuing occupation of the Golan Heights and its non-implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Hague Convention of 1907 and the 1949 Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War.
142. The Ministers called upon the Security Council to take effective measures, including the imposition on Israel of sanctions provided for in Chapter VII of the Charter, in order to achieve the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the Syrian Arab territories.
143. They reiterate their total support for the struggle of the Syrian Arab Republic for liberating its occupied lands.
144. The Ministers strongly denounced Israel's exploitation of the natural resources and wealth of the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories in defiance of the Hague and Geneva Conventions on the principle of permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources and wealth, and called upon all States and international bodies to abstain from recognizing Israel's authority and to refrain from any co-operation with it.
145. The Ministers denounced the establishment of a "strategic alliance" between the United States of America and Israel, and affirmed that the alliance would enhance the aggressive, expansionist and destabilizing role of the régime of Tel Aviv, a role which posed a serious threat to international stability, peace and security in the Middle East.

146. the Ministers endorsed the conclusions and agreements reached by the Seventh Summit Conference condemning all such policies, in particular, the United States policy that assists Israel to pursue its occupation of Arab and Palestinian territories including Jerusalem and prevents the Palestinian people from exercising their inalienable rights. In this regard, the Ministers observed that the United States continues to support Israel in many areas, particularly by establishing a free zone agreement for mutual co-operation within the framework of their "strategic alliance" which threatens the security of the region, and the world, and confirms the total bias of the United States in favour of Israel.

147. The Ministers reaffirmed their adherence to the resolution adopted at the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries held at New Delhi, from 7 to 12 March 1983, urging non-aligned countries to work for a boycott of Israel in the diplomatic, economic, military and cultural fields and in the sphere of maritime and air transport and called upon the Security Council to enforce the provisions of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, in order to oblige Israel to put an end to its occupation of Arab and Palestinian territories and to enable the Palestinian people to recover their national rights, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and other international forums and the recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People adopted by the General Assembly.

148. The Ministers stressed the urgent need to organize the International Conference on the Establishment of Peace in the Middle East, in conformity with paragraph 6 of the Geneva Declaration and General Assembly resolution 38/58 of 13 December 1983, in order to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, based essentially on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the right to establish an independent and sovereign Palestinian State in its national homeland, Palestine, in conformity with the General Assembly resolution 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and ES-7/2 of 29 June 1980. The Ministers emphasized that the participation in the Conference of all parties directly concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict including the PLO and the permanent members of the United Nations and the Security Council will be a sine qua non condition for the attainment of the objectives sought by the Conference.

149. The Ministers stressed the Security Council's responsibilities in providing an adequate institutional framework for guaranteeing compliance with agreements stemming from the Conference, and condemned the negative United States and Israeli attitude towards it.

150. The Ministers expressed their full support for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East aimed at reducing tensions and increasing security in the region, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolution S-10/12. In view of this, they appealed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to adopt concrete measures in order to establish favourable conditions for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

XVI. QUESTION OF PALESTINE

151. The Ministers reaffirmed that the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the brutal repression and oppression exercised against the Palestinian people, as well as the Israeli aggressive and expansionist policies and practices are the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

152. The Ministers emphasized that a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the situation in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the regaining and exercise of all the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homes, the right to self-determination without external influence, and the right to national independence, and the right to establish a sovereign and independent State in Palestine, in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions.

153. The Meeting reaffirmed its firm support for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that the PLO alone has the full right to represent the Palestinian people. They affirmed the right of the PLO to participate on an independent and equal footing according to international law - in all endeavours, international conferences and activities whose objectives are to ensure respect for and the attainment and exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

154. They further reaffirmed their strict adherence to the principles of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal and external affairs of the Palestinian people and the right of the PLO to free and independent decision-making.

155. The Ministers welcomed the resolutions of the Palestinian National Council, including the seventeenth session, held at Amman, from 22 to 29 November 1984, which reaffirmed its strict adherence to the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the legitimacy of the struggle waged under the leadership of the PLO. They made an appeal for additional support to this struggle and towards the escalation and intensification of armed struggle against the forces of Zionist occupation.

156. The Ministers expressed concern over the fact that the Palestinians and other Arabs living in the Israeli occupied territories lack all forms of legal protection and are victims of a repressive legislation, including arbitrary mass arrests, torture, displacement of persons and their expulsion, destruction of homes, in flagrant violation of their human rights and constitute a flagrant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

157. The Ministers condemned Israel for its denial of the inalienable right of the Palestinians to return to their homes and properties in Palestine and for preventing them from exercising this inalienable right.

158. They expressed their most profound concern over the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps. They re-emphasized the need to secure guarantees for

protecting the safety of Palestinians in region of armed conflict resulting from the Israeli invasion and occupation.

159. The Ministers condemned the United States and Israeli campaign to destroy the infrastructure of the PLO and to "eliminate" the Palestinian freedom-fighters.

160. The Ministers considered that the attainment and exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, as defined in the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 3236 (XXIX) and ES-7/2 of 22 November 1974 and 29 June 1980, respectively, and that Israel's total, immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, would contribute to the re-establishment of legality in international relations and the strengthening of the process of democratization, and to the establishment of peace and stability in the Middle East. To this effect the Ministers reiterated their call for a speedy implementation of Assembly resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983 and stressed anew the necessity for the early convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, emphasizing the major responsibility shouldered by the Security Council in facilitating the convening of the Conference and providing the appropriate institutional arrangements to guarantee implementation of the expected agreements of the peace conference. The Ministers condemned the negative attitude of Israel and the United States towards the peace process and expressed the hope that the United States would reconsider this negative attitude.

161. In this context the Ministers decided to call for convening a meeting of the Security Council to consider the situation in the Middle East including the question of Palestine during the early part of the fortieth session of the General Assembly and expressed the hope that the foreign ministers of non-aligned countries and other heads of delegation would participate in the meeting.

162. The Ministers stressed that every encouragement and support should be extended to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to pursue his consultations and endeavours for the convening of the Conference. The Ministers expressed their appreciation of the endeavours of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people to promote the implementation of the recommendations of the General Assembly.

163. They expressed total support to these endeavours as undertaken through the convening of seminars, symposia, and missions to States members of the Security Council with the specific aim to promote the convening of the Conference.

164. The Ministers reaffirmed their rejection of all Israeli policies and practices aimed at altering the geographic features of the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, or altering the demographic structure therein, particularly Israel's plans to displace and transfer Palestinian refugee camps to new sites. They reiterated their demand to all nations not to recognize such alterations and to cease and sever any co-operation with Israel that may encourage it to pursue its policies and practices in violation of Security Council resolution 465 (1980).

165. The Ministers reaffirmed their adherence to the resolutions adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries convened from 7 to 12 March 1983 at New Delhi on urgent action by the non-aligned countries for the boycott of Israel in the diplomatic, economic, military and cultural fields and the area of sea and air traffic and also urging the Security Council to apply Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter against Israel.

166. The Ministers, further, urged all States to refrain from any co-operation with the Zionist régime that might encourage it to continue pursuing its policy of state terrorism and the commission of terrorist and expansionist acts against its neighboring countries.

167. The Ministers reiterated the decisions of the Seventh Summit condemning all those policies, in particular the United States policy, that help Israel to continue occupying the Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and deny the Palestinian people their inalienable rights and prevent them from exercising those rights.

168. In this respect the Ministers observed that the United States continues to support Israel in several areas, especially through the mutual co-operation agreement within the framework of their "strategic alliance," and the granting of free-trade zone facilities to Israeli products on United States markets. Such acts threaten the security and economic stability of the region and the world and confirm the total bias of the United States in favour of Israel and confirm its hostility to the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

169. The Ministers stressed the urgent need for all States to adopt appropriate measures to counter the threat posed by Israel to Africa's regional security, taking into account its close co-operation with the apartheid régime in South Africa in the military, economic and nuclear fields, which contributes to perpetuate the illegal occupation of Namibia and strengthens the aggressive and repressive means of the criminal apartheid régime against the peoples of South Africa.

170. The Ministers expressed anew their support of the Arab Peace Plan adopted by the 12th Arab Summit Conference at Fez from 6 to 12 September 1982, as reaffirmed by the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca from 7 to 9 August 1985. They further affirmed their support for the resolutions of the Arab and international conferences which were adopted in support for the Peace Plan.

171. The Ministers reiterated their full support for the efforts of the PLO, the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Movement's Committee on Palestine in their efforts to achieve a just solution to the question of Palestine.

XVII. LEBANON

172. The Ministers expressed their profound concern regarding the situation confronting Lebanon, as a result of the invasion and occupation of part of its territory by the Zionist army, which constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security. They declared their solidarity with the Lebanese people and Government and reaffirmed their full support for the safety of Lebanon, for its territorial integrity, independence and right to exercise sovereignty throughout its territory within its internationally recognized boundaries.

173. The Ministers condemned the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and foreign intervention in that territory, as well as the intensification of the warmongering practices of the invading forces aimed at strengthening the military occupation and materializing Zionist expansionism in the region. They also condemned the prolonged occupation of south Lebanon, western Bekaa and Cada Rachayya by Israel, as well as the inhuman practices of the occupation forces against the civilian populations in those territories, in flagrant violation of the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

174. They urged the United Nations to ensure the protection of the civilian population, including the Palestinian refugees, which live under Israeli occupation.

175. The Ministers denounced the continued support of the United States of America and its collusion with Israel in the strategic alliance against the peoples and States of the region.

176. The Ministers commended the abrogation of 17 May 1983 Accord. They also commended the role of the Lebanese national resistance in their heroic confrontation of the invading Israeli forces.

177. The Ministers called on all States to support Lebanon and reiterated their support for the resolutions adopted by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in Lebanon, especially those adopted by the Summit of New Delhi.

178. The Ministers demanded the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 425 and 426 of 1978 and 508 and 509 of 1982, calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory and for the deployment of UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army up to the internationally recognized boundaries of Lebanon.

XVIII. THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST THE IRAQI NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

179. The Ministers condemned Israel's continued refusal to withdraw its threat to repeat its armed aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes, in disregard of the safeguards régime of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). They urged the members of the Movement to ensure the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations and the IAEA.

XIX. CYPRUS

180. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their full solidarity and support for the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus and reaffirmed their respect for that country's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-alignment.

181. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation also expressed their deep concern over the fact that part of the Republic of Cyprus continues under foreign occupation and demanded the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces as an essential basis for the solution of the Cyprus problem. They welcomed the proposal made by the President of the Republic of Cyprus for the total demilitarization of Cyprus.

182. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation stressed the urgent need for the voluntary return of the refugees to their homes in safety, respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots and the speedy tracing of and accounting for those missing and condemned all efforts or actions aimed at altering the demographic structure of Cyprus.

183. They also deplored the unilateral declaration of independence of 15 November 1983, by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, as legally invalid and called for its withdrawal. Likewise, they deplored all subsequent separatist actions and other illegalities, including the so-called "referendum" of May 1985 and the so-called "presidential" and "parliamentary elections" in June, in defiance of pertinent resolutions.

184. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation considered that the de facto situation created by the force of arms and unilateral actions, should not in any way affect the solution of the problem.

185. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation welcomed the latest initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in pursuing his mission of good offices aimed at a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem, whilst noting that proximity talks took place between September and December 1984 and that progress was achieved, they regretted the fact that the joint High Level Meeting of January 1985 did not achieve any results.

186. The Ministers urged all parties to co-operate with the Secretary-General in his latest initiative by showing a greater political will so that the negotiations would proceed meaningfully and constructively for the achievement of a peaceful, just and lasting settlement in Cyprus, in full accord with the United Nations resolutions.

XX. EUROPE

187. The Ministers welcomed the efforts exerted in Europe, the continent where the bloc division is most salient and where armed forces and new weapons are still accumulating, despite the on-going negotiations aimed at reducing tensions and eliminating the danger of conflict. The Ministers stressed that non-aligned and neutral countries of Europe play a particularly constructive role in these processes, constituting a positive factor in the easing of the East-West tension, which should be encouraged.

188. Their activities at the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, being held in Stockholm, and in the CSCE process as a whole, are complementary to the global efforts of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and constitute concrete implementation of the principles of the policy of non-alignment in Europe, which the Ministers consequently support.

189. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that many European countries are taking increasing interest in the activities of the Non-Aligned Movement and in co-operating with Non-Aligned countries. They also point out that their commitment to strengthening peaceful co-operation in various fields, in the interest of peace and security, was manifested during the observance of the tenth anniversary of the CSCE Final Act in Helsinki. They expressed the hope that the Stockholm Conference will contribute to positive trends in Europe and the Mediterranean and to the relaxation of tensions in broader international relations.

190. The Ministers reiterated the close interdependence between the security of Europe and that of the Mediterranean and stressed their conviction that the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries should participate on all occasions and on a footing of equality in the dialogue on questions of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean, and that naval activities in the Mediterranean should be covered in the discussion on confidence-building measures in the CSCE.

191. The Ministers expressed the hope that the Vienna follow-up meeting of the CSCE will make an effective contribution to security and co-operation in Europe and to international peace and security in general.

XXI. THE MEDITERRANEAN

192. The Ministers noted with concern the continuation of bloc confrontation in the Mediterranean, increased military presence, foreign bases and fleets, including nuclear weapons of great Power, as well as the continued existence of hotbeds of crisis, occupation and aggression in this region, above all in the Middle East, which endanger the sovereignty and independence of non-aligned countries of this region in particular and obstruct peaceful settlement of the problems.

193. The Ministers noted that the first ministerial meeting of Mediterranean non-aligned countries at Valletta constituted an event of great political significance whose purpose was to strengthen the efforts of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries in transforming this region into a region of peace, security

and overall co-operation, in accordance with the decisions of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 38/189 which sets forth the principles on the basis of which co-operation is to be developed and the problems of the region solved. They called on other Mediterranean European States and on all States to respect the decisions of the Valletta Final Declaration, and in particular to adhere strictly to the principles of non-use or threat of force and urged them not to use their armaments, forces, bases and military facilities against non-aligned Mediterranean members.

194. They also welcomed the follow-up decision to hold a meeting in Valletta to discuss strengthening and enlarging co-operation on various economic spheres as specified in the Valletta Declaration, and augured that meeting every success.

195. The Ministers called upon all countries to join the efforts of the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and to pledge their support to peaceful transformation of the Mediterranean into a region of peace, security and overall co-operation. They upheld the decision of the Mediterranean non-aligned member States to meet again at the beginning of 1986 in order to carry out the task entrusted to them by the Seventh Summit Conference of New Delhi.

XXII. SOUTH-EAST ASIA

196. Reviewing the situation in South-East Asia, the Ministers expressed grave concern about the continuing conflicts and tensions in the region, particularly as many of the States are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They reaffirmed their support for the principles of non-interference in the affairs of sovereign States and the inadmissibility of the use of force against sovereign States. They warned that there was a real danger of the tensions in and around Kampuchea escalating over a wider area. They were convinced of the urgent need to de-escalate these tensions through a comprehensive political solution which would provide for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, thus ensuring full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region including Kampuchea.

197. The Ministers reaffirmed the right of the people of Kampuchea to determine their own destiny free from foreign interference, subversion and coercion and expressed the hope that through a process of negotiations and mutual understanding a climate conducive to the exercise of that right would be created. They also agreed that the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflicts in the region required urgent measures which called for the active co-operation of all the parties concerned. They urged all States in the region to undertake a dialogue which would lead to the resolution of differences among themselves and the establishment of durable peace and stability in the area, as well as the elimination of involvement and threats of intervention by outside powers. In this context, they noted with approval the efforts being made for the early establishment of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in the region and called upon all States to give those efforts their fullest support.

XXIII. SOUTH-WEST ASIA

198. The Ministers noted with great concern the situation in South-West Asia and agreed that it carries dangerous consequences for the peace and stability of the region. They agreed that the continuation of this situation poses serious implications for international peace and security. In this context, they viewed the situation in Afghanistan with particular concern. They reiterated the urgent call made at the Conference of Foreign Ministers held at New Delhi in February 1981 for a political settlement on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops and full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan and strict observance of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference. They also reaffirmed the right of the Afghan refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour and called for a speedy solution to this vast humanitarian problem. To this end, they urged all concerned to work towards such a settlement, which would ensure that the Afghan people would determine their own destiny free from outside interference and which would enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homes.

199. The Ministers expressed their appreciation for the sincere efforts made in the search for a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan and extended their support to the constructive steps taken in this regard by the United Nations Secretary-General. They regarded the discussion through the intermediary of the Secretary-General as a step in the right direction and urged their continuation with a view to promoting an early political settlement of the problem in conformity with the ideals and principles of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They called on all States to exercise restraint to avoid further endangering the peace and security of the region, and take such steps as would lead to the creation of conditions conducive to stable and harmonious relations among the States of the region based on the non-aligned principles of peaceful coexistence, respect for sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

XXIV. KOREA

200. The Ministers noted with concern that in spite of the Korean people's aspirations for peaceful reunification of their homeland, Korea continues to be divided which poses a potential threat to peace.

201. The Ministers welcomed with satisfaction the attitude of the Korean people in their efforts to reunify their homeland peacefully and to achieve this goal free of all foreign interference, by means of dialogue and consultations between North and South, in conformity with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, set forth in the Joint North-South statement of 4 June 1972.

202. The Conference expressed the hope that the fulfilment of the Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification would be enhanced by the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the area.

XXV. LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ISSUES

203. The Ministers recognized that Latin America and the Caribbean are one of the regions of the world that has suffered most directly from the acts of aggression of the colonial and imperialist Powers. The Latin American and Caribbean region is now experiencing the most acute economic crisis since the war, as reflected in its enormous foreign debt and the growing deterioration of the peoples' standard of living. In this regard, they pointed out the profound historic significance of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples' anti-imperialist and democratic struggles in the consolidation of their national independence and in the full exercise of their sovereignty, in keeping with the main objectives and principles of non-alignment and with their inalienable right to choose their own political, economic and social systems, free from any foreign interference. Moreover, they expressed their satisfaction over the efforts that the States in the region are making to strengthen their unity, solidarity and co-operation, employing the diverse processes of regional integration.

204. The Ministers pointed out with deep concern that the present situation in Central America constitutes one of the main focal points of tension at the international level. They also pointed out that, despite the constant appeals of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the rest of the international community and of the efforts made by the Contadora Group in searching for a negotiated political solution, that situation had further deteriorated as a result of imperialist policies of interference and intervention, which, along with the conditions of poverty and oppression from which the region historically suffers, represent a real threat to international peace and security. In this regard, they observed that the danger of direct United States intervention in Nicaragua, Cuba and other countries in the region had increased alarmingly.

205. The Ministers condemned the escalation of aggression, military attacks and other actions against Nicaragua's sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, stability and self-determination. In this regard, they especially condemned the violation of its air space and territorial waters, the launching of international manoeuvres and other intimidating acts, threats of seizure and occupation and selective bombing of Nicaraguan territory, the use of neighbouring countries as bases for aggression and the training of mercenary groups, acts of sabotage, air and naval attacks, the mining of the country's main ports, and the imposition of coercive economic measures, including the trade embargo. Such terrorist practices have caused the deaths of thousands of Nicaraguans, resulted in heavy economic losses and hindered that country's normal development.

206. The Ministers energetically condemned the embargo and other coercive economic measures recently imposed on Nicaragua by the United States Government and noted with concern that the aforementioned embargo violates the principles and norms of international law.

207. The Ministers expressed the opinion that these new acts of political and economic pressure, coupled with military actions, should be considered within the framework of a broader plan to destabilize and overthrow the Government of Nicaragua, and that they augment the risk of a regional war and hinder the

necessary dialogue that the Contadora Group is promoting to achieve a negotiated and political solution to the region's problems.

208. The Ministers reiterated their firm solidarity with Nicaragua and demanded an immediate halt to the threats, hostile acts, financing of mercenary groups by the United States Congress and coercive economic measures taken against the people and Government of that country - all of which are designed, in the short run, to overthrow the legitimately constituted Government of Nicaragua and increase the risk of a generalized conflict. The Ministers urge all States to faithfully respect the commitments made with the International Court of Justice, especially acceptance of the Court's mandatory jurisdiction and the required fulfilment of its rulings and judgements. Consequently, they exhort the United States to comply with the 10 May 1984 Ruling on Provisional Measures of Protection and the judgement of 26 November 1984 on the jurisdiction and admissibility of the 9 April 1984 demand presented by Nicaragua.

209. The Ministers applauded the peace initiatives of the Contadora Group, composed of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela, and reiterated their conviction that this Group represents an authentic regional initiative to solve the crisis by political means. They noted with satisfaction the progress made in the search for a political solution, especially the drafting of the Contadora Act for Peace and Co-operation in Central America of 7 September 1984. The Ministers also expressed their satisfaction that Nicaragua immediately agreed to sign the Act in its totality and without reservations. They urged all concerned States to redouble efforts to bring the Contadora Group's peace process to fulfilment by signing the Act.

210. The Ministers considered that, in agreement with the Additional Protocol to the Act, all States that wish to contribute to peace and co-operation in Central America, especially those that have ties or interests in the region, should indicate their willingness to back that peace document by adhering to the Protocol in order to guarantee its full implementation.

211. The Ministers welcomed the most recent efforts made by the Contadora Group, as reflected in the communication from the meetings held 22 and 23 July 1985. In this regard, they urged the Central American Governments and other States with ties and interests in the region to implement the six points listed in that communication with a view to a prompt solution to the crisis by political means, namely: (1) the Contadora Act; (2) Actions toward détente; (3) Relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua; (4) The Manzanillo dialogue; (5) International organizations; and (6) Latin American support.

212. The Ministers also expressed their satisfaction with the formation of the Lima Group of Support for the Contadora Group, composed of Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay, and their confidence that this initiative will contribute significantly to strengthening efforts for peace in the region.

213. The Ministers welcomed the recent meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, of the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora Group and the Lima Group of Support for the Contadora Group and agreed that efforts and actions for peace should be carried out

with a view toward the future and in accord with the goals of solidarity, independence, and justice that have always been the aspiration of the peoples of Latin America. They also expressed their satisfaction at the fact that the mechanisms for the operation of the Lima Group of Support for the Contadora Group were determined at that meeting.

214. The Ministers deplored the sudden, unilateral interruption by the United States of the bilateral talks with Nicaragua in Manzanillo, Mexico, which were aimed at normalizing relations between the two countries in order to reach a specific agreement on peace in the region based on the principle of mutual respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of the peoples. They judged this action to be a serious hindrance to Nicaragua's peace efforts and considered that it also undermined the Contadora Group's efforts toward peace and co-operation for the solution of Central America's problems. In this regard, they urged the United States Government to renew the talks with Nicaragua as a means of reaching a specific agreement on the bases previously mentioned.

215. The Ministers welcomed the initiative presented by the Nicaraguan Government for the creation of a neutral zone of security on the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, noting especially that the elimination in that zone of the tensions that serve foreign interests would represent an important step in reinforcing and deepening peace efforts in Central America. In this regard, the Ministers urged the two Governments to meet, as indicated by Presidents Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua and Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica, to agree to the best procedures for establishing that neutral zone of security, with the aim of ending the frequent border incidents.

216. The Ministers requested the Governments of the United States, Honduras and all other concerned States to take a constructive attitude in favour of peace and dialogue, in line with the principles of international law, to avoid any and all actions that might aggravate tensions in the region. In this regard, they agreed that the dismantling of foreign military bases, the withdrawal of foreign military advisers, the halt of military manoeuvres and an end to acts of force would substantially reduce the points of tension, contributing to the search for ways which would enable the achievement of a political and negotiated solution to the problems of the region.

217. The Ministers reiterated their satisfaction with the outcome of the Ministerial meeting held between the members of the European Economic Community, Spain and Portugal, the Central American countries and the countries of the Contadora Group which took place in San José, Costa Rica in 1984 and expressed their confidence that the forthcoming meeting, which is scheduled for November 1985 in Luxembourg, will significantly contribute to the reinforcement of the political and economic dialogue between Europe and Central America. They also reaffirmed the necessity of peace and co-operation for Central America.

218. The Ministers recalled the decision of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to request the Co-ordinating Bureau to follow closely the evolution of the situation in that subregion and congratulated the Bureau for creating an unofficial Friends of the

Chairman group to follow the development of the situation in Central America. In this regard, they welcomed the invitation extended by the Government of Nicaragua in April 1985 and noted that the Friends of the Chairman's visit to that country contributed to strengthening solidarity and to a fuller understanding of the situation in which that fellow non-aligned country finds itself, a rapidly deteriorating situation as a result of continued imperialist aggression. At the same time, the Ministers reaffirmed the validity of the Movement's principles in that region.

219. The Ministers reiterated their deep concern over the deterioration of the situation in El Salvador where, as a result of increased imperialist intervention and the grave internal socio-economic problems, important sectors in that country are facing a stepped up armed conflict.

220. They also noted, as another sign of this deterioration, the interruption of the dialogue between the Government and the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation/Democratic Revolutionary Front (FMLN-FDR), a situation that should be remedied as soon as possible, since a global peaceful solution to the crisis in El Salvador can only be achieved through direct negotiations among all the representative political forces including these two Fronts.

221. They deplored the fact that there are still serious violations of human rights in El Salvador, especially since the civilian population in the zones controlled by the insurgents continues to be attacked, bombarded and displaced, which, in addition to producing countless non-combatant victims, has also left large numbers of Salvadorans as internal refugees or displaced persons. They urged the Government and the FMLN-FDR to renew their talks and exhorted the United States Government to adopt a constructive position in order to achieve a peaceful, negotiated solution to the present Salvadoran conflict.

222. The Ministers reaffirmed the need to do away with colonialism in all its forms and manifestations in Latin America and the Caribbean, and they reiterated the non-aligned countries' full solidarity with the peoples of the region who are still in a colonial situation. As a result, they demanded that the colonial Powers immediately implement General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in those territories. They also expressed serious concern over the fact that the colonial Powers are using territories in the region as bases or ports of call for ships carrying nuclear weapons and for the storage of such weapons.

223. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Puerto Rican people's inalienable right to Puerto Rico's self-determination and independence, in accord with resolution 1514 (XV) and they noted with interest the resolution that the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization adopted on 14 August 1985.

224. The Ministers condemned the maintenance of military bases and troops foreign to the region in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as those existing in Cuba and Puerto Rico and on the Malvinas Islands, and they observed with concern the intention to install new ones, such as the one planned for Easter Island, which constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region.

225. The Ministers requested the immediate, unconditional lifting of the economic blockade and ending of other forms of pressure that the United States is exerting against Cuba, and they condemned the recent intensification of the threats of aggression; the violations of Cuba's airspace, including spy flights; the violations of Cuba's territorial waters; and the blockade in the spheres of finances, credit and trade. They reiterated the Movement's solidarity with Cuba and its full support for Cuba's legitimate demand that the United States return the Guantanamo Naval Base and that it compensate the Cuban people for the material losses inflicted.

226. The Ministers observed the political process that is developing in Guatemala and expressed their hope that it would guarantee the broadest, most effective participation by all social sectors of the Guatemalan people and respect for and full exercise of human rights.

227. The Ministers reiterated their unconditional support for the independence and territorial integrity of Belize and their respect for that country's right to determine its future as a free and sovereign nation within the framework of its land and maritime borders. They emphasized that any threat or use of force against Belize was unacceptable and reiterated their support for the settlement of disputes through negotiation and other peaceful means.

228. The Ministers observed that in accordance with resolution 38/7 of the General Assembly that although most of the foreign troops had withdrawn, a number of these troops still continue to remain in Grenada and urged for their immediate withdrawal. Taking note that there were elections held in this country, they reiterated their firm solidarity with the people of Grenada and urged all countries to respect the right of sovereignty and inalienable right to determine their political, economic and social system.

229. The Ministers expressed their total solidarity with the people and Government of Panama in their efforts to secure full compliance with the Panama Canal treaties and the neutrality of that inter-oceanic waterway, and they emphasized the fact that this process has been developing in accord with the schedule agreed upon. They expressed concern, however, over the United States' implementation of policies and practices in the Canal Zone that hamper strict compliance with the treaties and, in particular, over the application of Law 96/70 of the United States Congress, which is incompatible with and violates the letter and spirit of the aforementioned treaties.

230. The Ministers renewed their appeal to all countries with the objective to adhere to the Protocol of the Permanent Neutrality Treaty of the Panama Canal and to respect the neutrality of that inter-oceanic waterway.

231. The Ministers noted the efforts being made by the Government of Guyana to consolidate its independence and sovereignty and ensure a safe future for its people. In connection with the territorial claim advanced by Venezuela, they note that both countries had submitted to the consideration of the Secretary-General of the United Nations the means for settlement of the dispute, in strict compliance with the Geneva Agreement of 1966.

232. They again took note of the principled position of the Venezuelan Government in renouncing the use of force in solving the matter.

233. The Ministers reiterated their support for and solidarity with the people and the Government of the Republic of Suriname in their efforts aimed at preserving the independence and sovereignty of Suriname. They expressed their deep concern at measures taken and continuing attempts of certain Governments to exert pressures, which have an adverse effect on the political, economic and social development of Suriname and express the hope that the Governments concerned will engage in a frank, fair and meaningful dialogue, without coercion or any other form of interference in order to arrive at a solution on the basis of mutual respect and in the interest and well-being of the people of Suriname.

234. The Ministers reiterated their firm support for the Republic of Argentina's right to have its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands restituted through negotiation. They reiterated their call for a resumption of negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom with the participation and good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. They reaffirmed the need that the said solution should duly take into account the interests of the population of the Islands and took note with satisfaction of the will expressed by the Argentina Government to respect and guarantee the maintenance of the way of life of the islanders, their traditions and cultural identity including the use of safeguards and guarantees and statutes that might be negotiated. This would ensure a speedy, peaceful and just solution to the question in conformity with the principles and decisions of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on the subject and with General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV), 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12 and 39/6.

235. They also took note with satisfaction of the readiness reaffirmed last 10 July, by the Argentine Government to resume the negotiations requested by the General Assembly, and urged the Government of the United Kingdom to also agree to their resumption and to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modification in the situation while the sovereignty dispute remains unsettled.

236. The Ministers also reaffirmed that the massive British military and naval presence in the area of the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands which include a strategic airport are a cause for great concern to the countries of the Latin American region and adversely affect stability in the area.

237. They recalled that the establishment of bases and other military installations on dependent territories obstruct the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (resolution 1514 (XV)) of the General Assembly and is incompatible with the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the aforementioned resolution.

238. The Ministers reiterated their categorical support for the Republic of Bolivia's legitimate and rightful claim to recover a direct and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean over which it would have full sovereignty. Convinced that the solution of this problem is in the interest of the international community and

recalling that international peace and security demand it, they issued an appeal to all States to declare their solidarity with that inalienable right of the Bolivian people. The Ministers expressed their hope that an equitable solution to this problem will be found by applying the peaceful procedures provided in the United Nations Charter and within the framework of the aims of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

239. The Ministers recalled that the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Summit Conferences of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries had expressed solidarity with the social and economic transformations initiated by the late President Salvador Allende and demanded the implementation of the resolution on Chile, adopted at the thirty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly. They further reaffirmed their solidarity with the Chilean people's legitimate hopes of restoring their freedom and basic human rights, and the non-alignment policy pursued by President Allende.

240. The Ministers noted the existence in Latin America of an area in which nuclear weapons are proscribed by the Treaty of Tlatelolco, and stressed the need to create favourable conditions for all Latin American countries to sign and ratify it and all nuclear Powers to respect it. In this context, they also condemned the introduction of nuclear weapons in the region by certain Western Powers.

241. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of new democracies in Latin America, which enable their respective peoples to fully realize their inalienable right to freely determine their own destinies. In this regard, they recognized that it is advisable to find political solutions and to make efforts to consolidate those democratic processes.

242. They also noted that the defence of human rights and the full and effective exercise of political and ideological pluralism, constitute important factors in the progress of the peoples of the region.

243. The Ministers decided to convene a special meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau in Latin America and the Caribbean in 1986, and they requested that the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York determine the date and site.

XXVI. NON-INTERVENTION AND NON-INTERFERENCE

244. The Ministers reiterated the firm support of the Non-Aligned Countries for the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal and external affairs of States, one of the basic principles of non-alignment. In common accord, they categorically reaffirmed that the violation of this principle is not only unacceptable but also unjustifiable, under any circumstances, and incompatible with the obligation assumed by member countries of the United Nations by virtue of its Charter.

245. Recalling the relevant decisions of the Seventh Summit Conference, the Ministers noted with concern that despite the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the

Internal Affairs of States contained in resolution 36/103, policies of intervention and interference, pressure and the threat or use of force continued to be pursued against many countries including, in particular, non-aligned countries, with dangerous consequences for peace and security. They called upon all States to adhere to the Declaration and observe its principles in their dealings with other States.

XXVII. PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AND CONFLICTS

246. The Ministers once again reiterated the support of the non-aligned countries for the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts between them and abstaining from resorting to the threat or use of force against the national sovereignty, territorial integrity or independence of any of them, thereby avoiding a threat to international peace and security.

247. In this regard, they noted with concern that non-observance of this principle not only leads to serious loss of human life and the destruction of the economic foundations that are essential for the development and progress of the peoples of those countries, but also weakens the unity and solidarity of the Movement. Non-compliance with this principle endangers the efforts made by the non-aligned countries aimed at strengthening international peace and security; it also reaffirms the need to preserve the unity of the Movement. To this effect, they reiterated the need to abide by the principles of strict respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the inviolability of legally established international borders, non-interference in internal affairs, respect for the right of all peoples to free national and social development, and refraining from resorting to pressures and the threat or use of force and to any forms of aggression.

248. The Ministers reaffirmed that the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts, through direct negotiations, mediation, or good offices accepted by the interested parties, or other measures included in the United Nations Charter, continue to be the key elements on peaceful coexistence as recommended by the non-aligned countries and, to that effect, recalled the relevant declarations of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government and reiterated their firm support for the principles expressed therein which are an effective way to foster the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts between non-aligned countries.

249. Recalling paragraph 170 of the New Delhi Summit Declaration, the Ministers requested the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York to intensify its work for the implementation of the decision on the setting up of a working group for this question which should examine all proposals and submit a report to the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau on the eve of the Eighth Summit, as well as to the Summit itself.

XXVIII. FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

250. The United Nations, since its founding on 24 October 1945, has been playing a central role in the contemporary system of international relations. The lasting value of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, further developed and enriched by the policy of non-alignment has been confirmed, thus affirming the United Nations as a universal international forum which has the central role in the maintenance of international peace and security, peaceful settlement of international disputes and crises, strengthening of international co-operation in all fields on the basis of sovereign equality of States, establishment of equitable and just economic relations and in the strengthening of the policy of peaceful coexistence, universal détente, disarmament and development.

251. The Movement of Non-Aligned Countries has consistently maintained a deep and abiding commitment to the United Nations, to preserving and strengthening this organization and to making it fulfil more effectively the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter.

252. Raised upon the ashes of a world war that caused millions of victims and enormous damage to all mankind, the United Nations has prevented the outbreak of another global war. The preservation of international peace and security constitutes a vital need for mankind's existence and the United Nations has proved to be the most appropriate forum to deliberate on and seek solutions to issues relating to international peace and security, disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, the safeguarding of national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of States and their right to unhampered and independent development and a free choice of political and economic systems; the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, hegemony, foreign aggression, occupation and domination, as well as against apartheid and racism and all forms of dependence, threat or use of force, interference, pressure and intervention in international relations.

253. The United Nations and specialized agencies, during the 40 years of their activity, have achieved significant results in many fields of international relations. They have played a major role in the process of decolonization, owing primarily to the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. They have also rendered their full support to the legitimate struggle for the emancipation of peoples. The United Nations has recognized the status of the liberation movements and enabled them to participate in its work. The United Nations has greatly contributed to the fact that international economic and social problems, particularly a rapid development of developing countries, have become an integral part of overall efforts for the promotion of peace and security in the world. The Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New Economic Order are documents of historic significance.

254. The Convention on the Law of the Sea constitutes an important step towards the implementation of the principle of common heritage of mankind.

255. The United Nations has constantly advocated the promotion of human rights, the self-determination of peoples and the elimination of all forms of racism and apartheid, and it has adopted a series of important international legal instruments in this field.

256. The Ministers recalled the importance of resolution 1514 (XV) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1960, concerning the right of all peoples under colonial or alien domination to self-determination and independence, and recognized that throughout all the years of existence of the United Nations and after the dismembering of the colonial empires, new independent States came into existence which later became members of the United Nations and of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, thus strengthening the purposes and principles of the United Nations in the contemporary system of international relations.

257. The Ministers emphasized that the last vestiges of colonialism must be eliminated as soon as possible and that the United Nations as a universal organization must play an outstanding role in this task. They urged all States to recommit themselves to the eradication of colonialism and to contribute to the implementation of the United Nations mechanisms in this endeavour.

258. The Ministers noted that over the years the United Nations has contributed significantly to the economic and social progress of all countries and peoples.

259. They emphasized that multilateral economic co-operation is the most effective form of co-operation among States and that the United Nations is the most appropriate forum for analysing and finding solutions to world development problems. The growth of specialized agencies within the United Nations system, demonstrates that the development of multilateral economic co-operation presents increasingly greater perspectives and possibilities as well as better results for the progress and welfare of all people, in more specific areas and at higher levels.

260. They reiterated the full validity and continuing relevance of the principles and objectives contained in the General Assembly resolution on the establishment of the new international economic order and emphasized the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States adopted by the General Assembly; together they essentially constitute effective instruments for the establishment of a new system of international economic relations based on justice and equality of sovereignty and interdependence of the interests of both the developing and developed countries.

261. In this context, the Ministers appealed to all States to strengthen multilateral co-operation in the contemporary system of international economic relations and to provide support for and contribute to the realization of the objectives of the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

262. They urged all States to adhere to the international juridical instruments concerning international economic relations adopted by the United Nations and to apply them comprehensively.

263. The Ministers recalled the outstanding role played by the United Nations in the codification and progressive development of international law. In the interest of a world community based on law and order, they urged all States to expedite their accession to international legal instruments emanating from the United Nations.

264. In spite of significant achievements the United Nations has not been fully successful, particularly in safeguarding international peace and security, ensuring complete decolonization, promoting disarmament, economic development and problems of human rights. This has been due, above all, to the negative attitude of major Powers and some developed countries and their attempts to solve important international issues outside the framework of the United Nations system.

265. The Ministers stressed the obligation of all States to strictly abide by the principles of the United Nations and respect its decisions and resolutions.

266. Of particular concern are the ever more frequent attempts and pressures to weaken and narrow multilateralism, first of all the activities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, in order to preserve the acquired privileges and to impose new inequitable relations. The Ministers viewed with concern the pressures and the attempts to bypass the United Nations in the solution of major international questions.

267. This has led to a crisis in multilateralism and a weakening of the role of the United Nations as a negotiating forum. The Ministers reaffirmed the continued need for and importance of the United Nations, as the most appropriate forum for finding solutions to major contemporary issues such as international peace and security, justice and equality among all peoples and nations, international co-operation and the progress of mankind.

268. In spite of the fact that contemporary international law considers aggression an international crime and that the United Nations must play an outstanding role in the prevention of aggression, the Ministers noted with concern the abuse of the right of veto to obstruct decisions by the Security Council pertaining to the maintenance of international peace and security, particularly those relating to the imposition of sanctions against Israel and South Africa. Such is contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and weakens the role of the Security Council.

269. The Ministers considered that the observance of the fortieth anniversary should give impetus to the strengthening of the role and efficiency of the world organization so that multilateral negotiations may bring about political solutions of crises and major international problems within its framework and so that the equality and independence of all countries and the principles of active and peaceful coexistence may become the basis of international relations, and ensure lasting peace, security and progress in the world.

270. The Ministers also emphasized the necessity of enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization in promoting the role of the Organization. To that end functional modalities of the Organization merit fresh consideration.

271. On behalf of the non-aligned Member States of the United Nations, the Ministers paid warm tribute to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his wholehearted endeavours in promoting the role and efficiency of the United Nations.

272. They recalled the call given to the international community by the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the New Delhi Summit, to observe 1985 as the Year of the United Nations. They considered the participation of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the anniversary session of the General Assembly in 1985 of great importance and expressed the hope that Heads of State or Government of all countries would attend this session in pursuance of the initiative launched at that Summit. Moreover, non-aligned countries should continue to play an active role in the various organs of the United Nations.

XXIX. UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

273. The Ministers considered with interest the situation obtaining within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and reaffirmed the predominant role of this universal institution in the dialogue of cultures, international co-operation and development. They considered that questioning the role and universality of UNESCO constitutes an attempt to reject the multilateral system of international co-operation and a direct threat to the whole system of the United Nations.

274. The Ministers therefore noted with concern that the actions taken against UNESCO and its Director-General focused explicitly on the role and position of developing countries in the administration and activities of the United Nations system.

275. They further noted that the UNESCO activities that were most criticized were precisely those which reflected the aspirations of developing countries and whose objective was the new international information order in particular and the right of peoples in general, and this attitude towards UNESCO reflects the present deadlock in the North-South dialogue.

276. In this respect, the Ministers emphasized that universality of UNESCO was inconceivable without the universality of its programmes. They believed that UNESCO activities should reflect the interests, aspirations and socio-cultural values of all countries.

277. The Ministers thus reaffirmed the support of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the action of the Director General of UNESCO in the fulfilment of the noble objectives of the Organization and further lent support to the programmes and activities of the Organization.

278. They called on all members of the Non-Aligned Movement to make voluntary contributions to UNESCO in so far as possible, not only to enable it to implement its programme but also to resist the financial pressures to which it is exposed.

279. In this context, the Ministers stressed the importance of substantial and high level participation of all members of the Movement in the twenty-third session of the UNESCO General Conference to be held at Sofia, Bulgaria from 8 October to 12 November 1985.

280. The Ministers called on all UNESCO member States to preserve the universality of the organization and work for the implementation of all programmes.

281. In this context they addressed an urgent call to UNESCO member States who had notified their intention of withdrawing from the Organization to reconsider their decision and continue to participate in international co-operation in the fields of education, science, culture and information, for which UNESCO is the most appropriate forum.

XXX. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR (1985)

282. The Ministers expressed the interest of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to promote initiatives within the United Nations in order to achieve the goals of the General Assembly resolution 34/151 on the proclamation of 1985 as the International Youth Year under the slogan: Participation, Development, Peace.

XXXI. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

283. The Ministers, in noting the successful conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women, welcomed the Forward-looking Strategies adopted at the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women held at Nairobi in July 1985. They urged all States to commit themselves to the expeditious implementation of these strategies, aimed at promoting the full realization of the objectives of equality, development and peace by women everywhere.

XXXII. THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AFRO-ASIAN CONFERENCE

284. The Ministers recalled the historic Asian-African Conference held at Bandung in 1955 which served as a rallying point and an inspirational guide for all peoples struggling for independence, quality and human dignity. The Ten Principles enunciated by the Conference have kindled a spirit of solidarity and common purpose among the peoples of newly independent States and those still fighting for their freedom, which found its full expression in the establishment of the non-aligned movement in 1961.

285. Meeting in this thirtieth anniversary year of the African-Asian Conference, they welcomed the Declaration issued during the commemoration of the anniversary held at Bandung last April. In this connection they reiterated their deep conviction in the continuing validity of the Ten Principles and the need to continue to promote the spirit of Bandung by strengthening the unity and solidarity among the peoples of the developing countries all over the world within the framework of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

XXXIII. TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION ON
THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

286. The Ministers recalled that 1985 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in resolution 1514 (XV). They lauded the commendable role played by the United Nations since its inception in the field of decolonization, particularly after the adoption of the Declaration. They recalled also in this context, the major role of the non-aligned movement in the struggle against colonialism, as also the fact that the newly independent countries in recent decades, apart from bringing the United Nations closer to its goal of universality, have almost invariably opted to join the Movement.

287. The Ministers welcomed the progress achieved in the implementation of resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970 and 35/118 of 11 December 1980, which contain, respectively, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the programme of action and the Plan of Action for the Full Application of the Declaration.

288. The Ministers stressed the gravity of continued colonialist exploitation of dependent territories and noted that despite the existence of the aforementioned resolutions, Namibia, New Caledonia, Puerto Rico, the Malvinas, Micronesia and other territories continue under colonial domination; they demanded immediate implementation in these cases of resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant United Nations resolutions.

289. They reiterated their conviction that the struggle for national independence is a legitimate means for the eradication of colonialism, in all its forms and manifestations, and alien domination, and urged all States to intensify their material, moral, political and diplomatic support for the National Liberation Movements that are struggling to achieve self-determination and independence, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and other international forums, in particular, General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV).

290. The Ministers reaffirmed that the existence of colonialism, in all its forms and manifestations, including apartheid and zionism and alien domination as well as the colonial wars which tend to repress the National Liberation Movements, is incompatible with the norms of contemporary international law and poses a serious threat to international peace and security.

291. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with and recognition of the Special Committee on Decolonization for its major contribution to the effective and comprehensive application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

New Caledonia

292. The Ministers recognized that the Pacific is a region of the world which contains many of the remaining non-self-governing territories and they reaffirm the right of all peoples, regardless of the size of their populations or of their territories, to determine their own destinies free from any form of foreign interference.

293. In this context, the Ministers expressed their support for self-determination and the early transition to an independent New Caledonia in accordance with the rights and aspirations of the indigenous people, and in a manner which guarantees the rights and interests of all its inhabitants.

294. The Ministers also took note of the existing dialogue between the Administering Power and New Caledonia's people, and commended both parties for their stated desire for a speedy and peaceful solution.

XXXIV. NEW INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION ORDER

295. The Ministers welcomed the sincere co-operation among the non-aligned and other developing countries and the progress recorded in favour of the freedom and development of national mass media. They emphasized that co-operation in the field of information is integrally linked to the struggle of the non-aligned and other developing countries for the establishment of new and just international relations, in general, and the new international information and communication order, in particular, based on the free and balanced flow of information. They requested all non-aligned countries to continue making efforts in this direction, using their own means and on the basis of the principles of solidarity and mutually advantageous co-operation.

296. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress recorded in the programme of action for the decolonization of information and in countering tendentious reporting and mass media campaigns against non-aligned countries and national liberation movements.

297. The Ministers reiterated that the decolonization of information was an essential factor in the struggle of the non-aligned countries to establish a new international information and communication order; they agreed that diversification of the sources of information and elimination of impediments and inequality in the international flow of information would considerably facilitate the promotion of dialogue and international understanding.

298. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the General Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries, meeting in Jakarta from 26 to 30 January 1984, was held in the spirit of the decisions of the Seventh Summit and that it reflected the continuity of the development of co-operation of the non-aligned countries in the field of information adopted by the Conference and noted that it represented a confirmation of the past activities and a broad basis for initiating and introducing new forms of co-operation.

299. They expressed their appreciation for the report submitted by the Minister of Information of the Republic of Indonesia, the Chairman of Inter-Governmental Council (IGC) on Information and Communication of Non-Aligned Countries as well as its activities in implementing the decisions of the General Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries. They underlined that the Conference encouraged the activities of non-aligned countries towards promoting the free and balanced flow of information in which the significant role is played by the pool of news agencies of non-aligned countries. The Ministers pointed to the need for reviving co-operation among broadcasting organizations and other information institutions and organizations in non-aligned countries.

300. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the results achieved in the Conference of Ministers of Information and Communication, held in Cairo in May 1984, in regard to the reduction of the telecommunication tariffs, by 50 per cent in 11 countries where Distribution Centres of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries have been established, as well as a similar reduction in the exchange tariffs for television programmes rebroadcast by satellite.

301. The Ministers pointed to the need for all non-aligned countries to engage themselves in the preparation of the forthcoming General Conference of the Ministers for Information of the Non-Aligned Countries to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, and to contribute by their active participation.

302. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the work of broadcasting organizations of non-aligned countries. They reiterated the need to hold a meeting of the radio broadcasting organizations of the non-aligned countries in order to draft a programme of measures on problems in this sphere.

303. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that during the ten years of its work the pool of news agencies of non-aligned countries had become an important factor in the exchange of information among non-aligned countries. The Ministers supported the linking of existing communication systems into a unified telecommunications network of non-aligned countries. The Ministers endorsed the decision of the tenth meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee of the pool of news agencies of non-aligned countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 6 March 1985. They also supported the decision to convene the next meeting at Havana, in March 1986.

304. The Ministers congratulated the Pan African News Agency (PANA) for its valuable contribution to the struggle against misinformation and in favour of decolonization and restructuring of information, with the objective of establishing the new international information order, based on peaceful and just relations, and encouraged PANA to continue working in this direction.

305. The Ministers also noted with satisfaction the fruitful development of co-operation between the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and UNESCO, particularly in the spheres of information, education, science and culture, and congratulated UNESCO for its systematic activities and efforts undertaken in favour of the establishment of the new international information and communication order. They reaffirmed their support for UNESCO, its Director-General and its activities. The Ministers also expressed their sincere congratulations to UNESCO for its efforts made to lower the telecommunications tariffs, paid by developing countries.

306. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the co-operation extended by UNESCO to non-aligned countries, particularly with respect to its co-operation in the studies on information and communication problems, including those relating to the attainment of a much more balanced flow of information between the developing and developed countries. The Ministers noted with deep concern the recent moves by certain countries to weaken UNESCO. They urged all States to take all the necessary steps in order to strengthen the role of UNESCO.

307. The Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen co-ordination with the United Nations system, with a view to applying the principles of the new international information and communication order and agreed to support the Department of Public Information so that it could increase printed and audio-visual information, enhance public awareness of the issues of interest to non-aligned countries and to ensure a more coherent coverage of and a better knowledge in areas which have priority, such as international peace and security, disarmament, peace keeping and peace making operations, decolonization, Palestine, Namibia, the promotion of human rights, the right of people to self-determination, apartheid and racial discrimination, economic and social development issues, the integration of women in the struggle for peace and development, the establishment of the new international economic order and the new international information order. They commended with deep appreciation the positive role played by the United Nations and UNESCO in fostering co-operation among the non-aligned countries in this sphere.

308. The Ministers condemned the use of radio as an instrument of hostile propaganda by one State against another, be it a member of the Non-Aligned Movement or not, because it is an act that is contrary to the fundamental principles of the Movement, the New International Information and Communication Order, and because it is a violation of international rules and standards in the field of radio broadcasting as provided for by the United Nations Charter and international law. They also demanded the immediate cessation of all hostile broadcasts aimed at non-aligned countries.

309. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Non-Aligned Documentation Centre in Sri Lanka in accordance with relevant decisions taken at the Non-Aligned Summit and other meetings. They called upon all the member countries to forward to the Non-Aligned Documentation Centre complete sets of authenticated documents in all non-aligned working languages, wherever available, of future non-aligned meetings which they may host in their respective countries in order to fulfil the mandate given to the Non-Aligned Documentation Centre as the repository of documents relating to the conferences and meetings of the non-aligned movement.

XXXV. TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOVEMENT OF
NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

310. The Ministers noted that 1986 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, at the first Summit Conference, held at Belgrade in September 1961. They emphasized that this occasion is of particular importance for the Non-Aligned Countries and that it should be observed in a substantive and solemn manner, in order to promote and foster the ideals, original principles and goals of the policy and of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

XXXVI. THE EIGHTH SUMMIT

311. In accordance with the mandate of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government at New Delhi, the Ministers decided that the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries would be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in 1986.

312. The Conference took note of the offers made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to host the Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries to be held after the Eighth Summit Conference at Harare and recommended them for consideration by the Eighth Summit Conference.

LUANDA SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE ON SOUTH AFRICA

1. The meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement takes place at a time of momentous development in apartheid South Africa. Oppression has reached the point where it has forced all segments of the oppressed to resist tyranny. Internal uprising, the inevitable consequence of the repression and oppression of the apartheid régime, has intensified. The countdown to the collapse of apartheid has started in earnest.
2. Notwithstanding the show of force of the apartheid régime, notwithstanding the imposition of a State of Emergency, notwithstanding the daily brutal murder by the police and the army of scores of defenceless peoples, resistance to apartheid continues. In a united mass action, the workers, peasants, youth, students, clergy and women as well as children have continued to show their determination to make every sacrifice to regain their human dignity and their inalienable right to self-determination. In the process the South African racist régime is in panic, and in its desperation it has become increasingly ruthless and brutal.
3. As a result of the prevailing political upheaval, tremendous pressure on the apartheid economy has ensued and the confidence in the economy is being increasingly eroded. Consequently the South African economy is in the throes of collapse. This belies the thesis relentlessly advanced by the allies and apologists of the apartheid régime that economic sanctions could not bring down the régime to its knees.
4. The Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers salute and congratulate the oppressed black people of South Africa for the unprecedented courageous action which they embarked upon. They pledged their unflinching support to them in their determined struggle for their emancipation. They call upon the international community to assume its responsibility and urgently provide moral, political and material support to the oppressed people of South Africa. To this end the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers renewed their call to the Security Council to urgently impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.
5. The Ministers call on the principal trading partners of South Africa - Western Europe, Japan and the United States - to co-operate and assist the process of genuine change which may still be achieved without mass bloodshed.
6. The Ministers paid tribute to the growing anti-apartheid movement in Western Europe, North America and Australasia, for their intensified campaign against apartheid.
7. Noting that the South African régime continues to hold Namibia in bondage, the Foreign Ministers expressed their indignation at the perpetuation of this illegality. They called on the United Nations to assume its responsibility and to enable the people of Namibia to realize their inalienable right to self-determination and independence on the basis of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their determination to continue to provide material support to the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO),

the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia in the struggle to liberate Namibia from South Africa's illegal occupation.

8. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their solidarity with Angola and other African States that have been victims of South Africa's brutal aggression. Military incursions and occupation of parts of the territory of Angola by South Africa are a clear manifestation of the threat which the apartheid régime poses to international peace and security. The Foreign Ministers demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African troops from occupied Angolan territory.

9. Peace in the region can only be guaranteed by the total abolition of apartheid and the establishment of a non-racial and democratic society in South Africa. To this end the Foreign Ministers dedicated themselves, and call upon the international community to join actively in the campaign for that objective.

Appendix

Statement of the Chairman of the Political Committee

The Political Committee took up for consideration the following paragraphs relating to East Timor contained in the draft political declaration:

para. 122: The Ministers noted with concern the existing situation in East Timor recognizing the need to find a peaceful settlement to this problem by means of dialogue.

para. 123: The Ministers appealed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake efforts aimed at achieving a global, durable and stable solution for East Timor in compliance with resolution 37/30, adopted at the thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as all relevant decisions of the Organization.

para. 124: In this respect, the Ministers considered as positive the conversations carried out between Portugal and Indonesia, under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, recognizing the need for the participation of representatives of the people of East Timor in this process, so as to safeguard the interests of all parties directly involved in the conflict.

In the discussions, 25 delegations spoke in favour of deletion of the paragraphs and 13 delegations in favour of their retention.

At the end of the discussions, the Chairman took the view that no consensus could be established for either deletion or retention of the paragraphs.

The Chairman proposes that this statement be reflected in the records.

ANNEX II

Final Economic Declaration

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In their analysis of the evolution of the international economic situation, the Ministers stressed the soundness and continued validity of the assessment made by the Seventh Summit Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in 1983 in New Delhi and noted that the world economic situation had not improved since then, characterized by a further widening of the gap between the developing and the developed countries as a continuing source of instability threatening world peace and security. They emphasized that the world economic situation reflected underlying structural maladjustments and a fundamental disequilibrium in the world economy.

2. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the lack of progress on the realistic proposals put forward by the Seventh Summit for stimulating the dialogue between developed and developing countries in areas of mutual concern and benefit. The continuing retreat from multilateralism and erosion of the multilateral economic institutions, as well as the impasse in negotiations between developed and developing countries in the essential areas of international economic relations reflected a lack of political will on the part of some developed countries to tackle effectively the problems of the world economy through means which recognize the reality of interdependence and which adopt an integrated approach to the increasingly interrelated issues of money, finance, debt and trade.

3. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the crisis in the world economy and its devastating consequences for the economies of developing countries. They emphasized that it was not possible to sustain economic recovery even in the developed countries without reactivating the economies of developing countries including an improvement in their purchasing power and thereby their import capabilities and by adoption of internationally agreed measures to this effect. The continued existence of unfavourable external conditions for the development of developing countries not only creates insurmountable obstacles to the process of their economic development but also seriously threatens their economic, political and social stability.

4. The Ministers noted that the limited and fragile manifestations of recovery in some developed countries have not improved the development prospects of the developing countries. They also noted the fact that, even in those developed countries there were recent signs of slow-down and faltering of the recovery. They expressed deep concern over the unfavourable external environment related to the volatility of critical economic variables such as the inconsistent macro-economic policies pursued by the largest developed countries, the stagnation or decline in concessional financial flows to developing countries; the sharp reduction in private bank lending; the continued decrease in the prices of raw materials and the terms of trade for developing countries which are constantly deteriorating; the reverse transfer of financial resources from developing countries to the developed; fluctuating exchange rates which have caused not only disruptions in international trade but have also adversely affected export-related investment; protectionism which is still on the rise and is particularly manifested in an increasing number of restrictive measures against exports from developing countries; the increasingly

unbearable debt burden of developing countries aggravated by high interest rates in real terms; and the restrictive processes of adjustments which have compelled the developing countries to restrict imports and reduce investments and consumption.

5. The Ministers reiterated that peace and development were closely interrelated. They reaffirmed that stable global development and viable international order require the halting of the arms race, followed by urgent disarmament measures that will release sorely needed resources for development.

6. The Ministers noted with deep concern the critical economic situation facing the countries of Africa, where per capita incomes continue to decline, with the growth process in many countries having come to a halt, reducing their economies to a subsistence level. The efforts of the international community to assist the concerned African States to overcome their emergency needs are commendable. It is even more important for the international community to continue generously to assist the African States in their efforts to overcome the emergency and to revive the development of their economies including the rehabilitation and restructuring of their severely damaged infrastructure for growth.

7. The Ministers reiterated the urgency of the restructuring and reform of the international economic system through the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

II. WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

8. The Ministers observed that the increasing structural imbalances and inequalities of the international economic system had resulted in adverse consequences for the world economy and, in particular, for the developing countries. The period since the Seventh Summit has also witnessed a sharp deterioration in the level of international economic co-operation.

9. The Ministers reiterated that it would not be possible to achieve a sustained long-term recovery if the international community did not adopt concerted measures aimed at reactivating the world economy and in particular the economies of developing countries.

10. Macro-economic policies pursued by the developed countries continued to be inconsistent, unco-ordinated, and not supportive of the requirements of growth and structural adjustments in the world economy and the development process in developing countries. There was an increasing tendency of some developed countries to adopt inward looking policies to solve their domestic problems at the expense of international economic co-operation and in particular the economies of developing countries.

11. This trend has been accompanied by a serious and continuing erosion of the spirit of multilateralism and of the multilateral economic system. This was a matter of deep concern. Some developed countries had adopted policies and practices which ran counter to the agreed goals and objectives of multilateral economic co-operation as expressed in the International Development Strategy for

the Third United Nations Development Decade. In a world economic system where issues in different fields were increasingly interrelated, the inadequacy and malfunctioning of international monetary and financial systems inevitably had adverse consequences in the trade field. These developments had constituted a contributory factor in the recent increasing resort to restrictive, discriminatory and protectionist measures and had proved a constraint to the expansion of world trade. The continuing infringement of the existing principles, rules and regulations of the international trading system, as well as the use of trade measures for politically coercive ends, the increasing resort by developed countries to bilateralism or selective multilateralism and restrictions on imports from developing countries and the renewed attempts to apply concepts such as reciprocity, graduation and differentiation had been eroding the multilateral system.

12. The Ministers observed with great concern that the actual rate of growth of the majority of developing countries, particularly the African countries, continued to be extremely low - in many cases negative - during the first half of the Third United Nations Development Decade, in contrast with the 7 per cent growth rate projected for in the International Development Strategy. In this and other regions the incipient recovery was not reflected in per capita indicators, because economic growth was below population growth.

13. The Ministers stressed that the situation of most countries in Africa was desperate because they had to face, along with the repercussions of the economic crisis, the devastating effects of a prolonged drought. The critical economic situations confronting African countries which they themselves have taken urgent measures to address, demands the immediate adoption of corrective measures, a fact that must be borne in mind at all future multilateral negotiations.

14. The Ministers recognized that the external debt problems of developing countries were the manifestation of the malfunctioning of the international economic system. They expressed profound concern over the effects of the debt problems which had now assumed serious international political dimension. They also noted that the developing countries have been specially affected in their economic and social spheres by the enormous burden of servicing their growing foreign debt, exacerbated by the restrictive adjustment process imposed by the international financial and credit institutions, as well as the lack of access to financial markets and stagnation in official development assistance. These problems are threatening the very stability of many developing countries.

15. The Ministers expressed concern over the decline of the flows of financial resources to developing countries in recent years, resulting in some cases in a reverse flow of net financial resources including commercial flows, in the stagnation of ODA at less than half the rate targeted in the International Development Strategy, and the decline in financial assistance from multilateral institutions, inter alia, the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). At the same time conditionality of financial and technical assistance has hardened. All this has had particularly acute effects on the least developed countries.

16. The Ministers once again strongly condemned the use of economic measures by some developed countries as a means of exerting economic and political coercion against the member countries of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries, in violation of their sovereign rights and decisions. They urged those countries to abstain from implementing or threatening to implement trade restrictions, blockades, embargos, sanctions or any other coercive measures, threats or use of force incompatible with the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. They stressed the need for the international community to put an end to such practices.

17. Regarding the elimination of hunger and malnutrition, the Ministers recognized that the situation has further deteriorated in many developing countries, particularly in Africa, and that in the course of the last two years - since the holding of the New Delhi Summit Conference - the measures adopted for ensuring food supply have been inadequate.

18. With respect to the food and agricultural situation in many developing countries, and in the African countries in particular, the Ministers expressed their deep concern in view of its constant deterioration. They noted that desertification and drought continued to be among the major factors that tend to worsen the difficulties faced by these countries in the struggle to eliminate hunger and malnutrition.

19. The Ministers were firmly of the view that the international economic system had become more interdependent than ever before. This made it imperative for the resumption of the dialogue on the basis of equality, justice and mutual benefit between developed and developing countries, so that timely solutions could be found for problems of mutual concern. The Ministers called upon the developed countries to demonstrate the necessary will to join in a co-operative process aimed at tackling the immediate and structural problems facing the world economy and to promote the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

20. In this regard, the Ministers emphasized that international economic relations should be based on the full participation of all countries, in order that they be conducted on a just and equitable basis.

21. The Ministers noted the willingness of some developed countries to participate constructively in and contribute to international co-operation for development.

22. The Ministers reaffirmed the strong commitment of their Governments to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as their full support to the United Nations and its central role as a unique forum for negotiations and international economic co-operation. They expressed their deep concern at the rapid erosion of the principles and norms governing the United Nations system and at the increasing attempts by some major economic powers to replace concerted actions of a universal scope with bilateral and sectoral unco-ordinated approaches and thus undermine multilateralism. In this regard, they also expressed their determination to resist all such attempts and to continue working towards strengthening the democratization of the decision-making procedures in the multilateral forums.

III. NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

23. The Ministers reaffirmed the full validity and continuing relevance of the principles and objectives contained in General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) on the establishment of a New International Economic Order. They reiterated the importance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order by the implementation of which a more just and equitable international economic system would come to be established guaranteeing sustained growth of the global economy and in particular the economies of the developing countries.

24. The Ministers reaffirmed the full validity of the principles and postulates contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and stressed that it continued to be an essential element in the New International Economic Order. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the lack of progress in the Special Committee which met in New York in 1985 to renew the implementation of the provisions of the Charter, particularly, over the attitude of some developed countries who did not participate in the work of the Committee. The Ministers commended the constructive attitude of the Group of 77 and urged all States to comply with the principles and provisions of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

25. Upon reviewing the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) the Ministers noted with concern that 11 years after adoption, there had been no significant progress in their implementation. The economic situation of developing countries had increasingly worsened as a direct result of the persistent world economic crisis. They noted that despite numerous international conferences held in recent years, attempts by the developing countries to establish just and equitable international economic relations had repeatedly come up against intransigent positions of some developed countries. The results of these conferences may have been insignificant and have failed to make any contribution to the solution of the pressing problems of the developing countries. The positions adopted by the developed countries at these conferences were closely linked to their attempts to erode multilateralism and undermine the entire system of international co-operation for development.

26. It was in this context that the Seventh Summit Conference made several important and realistic proposals to stimulate the process of international economic negotiation towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order. The major proposals included launching of global negotiations in two phases, a Programme of Immediate Measures in areas of critical importance to developing countries, including an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development for a comprehensive reform of the existing inequitable and outdated international monetary and financial system.

27. The Ministers expressed their concern that the majority of the developed countries have failed to co-operate in the adoption of necessary measures for the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade as an important input for the achievement of the objectives of the New International Economic Order.

28. The Ministers expressed their firm conviction that global negotiations proposed by the Sixth Summit remained the most important and comprehensive endeavour of the international community for the restructuring of international economic relations, the accelerated development of the economies of the developing countries and the strengthening of multilateral economic co-operation. They expressed deep concern at the lack of progress towards the launching of global negotiations in spite of the constructive and flexible attitude displayed consistently by the developing countries. They underlined the urgent need for the launching of global negotiations in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/138. The Ministers called for an early assessment by the Group of 77 in New York of the further efforts necessary to reactivate the negotiations to implement the two-phase approach, with a view to achieving the launching of global negotiations without further delay.

29. The Ministers recalled that the Final Document of the Seventh Summit Conference stated that it was useless for any country or group of countries to attempt to find solutions to contemporary international economic problems in isolation, and reaffirmed the full validity of this position. In this regard, they reiterated that the management of the world economy and the promotion of development should be based on effective international economic co-operation that will facilitate the adoption of congruent policies that support the development process, and on implementation of international rules and principles consistent with the rights and obligations of States in the management of international economic relations. The Ministers also reiterated that the problems of the developed countries should not be solved at the expense of the developing countries as such actions are detrimental to the world economy and to international economic co-operation. The Ministers considered that the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations provided a valuable opportunity for a reaffirmation by the international community of the goals and objectives of international economic co-operation and strengthening of the multilateral economic system.

30. They also stressed that negotiations between developed and developing countries aimed at solving problems relating to the implementation of the New International Economic Order should be universal in nature and be held within the framework of the United Nations system.

31. The Seventh Summit Conference considered that the solution of the immediate problems of developing countries brooks no delay. It called for a Programme of Immediate Measures in the areas of monetary and financial issues and transfer of resources, trade and raw materials, commodities, energy and food and agriculture. The Summit expressed the conviction that the adoption of the measures specified in this Programme would facilitate the accelerated development of developing countries, strengthen multilateral economic co-operation, reactivate the world economy and bring immediate relief to the developing countries. The Ministers expressed regret that, despite resolutions adopted at the United Nations, there had been virtually no progress towards the implementation of the Programme. They called for renewed efforts on an urgent basis on the part of the international community, and the developed countries in particular, to pursue these measures and implement the Programme.

32. The Ministers recalled the proposal of the Seventh Summit on convening an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development. They emphasized that in view of the persisting deficiencies and shortcomings in the existing monetary and financial system, it was necessary to carry out a fundamental reform of the system which can be achieved through the convening of an international conference. The Ministers expressed appreciation for the efforts of the late Prime Minister of India in her capacity as Chairperson of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in convening a high-level Group of Experts to examine the substantive and procedural aspects of the proposed conference. They further expressed appreciation of the efforts of the Group in the preparation of an important report which clarifies the issues and provides important inputs for future discussions on the substantive issues for the early convening of the international conference. The Inter-Governmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs, has also made important recommendations on substantive and procedural issues concerning the functioning and improvement of the international monetary and financial system. Developed countries have also undertaken a study on some monetary and financial issues to consider improvements. Consultations have taken place in several forums on these issues. The Ministers stressed that efforts for effective co-ordination between the developed and the developing countries should be undertaken at the fortieth session of the General Assembly to achieve a convergence of views in this important area. In this context they called for a high-level process of consultations between developed and developing countries as a matter of priority. This would facilitate the commencement of preparatory work with a view to an early convening of the international conference.

IV. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

33. The Ministers reaffirmed the validity of the goals and objectives of the Strategy as set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/36 of 5 December 1980 and stressed that the process of review and appraisal, as an integral part of the International Development Strategy, should, in the context of an overall review of the international economic situation, identify the factors responsible for the shortfalls, and in the light of such analysis and conclusions, should readjust and strengthen policy measures for the attainment of the goals and objectives set out therein.

34. The Ministers noted with regret that the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade even after five years of its adoption has remained largely unfulfilled. They called for the urgent and full implementation of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy. In this context, they emphasized the special responsibility of the developed countries in view of the predominant position they enjoy in the world economy.

35. The Ministers expressed deep regret at the inconclusive outcome of the work of the Committee on the Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, established by the General Assembly as a consequence of the inflexible attitude assumed by some developed countries. They urged developed countries to fulfil their commitments in regard to the Strategy, including an early completion of a meaningful mid-term review and appraisal.

V. STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS

36. The international community has a common interest in and a joint responsibility for stimulating the process of international economic negotiations.

37. The Ministers considered that in the present unfavourable world economic situation and in view of its adverse impact particularly on the developing countries, the revival of negotiations between the developed and the developing countries within the framework of the United Nations and other international institutions is urgent and indispensable.

38. Taking into account the global and increasingly interdependent character of international economic and development problems, the developed countries should join the non-aligned and other developing countries in seeking solutions to these problems which would be in their mutual interest. Negotiations between developed and developing countries, particularly on the interrelated questions of money, finance, debts, transfer of resources, trade and development including the special problems of the least developed countries, merit the most immediate attention and they should be addressed without delay.

39. The Ministers considered that the forthcoming gathering of Heads of State or Government on the occasion of the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations could provide a favourable opportunity to provide the necessary political impetus and direction for a renewed dialogue between the developed and developing countries.

VI. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL ISSUES AND TRANSFER OF RESOURCES

40. The area of money and finance is undoubtedly one of the most important for improved and expanded international co-operation. Many of the economic problems facing developing countries result from the financial constraints which they suffer. This underlines the need for restructuring the monetary and financial system, so that it can assist developing countries effectively as they adjust to the difficult balance-of-payments problems facing them and provide adequate transfers of resources to the developing countries to finance development.

41. The Ministers expressed concern at the structural deficiencies of the international monetary and financial system and noted that the system had not responded to the scale required for world economic recovery and for regaining the pace of development in developing countries, as the result, inter alia, of short-sighted and inward-looking policies by certain developed countries that have drastically reduced international financial liquidity; worsened the problems of balance of payments and foreign debts of developing countries, and have placed a disproportionate burden of adjustment on them, with a serious negative impact on their development.

42. The monetary and financial policies being followed by some developed countries have marked a significant and extensive departure from international commitments. They also emphasized the inability of the relevant international institutions to

impose the discipline of surveillance and corrective measures essential for the achievement of an international economic system based on equity and justice. The deep-rooted structural inadequacies require an international framework for co-operation designed to promote a balanced world economic growth. In this regard, the Ministers stressed the necessity of providing an appropriate level of participation of the developing countries in the decision-making processes of the multilateral financial institutions.

43. The Ministers noted with concern that the continued decline in ODA which in 1981 amounted only to 0.35 per cent, only half of the international development strategy target of 0.7 per cent of the gross national product (GNP) of developed countries, in spite of the recommendation made that those countries which had not yet reached the target, should exert their best efforts to reach it by 1985, and in any case not later than the second half of the Third United Nations Development Decade. The Ministers recalled that the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted in 1981, also included the commitment of the developed countries that, in the coming years, 0.15 per cent of their GNP would be provided as ODA within the framework of a general increase of ODA flows to all developed countries.

44. The Ministers stressed, in the context of the need for a general increase in the level of ODA and in order to meet the most pressing problems and the deteriorating situation of the least developed countries and developing countries in other special categories where the development needs and problems are greatest that the flow be directed towards those countries.

45. The Ministers urged all developed countries to take the necessary steps for the implementation of the provisions of the International Development Strategy and the Substantial New Programme of Action concerning ODA for the least developed countries and that the transfer of resources to the developing countries should be placed on an increasingly assured, continuous and predictable basis.

46. The Ministers appealed to all developed countries to adjust and improve the terms and conditions of their ODA. Moreover, the current overall rate of ODA concessionality should be further increased. ODA to the least developed countries should be in the form of grants and at high concessionality to the other developed countries. The ODA should be united.

47. The Ministers expressed their concern at the difficulties being confronted by IDA and stressed the importance of ensuring supplementary funding for the seventh replenishment of IDA so as to enable it to increase its lending in real terms to traditional borrowers and take into account the need to provide adequate financing to new borrowers. They emphasized that the failure to achieve this would have serious consequences for the development prospects of the poorer developing countries. They regretted that the attitude of some donors had forced the Bank management to reduce its target for IDA-VII from the required \$US 20 billion to \$12 billion with a further worsening of the position of a replenishment of only \$9 billion. The Ministers further emphasized the need for substantial and real increase in the level of funding for the eighth replenishment of IDA.

48. The Ministers also called for an increase in World Bank lending at the level of 6 per cent a year in real terms. Towards this end, they emphasized the urgency of increasing the capital resources of the Bank through a General Capital Increase and called for urgent study of the ways and means of increasing the gearing ratio of Bank to 2:1. They regretted the decline in the World Bank lending programme in 1984. They emphasized that the lending policy of the World Bank be made more supportive of the development process of developing countries. They also emphasized the need for increased lending by the World Bank in the energy sector as well as a substantial increase in resources for the World Bank's special programme for sub-Saharan Africa. The Ministers stressed that co-financing should result in net additionality of resources on favourable terms and conditions and should not be a pre-condition for World Bank lending. They also emphasized that the structural adjustment loans should reduce the burden of the adjustment process and be supportive of the development efforts of developing countries. The financing of export related investment should be further expanded.

49. The Ministers called for substantive strengthening of existing regional development banks as well as interregional banks to enable them particularly to provide additional concessional resources on an assured, continuous and predictable basis. Such additional resources should be at the expense of the World Bank's national programme and indicative allocation of funds made directly to individual countries.

50. The Ministers reiterated the urgent need to expand the availability of multilateral financing to developing countries. They underlined that the majority of developing countries required larger concessional finance to meet their development needs.

51. They also noted the important role of private financial flows for the developing countries while expressing concern over its substantial decline which should be stopped and reversed. They were of the view that private flows could not be a substitute for official flows. Access of developing countries to private financial markets should be improved. The Ministers considered that private direct investment could play an effective role in improving growth and development in developing countries. The international community should conclude effective Codes of Conduct on transfer of technology and transnational corporations.

52. The Ministers attached the highest importance to making the international adjustment process symmetrical and equitable. This would greatly enhance the effectiveness of the adjustment process with a view to promoting economic growth, development and trade expansion consistent with price stability. This would require, *inter alia*, a stable and realistic exchange rate régime and a macro-economic policy co-ordination supported by effective surveillance.

53. Special attention is required for the adjustment needs of developing countries with particular emphasis on growth and supply-oriented structural adjustments. Formulation of domestic policies of major industrialized countries should take into account their international economic repercussions. The Ministers called for a multilateral forum of macro-economic policy co-ordination, particularly of the policies of major developed countries, in which developing countries could fully

participate. Such co-ordination should ensure maintenance of a stable and realistic exchange rate, mutually consistent fiscal and monetary policies, encouragement of financial flows from developed to developing countries, complementary trade policies to ensure stand-still and sell back protectionism in developing countries, to promote a sustainable non-inflationary balanced growth of the world economy. Effective multilateral surveillance would be necessary to ensure implementation of such co-ordinated policies and help remove the asymmetry in the present system in which only deficit developing countries are subjected to discipline.

54. The Ministers considered that a properly functioning exchange régime has an important role in promoting a more efficient adjustment process and reducing payment imbalances. They called for urgent steps for a stable, realistic and flexible exchange rate structure towards this end. They recommended consideration and study of target zones supported by official intervention and reinforced by macro-economic policy co-ordination and multilateral surveillance.

55. The Ministers stressed that the effective functioning of the international economic system required that international liquidity grow at rates commensurate with the international liquidity needs and that the benefits of liquidity creation should be shared equitably between developed and developing countries. This was specially important in view of the acute liquidity shortage in recent years, specially in developing countries.

56. The Ministers reaffirmed the objective of developing special drawing rights (SDRs) as a principal reserve asset of the international monetary systems and called for urgent action to reverse the erosion of the position of the SDRs in the recent years. They called for annual SDR allocations of at least \$US 15 billion and the importance of maintaining the unconditional nature of SDRs. They reiterated the call for the establishment of a link between SDR allocations and development finance. The Ministers recommended that the international monetary system ought to provide for automaticity in the augmentation of the IMF resources commensurate with the increase in the volume of world trade and the requirements of all countries. They urged that the ratio of International Monetary Fund (IMF) quotas to international trade be restored at least to the level of 10 per cent which existed up to the early 1970s. The IMF resources should be primarily quota based. They urged that the ninth general review of quotas be carried out at an early date with substantial increase in funding quotas over and above the level of the eighth review. The access of developing countries to the fund resources required to be enhanced for orderly adjustments in developing countries.

57. The Ministers urged the IMF to take account of the structural nature of the adjustment process in its lending policies. In this regard the IMF must achieve a better balance between conditional and unconditional resources.

Conditionality should include supply side oriented adjustment over a much longer period than that allowed by the demand management policies thus taking into account the current world economic situation and its adverse effect on the developing countries. The period of adjustment should be lengthened to enable necessary structural adjustments in developing countries. Adjustment programmes

should take into account the causes of the imbalances and be designed to ensure adjustment consistent with sustained growth of output domestic consumption, investment and exports. The special problems of the least developed countries should be treated with greater flexibility. The Ministers called for an early review of the IMF conditionality, its resources and adjustment programmes. They deplored the decision to reduce the extent of access in terms of multiple of quotas and called for its recommendation.

58. The Ministers emphasized the importance of compensatory financing and called for the strengthening of the Compensatory Financing Facility on low conditionality. They similarly called for greater flexibility in the use of the Buffer Stock Financing Facility. They recommended that a part of gold stocks available with the IMF should be mobilized to provide resources for adjustment and balance-of-payment financing both directly and through the revival of the Trust Fund. A subsidy account could also be financed from proceeds of gold sales.

59. The Ministers noted with concern the growing pressures by certain developed countries on the multilateral institutions, especially the World Bank, and IMF, to adopt a politically motivated approach to conditionality and in the granting of loans which would be inconsistent with the requirements of development and structural adjustment. They warned against simplistic prescriptions for economic problems based on particular ideological approaches which do not recognize the diversity of economic and social systems.

60. They also noted that while there was a role for commercial borrowing, there should be no tendency to substitute commercial borrowing for multilateral flows or to make multilateral flows contingent upon co-financing.

61. The Ministers expressed the view that the system of weighted voting which gives the developed countries an overwhelming role in the Bretton Wood Institutions needs to be adapted to the changing circumstances and requirements of the day. Voting share of developing countries in these institutions should be raised substantially in the context of the ninth general review of IMF quotas and the next capital increase of the World Bank. Procedures should be considered for introducing greater equity in the decision-making of the multilateral financial institutions.

62. The Ministers emphasized the strong interrelationship between issues of money, finance, debt, trade and development and in this context called on the international community to evolve ways to ensure consistency between the trading environment on the one hand and the monetary and financial system on the other. The international trading system should be made more open, transparent and non-discriminatory, giving due emphasis to the special requirements of the developing countries. The ability of developing countries to expand their exports and trade was linked to their ability to maintain payments of their financial obligations, the adaptable provision of financial resources to developing countries would enable developed countries to expand their markets in the developing countries.

63. In the above context the Ministers underlined the need for comprehensive review and reform of the international monetary and financial system and related issues, as piecemeal or ad hoc efforts would not prove adequate. The proposal of the Seventh Summit for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development therefore acquires urgency with a view to evolving a system which provides appropriate development finance and facilitates an effective and equitable adjustment process of the shortcomings and deficiencies of the existing systems, as a whole as well as the structure of the concerned international financial institutions and their policies, could also be considered at such a conference. This would contribute substantially to the renewal of multilateral issues and to adapt the monetary and financial system to respond to the needs of the 1980s and beyond. The Ministers stressed that such a conference should be convened early and called for an appropriate and intensive dialogue between developed and developing countries at a high political level to enable a preparatory process for the convening of the Conference to be started during the fortieth session of the General Assembly.

64. In this regard the Ministers called on the Group of 77 in New York to take the necessary steps to initiate the preparatory process of the Conference.

VII. FOREIGN DEBT

65. The Ministers expressed their profound concern over the crushing foreign debt burden of developing countries. This had to be viewed in its global context in terms of its negative impact on the development of developing countries.

66. The Ministers emphasized that developing countries external debt problem has become more acute as a result of the adverse impact of economic policies pursued by some of the major developed countries and the resulting negative changes in the financial monetary and trading system which have made unbearable the burden of debt servicing.

67. They recognized that the external debt is an obligation individually contracted by debtors and which shall be honoured. However, under present circumstances the financial obligations undertaken by developing countries with creditors from developed countries and multilateral financial institutions have become unbearable; furthermore, unless urgent, just and durable solutions are found by the international community, these obligations may become for some of them beyond the capacities of their economies.

68. The Ministers stressed that debtor developing countries have undertaken strenuous adjustment efforts in response to their external environment. The consequential adjustment process is having strong social and political effects for them including a serious decline in their standard of living and a deterioration in their social fabric.

69. They noted that the heavy burden of foreign debt was no longer merely an economic problem but had assumed serious political dimensions.

70. The Ministers stressed that the present policy of the International Monetary Fund on the solution of the problems of debts are asymmetrical and should take more account of the development prospects of developing countries.

71. The Ministers urged the Governments of creditor developed countries and international finance and banking institutions to engage with developing countries in a political dialogue in order to find an equitable and durable solution to the foreign debt problem of developing countries addressing: inter alia, the following:

(a) Co-responsibility among the Governments of creditor and debtor countries and international finance and banking institutions;

(b) Equity and equality among developed and developing countries in the distribution of the costs of the economic adjustment process, reinitiation of financing for development and lower interest rates, significantly improved access to markets, stand-still and roll back of protectionism and stabilization of commodity markets and fair and remunerative prices;

(c) Limiting debt service payments of exports earnings to a percentage which would be compatible with the development needs and with the economic and social requirements of each country;

(d) Stretching out of payment, grace and consolidation periods;

(e) Easing the IMF conditionality;

(f) Special treatment to the poorer and least developed countries in the solution of their serious external debt problems.

72. The Ministers noted that progress in the full implementation of the Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) had been inadequate and called for its urgent implementation.

73. The Ministers called on the Group of 77 in New York, that while co-ordinating their efforts, for the initiation of the preparatory process for the convening of the International Conference on Money and Finance for Development, to also address inter alia the above-mentioned issues.

VIII. TRADE AND RAW MATERIALS

74. The Ministers noted that the economic crisis which has especially affected the developing countries was characterized by factors severely adverse to their participation in international trade. This had affected their foreign exchange earning capacity and the implementation of their economic and social development programmes.

75. The Ministers noted with deep concern the continuing infringement by developed countries of the existing principles, rules and regulations of the international trading system as well as the proliferation of trading arrangements outside of and

inconsistent with GATT and increasing resort by developed countries to bilateralization and sectoralization to restrict imports from developing countries. Developed countries had not implemented their commitments on "standstill" and "roll back of protectionism undertaken in the GATT ministerial meeting in 1982, UNCTAD VI and in other forums, as well as their commitment towards gradual liberalization of trade. On the contrary, new measures leading to the intensification of protectionism were applied discriminatorily against the developing countries especially in areas where these countries had demonstrated their competitiveness and made large-scale investments. There was increasing use by the developed countries of anti-dumping measures and countervailing duty action against developing countries as well as the use of export subsidies resulting in harassment and distortions to trade, and safeguard measures without full transparency. They also noted the use of dumping practices by some developed countries on the international market which creates still further difficulties for developing countries.

76. The Ministers emphasized the importance of expansion of trade of the developing countries for the world economy as a whole, including the economies of the developed countries. As developing countries absorbed 30 per cent of total exports of the developed marketing countries their ability to continue this level of imports depends particularly on their ability to accelerate their development and exports to the industrialized countries. Increased access of the exports of developing countries was therefore essential to improve their balance-of-payments position and enable them to increase imports and service their external debts.

77. The Ministers also stressed that for the developing countries the terms of trade have either continued to deteriorate or, in the best of cases, the recovery has not reached pre-crisis levels.

78. The Ministers noted with concern the increase in restrictive and discriminatory measures imposed by the developed countries on their trade with the developing countries, and emphasized the need for the following measures:

(a) Substantially increased market access in developed countries for exports from developing countries;

(b) Careful review of the rules and principles governing the present trading system, and the opposition of all new concepts, norms and principles incompatible with the needs and aspirations of the developing countries;

(c) Improvement of developing countries' export capacity for manufactured and semi-manufactured goods through the granting of financial facilities, expansion of market accessibility, elimination of protectionist measures including subsidies on uncompetitive products which adversely affect the trade prospects of the developing countries, as well as the practices of the transnational corporations;

(d) Adoption of immediate measures for the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers for products of interest to developing countries including tropical and agricultural products;

(e) Maintenance of the generalized and non-discriminatory nature of the Generalized System of Preferences, improving its functioning and extending the coverage of the existing schemes to all developing countries;

(f) Elimination of the practice of graduation including customs tariffs according to the level of processing;

(g) Safeguard measures should not be applied by developed countries without prior consultation and should be temporary and non-discriminatory;

(h) Elimination of all measures which adversely affect the trade prospects of the developing countries and are incompatible with the internationally recognized commitments assumed by the developed countries or have adverse effects on these prospects, avoiding the application of economic measures as a means of political coercion.

79. The Ministers recalled the Co-ordinating Bureau's communiqué, adopted on 7 May 1985, in which it heard "a report by the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua, H.E. Mr. Javier Chamorro Mora, with regard to the measures of economic coercion recently adopted by the United States Government against the Government and people of Nicaragua, including a total trade embargo and the suspension of air and sea transportation between the two countries." They also recalled their "strong condemnation of the use of economic measures as a means of exerting political and economic coercion against non-aligned countries in violation of their sovereign rights and decisions." "In this regard, the Bureau strongly condemned the embargo and other coercive economic measures recently adopted against Nicaragua."

80. The Ministers recognized that the world trade in commodities is characterized basically by market instability, excessive and constant price fluctuations, mainly downwards, and the inadequate participation of developing countries in the distribution and marketing networks for these products. The Ministers noted with concern the decline of the real value of commodities during the 1980s. The prices suffered marked fluctuations reaching in 1980 their lowest levels in real value since the 1930s. At the same time they called attention to the fact that the decline in export revenues was taking place at a time when the developing countries were facing a very severe monetary and financial crisis, associated with the enormous amounts they must pay for servicing their foreign debt.

81. The Ministers reiterated their firm support for the Integrated Programme for Commodities as contained in UNCTAD resolution 93 (IV). In this regard, they called for the conclusion of further international commodity agreements and the ratification of the agreement establishing the Common Fund Commodities, so as to make it operational as early as possible.

82. The Ministers reaffirmed the urgent need for IMF to ensure a substantial expansion and liberalization of the Buffer Stock Financing Facility so as to grant the developing countries a rapid, full and automatic compensation of their deficit without the imposition of conditions. They also called for the establishment of a globalized STABEX scheme with the view to stabilizing commodity export earnings of developing countries.

83. The Ministers also recognized the importance of producer's associations as one of the means for improving the negotiating power of developing countries to effectively secure fair and remunerative prices for their exports as well as increase their export earnings. They stressed that the adoption of firm and concerted measures by producer's associations, the strengthening of these associations and the establishment of new ones should be a decisive contribution towards this end.

84. The Ministers took note of the forthcoming meeting of GATT contracting parties, called by some developed countries to consider the possible convening of a new Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. In this connection they called upon the non-aligned and other developing countries to hold consultations in order to co-ordinate their positions.

IX. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

85. The Ministers noted with grave concern the deteriorating situation of food and agriculture in many developing countries and reaffirmed the imperative need to keep food and agriculture issues at the centre of global attention. They reaffirmed that international action to deal with food and agriculture problems in developing countries should be considered in a comprehensive manner in their different dimensions and in their immediate, short-term and long-term perspectives. They emphasized the commitment of the international community to early eradication of hunger and malnutrition, at the latest by the year 2000. In this context, they called for sustained and effective international support to the attainment of self-sufficiency in food production in developing countries. They noted with concern stagnation in the commitment of external resources for the agricultural sector, particularly the decline in concessional flows and urged the developed countries to take determined action to reverse this trend by, *inter alia*, increasing their contributions to the multilateral agencies and by taking immediate measures to reverse the negative flow of financial resources from developing countries to the developed countries. They proposed adoption of a special international programme of food aid and financial assistance to relieve the chronically food deficit developing countries, particularly those in Africa.

86. The Ministers reaffirmed that the right to food is a universal human right which should be guaranteed to all peoples and that food should not be used as an instrument of political pressure. They also reaffirmed that the strengthening of international co-operation in food and agriculture are important for improved economic conditions and enhanced food security. In this context they emphasized the need for timely delivery of food to those requiring it, especially in African and least developed countries and the need to assist recipient countries in developing and strengthening their logistical and administrative capacities as well as internal distribution systems. They welcomed the increased activity and proposed the strengthening of the global information and early warning system in food and agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and emphasized the importance of establishing and improving national and regional early warning systems for the measures undertaken by the World Food Programme to ensure speedy and timely delivery of food aid as well as the

development of an information system for dissemination on a regular basis of all relevant information on food aid to facilitate planning and operational co-ordination.

87. The Ministers stressed the need for strengthening subregional, regional and interregional co-operation for the promotion of food security and the development of agriculture in developing countries and in this context called upon the relevant entities of the United Nations system to accord priority support to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in food and agriculture.

88. The Ministers reiterated their deep concern regarding the food and agriculture situation faced by many developing countries, particularly the deterioration of the situation in Africa due to the prolonged drought and the acceleration of the process of desertification. They reiterated their support for the Declaration of Harare on the food crisis in Africa, adopted during the thirtieth FAO regional Conference for Africa, as well as the relevant United Nations resolutions of 1983 and 1984 and requested the international community to contribute to their immediate and effective implementation, taking into account the Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, adopted at Monrovia, and the Action Programme for the Economic Development of Africa adopted at Lagos. On this basis, the Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Special Programme of Action to improve the food situation and recovery of agriculture in Africa adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-first ordinary session.

X. FISHERIES

89. The Ministers welcomed the holding of the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development held at Rome in 1984 and emphasized that the adoption of the Action Programme and the Fisheries Management and Development Strategy constitute important measures for the economic development and welfare of all peoples. They urged the international community to provide the support required for the effective implementation of the Action Programme and to make an effective contribution to full realization of these initiatives.

90. The Ministers urged the international community to provide full support to the implementation of the Action Programme and to make improvements of technology and technical and scientific training of national personnel in the areas of fisheries production, maintenance, processing, distribution and marketing.

91. Noting with concern that many developing countries are frequently victims of violation of their maritime borders and plundering of their marine resources, with detriment to their economies, the Ministers appealed to the international community as a whole, and in particular to the developed countries, to respect the sovereignty of the developing countries over the marine.

XI. ENERGY

92. The Ministers recalled that General Assembly resolution 36/193 of 1981, which adopted the Nairobi Programme of Action for the appraisal and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy, constitutes a contribution to the International Development Strategy of the Third United Nations Development Decade and reiterated that energy plays an important role in the economic and social development of the developing countries.

93. The Ministers also recalled General Assembly resolution 37/250 of 1982, which called for the immediate implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action and expressed their deep concern in view of the fact that the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy has not achieved the objectives for which it was established in conformity with section II of the aforementioned resolution.

94. The Ministers underlined the concern expressed by the Heads of State or Government at the New Delhi Summit Conference regarding the need for the adequate availability of energy for the developing countries in order to accelerate their socio-economic development without prejudice to the national interest and the standing commitment of the energy exporting developing countries.

95. The Ministers emphasized the seriousness of the balance-of-payments which many energy-deficient developing countries face. They urged the early adoption of immediate and effective measures to overcome those problems, inter alia, through the International Monetary Fund, and the establishment of appropriate global arrangements. In this connection, the Heads of State or Government took note with great appreciation of the efforts of the member States of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the assistance provided by the OPEC Fund for International Development in alleviating balance-of-payments problems. They underlined the importance of promoting collective self-reliance among developing countries in the field of energy by way of appropriate bilateral subregional, regional and interregional arrangements among them.

96. The Ministers reaffirmed General Assembly resolution 39/176 dealing with measures for the development of energy resources of energy deficient developing countries.

97. With respect to financial resources, the Ministers of the non-aligned countries noted that the level of energy lending by the international financial institutions to the developing countries is still inadequate and does not allow for the realization of support activities in the appraisal of energy resources and pre-investments in national, subregional, and regional projects and programmes, particularly in the energy-deficient developing countries.

98. The Ministers underlined the importance of co-operation in the sphere of energy among the non-aligned and other developing countries for furthering the expansion of collective self-reliance, and urged them to strengthen technical and economic co-operation programmes by means of exchange of information on research, development and technical assistance activities, in addition to the indispensable actions that must be undertaken by the international community.

XII. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

99. The Ministers underscored the importance of strengthening the scientific and technological capabilities of the non-aligned and other developing countries as an important means for promoting their development. The implementation of the recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna in 1979, have regrettably been slow and inadequate, and demand concrete actions in order to achieve positive and meaningful results in forthcoming multilateral negotiations.

100. The Ministers took note of the resolution adopted at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, which maintains in force the agreement adopted by the Vienna Conference on the establishment of the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. They noted with concern that efforts have not been successful so far for bringing into effect the long-term financial arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. They urged all countries, particularly the developed countries, to finalize promptly the financial arrangements to enable the launching of the System. Till such time, they expressed the hope that the interim financing system, which has done useful work within its serious financial constraints could continue functioning on a surer basis.

101. The Ministers expressed serious concern over the adverse effects of the exodus of skilled personnel from the non-aligned countries and other developing countries to developed countries. They also consider that this issue should be studied in all its aspects in order to urgently adopt remedial measures in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

102. In spite of the fact that the deliberations in the meeting of the interim Committee of the United Nations Conference on the International Code of Conduct on Transfer of Technology had led to some narrowing of differences. The Ministers deplored the protracted negotiations that had not resulted in the finalization of the Code. They renewed their appeal to the developed countries to demonstrate the necessary political will to achieve the conclusion of that Code and the revision of the Paris Convention on Industrial Property.

103. The Ministers paid special attention to the development of technologies adapted to the conditions and specific needs of the developing countries. They reaffirmed the developing countries' right to have extended access to technological know-how and deplore the restrictive and monopolistic practices in this field by the developed countries.

XIII. INDUSTRIALIZATION

104. The Ministers observed with great concern the lack of significant progress attained since 1980 in the realization of the objectives set by the Second and Third General Conferences of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), held at Lima in 1975, and at New Delhi in 1980, respectively. They also took note that the relative share of the developing countries in world industrial

production had undergone no substantial evolution in the last nine years since it amounted to 10 per cent in 1975 and by 1984 it had only reached 11.9 per cent, which means that the third world is still far from reaching - by the year 2000 - the target of 25 per cent in world trade in manufactures.

105. The Ministers noted that the encouraging prospects which 10 years ago pointed to industry as the dynamic instrument for national development had not been realized. They observed that industrialization of the developing countries faces a crisis due to, among other factors, inflation, recession, decline of commodity prices, protectionism, negative growth rates in many developing countries, as well as the current debt crisis which threatens the financial system as a whole and compromises the results achieved by the developing countries in the sphere of industrialization.

106. The Ministers emphasized the urgent need to adopt certain short- and long-term measures, both nationally and internationally, in order to revitalize the industrialization process of the developing countries, primarily:

(a) Strengthening of the activities related to feasibility studies for industrial redeployment;

(b) Provision of assistance to developing countries in the formulation of their programmes;

(c) Expansion and diversification of industrial co-operation among developing countries through promoting the interchange of information and of human, scientific, technical, energy and financial resources, and, at the same time increasing investments;

(d) Establishment of an information exchange system on industrial redeployment and related policies;

(e) Substantial increase of the financial and technical assistance of the developed countries in order to support the industrialization efforts of the developing countries, and the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers which hinder imports of agro-industrial products proceeding from the developing countries;

(f) Intensification of UNIDO's action aimed at accelerating the assessment of human resources for industrialization, insisting on the training and upgrading of national cadre;

(g) Where considered necessary and desirable re-evaluation of industrialization strategies and implementation of measures which encourage entrepreneurship in all its different ways.

107. In this context, the Ministers took note that financing and technology are the two areas on which the process of industrialization of the developing countries depends, for the achievement of co-operation between developed and developing countries was essential. They emphasized that, on one hand, financing determines the degree of utilization of existing infrastructure as well as the volume and

scale of industrial investments, while, on the other, technology has a profound influence on the type of investment. Both aspects have an influence on supply, demand and utilization of many productive factors - energy production, local transformation of raw materials, assessment of human resources - and determine the progress recorded in the field of redeployment of world industry in favour of the developing countries.

108. The Ministers expressed the urgent need for the full implementation of resolution ID/CONF.15/Res.4, adopted at the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, held at Vienna, August 1984, relative to the in situ transformation of raw materials, so as to break the vicious circle in which the developing countries find themselves, namely, that in spite of having a relatively important share of all world raw materials, they are forced to sell these at low prices and later import at exorbitant prices processed goods made from those raw materials.

109. The Ministers expressed their full support for the positions of the Group of 77 at the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, held at Vienna in 1984, with respect to the request for a series of changes in the forms of financing and mobilization of financial resources for industrialization and redeployment of world industry.

110. Furthermore they urged the developed countries to pursue appropriate positive adjustments, policies and measures that facilitate world industrial restructuring; their policies should be set to avoid a negative effect on the industrial development of developing countries.

111. The Ministers emphasized the urgent need for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/33 concerning the Industrial Development Decade in Africa and called on UNIDO to substantially increase its contribution to the Decade.

112. The Ministers called on all the developing countries and multilateral financial institutions, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Fund for Industrial Development, taking into account the financial needs of the project targeted for application as part of the Decade's programme.

113. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the last General Conference of UNIDO held at Vienna from 12 to 17 August 1985, completing the transformation of the organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations. They emphasized the importance of the role to be played by UNIDO as a specialized agency in the industrial development of the developing countries and in the implementation of the Lima and New Delhi declarations and plans of action. They urged all members of UNIDO to make a common endeavour to strengthen the new agency to enable it to implement programmes with greater vigour in all areas of UNIDO's mandate and urged the international community to increase and intensify its technical and financial assistance to the developing countries, particularly to African and least developed countries. The Ministers particularly called on all concerned, and particularly the developed countries and multilateral financial institutions, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund.

XIV. TRANSPORT

114. The Ministers considered that among the efforts to be undertaken by the international community for the establishment of the New International Economic Order, special attention must be given to transport, owing to the role that this important sector must play not only in the socio-economic integration of the developing countries at the national level, but also in the development of international economic relations. The Ministers recalled General Assembly resolution 35/56, in particular paragraphs 128 to 133, and reiterated the urgent need to adopt measures to ensure its full implementation.

115. The Ministers noted that, in effect, the weakness of the transport infrastructure still constitutes an obstacle to the economic and social development of the non-aligned and other developing countries, since the necessary measures have not been adopted at the national and international levels to promote the development of the different transport systems and their participation in the international transport of goods. They recommended to the international community that in order to overcome this situation, efforts must continue to be made in order to achieve adequate structural changes.

116. Regarding motor vehicle and railroad transportation, considered as important sections in the material infrastructure of the non-aligned and other developing countries, the Meeting recommended to all member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement and to all developing countries, to render special attention to the realization of their national socio-economic programmes regarding the construction of roads capable of facilitating communication between the urban and rural zones, in addition to the expansion of the railway networks in order to back the socio-economic integration efforts at the national, subregional and regional levels. For a better utilization of the existing infrastructure, special attention must be given to the training of national cadres by means of professional training courses in the field of equipment maintenance.

117. The Ministers noted that in the sector of maritime transport the developing countries will not be able, in general, to develop their merchant fleets adequately in order to reach the 20 per cent participation in world tonnage fixed for the Third United Nations Development Decade. They expressed their support for resolution 144 (VI) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the sphere of maritime transport.

118. Regarding air transport, the Ministers took note of the lack of progress achieved in the first half of the Third United Nations Decade for Development. They also noted that with respect to the African region, air transport is still far from satisfying the region's needs, due to the critical economic situation which the continent faces. On the other hand, they considered that the non-aligned and other developing countries must urgently intensify their efforts aimed at better co-ordination and mutual co-operation as well as better utilization of human resources.

119. The Ministers emphasized that given the current situation, the international community must render the necessary support to the non-aligned and other developing

countries in order to increase their potential in facilities, equipment and related infrastructure in the transport sector, which would be a valuable contribution to world economic recovery.

120. The Ministers expressed their support for the Programme of the Second Phase (1984-1988) of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communication, held at Conakry in 1984, and also reiterated their support for General Assembly resolution 39/30.

121. The Ministers reiterated their support for the concern expressed by the Heads of State or Government during the Seventh Summit Conference regarding the level of financial and technical assistance mobilized so far by the international community for the realization of the programmes of the United Nations Transport and Communication Decade in Africa. While taking note of the effort already made, they called on the international community, and in particular the developing countries, to contribute financially, technically and materially to the implementation of the objectives of the Second Phase of the Programme.

122. The Ministers recalled General Assembly resolution 39/227 concerning the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific (1985-1994) and urged the developed countries international organizations to contribute to and provide assistance for the effective implementation of the regional action programme for the Decade.

XV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

123. The Ministers recognized the importance of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) conferences, particularly those dealing with high frequency broadcasting and space services and directed all the non-aligned and other developing countries to co-operate closely among themselves and with other developing countries with a view to evolving well-harmonized and co-ordinated approaches to the issues at these conferences so as to achieve long-term benefits for all developing countries.

124. The Ministers called upon the international community, and in particular the developed countries, to render financial and technical assistance to all developing countries, especially the African countries, in order to overcome the problems which they face regarding the expansion of their telecommunication networks. They also called again on the international community, and in particular all the developed countries, to make a more significant contribution so that the African countries can successfully implement their Programme for the Second Phase of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa adopted by the African Ministers of Transport and Communications in 1984, and expressed their support for General Assembly resolution 38/150 of 1983 and 39/230 of 1984.

XVI. HEALTH

125. The Ministers emphasized the need for full implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the Programme of Action in the field of health as well as in the documents adopted on the basis of this programme and recommendations adopted at the meetings of ministers of health of non-aligned and other developing countries, and invited the co-ordinators to take practical steps in this regard.

126. Taking into account the goals and objectives of "Health for all by the year 2000", the Ministers emphasized the importance of primary health care in national policies and of gearing those policies to those goals and objectives. In this connection, they reaffirmed that in order to achieve fruitful co-operation among non-aligned and other developing countries, measures must be taken at the national level such as the establishment of adequate information systems and planning departments; to sensitize those responsible to set up inter-sectoral policies in order to understand the concepts of primary care and strategy management, so as to achieve full participation of all sectors of the governmental agencies, as well as the establishment and maintenance of a two-way communications system for the exchange of information between health technicians and health managers.

127. The Ministers also emphasized that participation in the periodic meetings of ministers of health and experts of the non-aligned and other developing countries, particularly during the World Health Assembly, may be utilized to evaluate the progress made by non-aligned countries towards the goal of health for all by the year 2000 and to continue to co-ordinate their positions at the General Conferences of the World Health Organization.

XVII. SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES

128. The Ministers reaffirmed the paramount importance of consolidating the political independence of the non-aligned and other developing countries through economic emancipation. They also stressed that, in order to fulfill its historic mission, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries will continue to promote and safeguard the political and economic independence of the developing countries and peoples, including their inalienable right to exercise permanent, total and full sovereignty and control over their natural and other resources and over all their economic activities.

129. The Ministers noted with concern that some developed countries and their transnational corporations sometimes resorted to economic coercion, pressure and blackmail undermining the sovereignty and fundamental right of the developing countries to pursue their own independent economic policies and programmes.

130. In this context, they reaffirmed their firm support for the Palestinian and Namibian people regarding their inalienable right to exercise full sovereignty over their natural resources, illegally plundered and exploited by the Zionist régime of Israel and the racist South African régime, respectively. All States, international organizations, specialized agencies, investment corporations and all

Other institutions are urged not to recognize or co-operate with, or assist in any manner, measures undertaken to exploit Palestinian and Namibian resources.

131. The Ministers condemned the practices and policies of some countries that directly or indirectly participate in the plundering and exploitation of the natural and other resources of the peoples still under colonial domination or foreign occupation, upholding the status quo and denying these peoples the release of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. In this context, they called upon all States and peoples to work collectively and individually to adopt concrete and effective measures aimed at ending immediately this situation.

XVIII. LAW OF THE SEA

132. The Ministers welcomed the signing of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea at Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 10 December 1982, and noted with satisfaction the increasing number of States that have ratified the Convention. They emphasized that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea has established a new, just and equitable legal order for the use of the seas and oceans as an instrument of peace, development and international co-operation among all countries and peoples.

133. The Ministers recalled that the United Nations General Assembly considered, in conformity with the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea and related resolutions, that the resources of the international area of sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof to be the common heritage of mankind, that the Convention established the International Sea Bed Authority as the sole competent body to administer that area and its resources for the benefit of mankind as a whole. In this context, the Ministers also emphasized that no unilateral action by any State or group of States through a mini-convention or a parallel régime, inconsistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, would have any validity.

134. The Ministers expressed deep concern at the license issued by the Administration to the Consulting Ocean Mining Agency (COMP) for exploration in a part of the international sea-bed area of the Pacific Ocean and rejected it as illegal under the Law of the Sea Convention and its resolutions.

135. They condemned any attempt at undermining that Convention and declared that the exploitation of the area and the exploitation of its resources can only be lawfully carried out pursuant to the provisions of the international régime established by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

136. The Ministers strongly condemned and repudiated the "Provisional Agreement on Matters concerning the Great Ocean Deep" signed by Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on 3 August 1984, which aims at usurping the common heritage of mankind, and considered this agreement nullius in terra, and cannot serve to create legitimate rights since it is

incompatible with contemporary international law, in general, and with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in particular.

137. The Ministers appealed to all States to expedite the process of ratification of the Convention so as to enable it to enter into force as soon as possible, and noted with satisfaction the work of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, in order to establish the competent bodies to administer the resources of the sea-bed and ocean floor for the benefit of all mankind, in accordance with the Convention and resolutions adopted in the final session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

138. On stressing the importance of the appraisal of marine, scientific and technological infrastructures of developing countries for the realization of the benefits of the law of the sea for all countries, and in particular for developing countries, the Ministers reaffirmed the urgent need for the development and expansion of appropriate capabilities, particularly in marine science and technology, by means of the establishment and strengthening of regional and national marine and scientific and technical centres.

139. The Ministers called upon all countries and competent international organizations to assist the establishment and strengthening of such centres to allow for the full functioning of the mechanisms set up in conformity with the Convention.

XIX. TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

140. The Ministers reviewed the operations of transnational corporations, particularly in the non-aligned and other developing countries.

141. They expressed grave concern with respect to transnational corporations which carry out illegal and undesirable policies and engage in corrupt practices in developing countries, and when their motivation to maximize profits leads to distortion in the economies of those countries. They condemned the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa which strengthen the oppressive machinery of the apartheid régime of that country.

142. They expressed their conviction that the establishment of a code of conduct regulating the activities of transnational corporations, with a view to maximizing their benefits to the development process of non-aligned and other developing countries and eliminating their negative effects, is an indispensable element for setting up just and equitable relations between countries and peoples, within the context of the establishment of the new international economic order. They also reaffirmed the urgent need for an early conclusion of the code, and called upon all countries to accelerate negotiations on the formulation of a code. In particular, they urged the developed countries to show sufficient flexibility and political will to formulate the code without delay.

XX. DESERTIFICATION AND AID TO VICTIMS OF THE DROUGHT

143. The Ministers noted that the rapid encroachment of the desert in Africa and the constant drought in other parts of the developing world affects the development efforts of several countries and the socio-economic conditions of their peoples, particularly their food production, and economic activity, in many cases, has become a desperate struggle for survival.

144. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the critical food situation that current climate difficulties have brought upon various regions in the world, especially the countries affected by the drought in Africa where the situation is constantly deteriorating and leaving millions of people suffering famine and threatened with death from starvation.

145. In this regard, the Ministers appealed to the international community, and especially to the developed countries, to supply emergency food aid to the countries affected by the drought - especially in Africa - and to supply that aid without conditions to all the countries that need it irrespective of their social or economic system.

146. Bearing in mind that economic interdependence among all countries applies also to the economies of the countries that are victims of desertification and drought, and that the realization of the objectives of the struggle against desertification and drought requires human, technical and financial resources that are beyond the means of the affected countries, the Ministers considered that the efforts undertaken by these countries should have the multifarious support of the international community, especially from all developed countries, in order to help the countries of the affected regions that suffer serious social and economic burdens with emergency and development programmes as outlined by the Conference on the situation in Africa, held at Geneva in March 1985.

147. The Ministers stressed that aid supplied by the international community to the countries affected by drought and desertification should not be aimed exclusively at solving the emergency problem in the short-term, but rather at helping the affected countries themselves to solve their medium-term and long-term development and undertake stable and sustained economic development through continued financial, material and technical assistance.

148. In this connection, the Ministers noted with satisfaction the results obtained in formulating a concerted policy in the struggle against drought and desertification by the countries members of the Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (ICDCS), the Western African Economic Community, the Maghreb countries, as well as Egypt and the Sudan, during a conference held at Dakar from 18 to 25 July 1984. The Ministers expressed their unconditional support for the final resolution adopted at this Conference.

149. The Ministers made an appeal to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) to intensify its aid to the countries members of ICDCS, in view of the continued geophysical degradation and the increasing deficit in foodstuffs. They also urged UNSO to broaden its scope of action to other regions affected by desertification.

150. The Ministers also welcomed the inscription in 1984 - for the first time - of the item entitled "Countries stricken by desertification and drought" on the agenda of the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly. They considered that this inscription is the starting point for acquiring a greater awareness and to achieve a much more firm political commitment, in order to adopt the necessary measures demanded by the present situation. In this regard, the Ministers launched an appeal for the mobilization of the international community for the intensification of the struggle against drought and desertification by the implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/208 on countries stricken by desertification and drought.

151. The Ministers welcomed the establishment during the twentieth OAU Ordinary Meeting of Heads of State or Government of the Special Fund for urgent assistance in favour of African countries affected by drought and hunger and appealed to the international community, the developed countries and the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to contribute to this Fund without reservations.

152. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the East African subregion countries of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda have successfully held two ministerial meetings in the Republic of Djibouti in February and May 1985, in pursuance of United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/205 with a view to establishing an intergovernmental authority on drought and development (IGADD) to combat serious effects of drought and natural disasters. The Ministers expressed full support to the efforts of those countries and urged the international community to provide them with maximum financial and technical resources to implement programmes designed to combat the serious effects of drought and desertification and to promote development in a concerted and dynamic manner.

XXI. ENVIRONMENT

153. The Ministers noted with concern that, in the absence of timely remedial measures, there is a distinct possibility of exponential worsening and irreversible destruction of the global environment.

154. The Ministers stressed the vital importance of environmental conservation for development and, in order to prevent the irreversible destruction of the environment, they emphasized the urgent need for ecologically balanced and rational development planning, the pooling of information on resource-conserving technologies, conservation and assessment of the ecological resources of the environment.

155. They welcomed the measures adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in respect of the preparation of the World Environment Programme to the Year 2000 and, in this respect, they suggested that the non-aligned and other developing countries should co-ordinate their contribution to the preparation of the World Environment Programme to the Year 2000.

156. The Ministers expressed their support for the resolutions adopted by the United Nations to protect the environment and urged all States to adhere to the

different international judicial instruments related to environmental protection so as to ensure their comprehensive application.

157. The Ministers affirmed their full support for United Nations General Assembly resolutions 37/215, 38/162 and 39/167 concerning the problems of remnants by war in the territories of the developing countries. They appealed to all States responsible for such remnants to co-operate with the Secretary-General and with the specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations, in order to support the just demand of the States affected by the presence of remnants of war, particularly mines and the toxic effects of chemical substances whose persistence in their territories causes serious damage to their development efforts.

XXII. SITUATION OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA

158. The Ministers expressed their grave concern with respect to the large number of refugees and displaced persons in Africa, and are cognizant of the economic and social burden imposed on African countries of asylum whose weak economies suffer the negative effects of this situation.

159. In this context, the Ministers welcomed the holding of the second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, in 1984, with the objective of finding durable solutions to the problems of the refugees. They urged the international community, all States, the United Nations and specialized agencies to provide the necessary co-operation for the implementation of the projects adopted on assistance to refugees in Africa, and also emphasized the important role played by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in this field.

160. They urged all countries to assist in relief and rehabilitation of all African refugees and returnees.

161. The Ministers were also deeply concerned at the magnitude and the plight of displaced persons in Africa, and urged the international community, all Member States of the United Nations, its organs, organizations and specialized agencies to provide the utmost assistance to those countries that have such problems.

162. On the other hand, the Ministers noted that the policy of military aggression and economic destabilization of the States and peoples of southern Africa, undertaken by the South African racist régime, is in defiance of the international community and the member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement, represents one of the major factors for the increasing number of refugees and displaced persons in that part of the African continent. They expressed their solidarity with the measures taken at the twenty-first ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State or Government of OAU with a view to granting financial and material assistance to the southern African States and to the national liberation movements to enable them to face those acts of destabilization.

XXIII. CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA

163. The Ministers expressed serious concern about the constant deterioration of African economies, hard hit by the profound world economic recession because of the vulnerability of the continent caused by well-known geographical, historical, climatic and environmental factors, in addition to an unprecedented deterioration in the terms of trade for African countries.

164. Africa, despite its vast potential, is still the least advanced continent and all the economic indicators put it far behind all the other developing regions. The economic balance sheet of many African countries shows a fall in per capita income and stationary or negative growth rates. Furthermore, food production has not kept up with population growth and has even decreased in most cases; and many African countries are threatened by the spectre of widespread famine.

165. The Ministers, like the OAU Heads of State or Government, recognize that the development of the African continent is the prime responsibility of the African Governments and peoples, who have taken and continue to take painful measures of readjustment which are not without their political and social consequences. The Ministers also recognized that, according to all the projections, recovery, growth and development prospects are still extremely remote, unless the present efforts made by African countries are fully supported by the international community.

166. The Ministers therefore welcomed the United Nations General Assembly Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa, annexed to resolution 39/29, and particularly the Declaration and the priority programme for the improvement of the food situation and the rehabilitation of agriculture in Africa, adopted by the twenty-first Assembly of Heads of State or Government of OAU, held at Addis Ababa from 18 to 20 July 1985.

167. They stressed that the international community, while continuing to address the African emergency, should give greater focus to supporting the medium-term and long-term development actions without which no lasting solutions to the emergency situation can be found.

168. But in view of the magnitude of the crisis and the scale of the means to be used to overcome the food crisis and, above all, to prevent a repetition of such a situation by tackling the underlying causes of the economic crisis in Africa, they unreservedly supported the call made by the twenty-first OAU Summit Meeting for the holding of a special meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, at ministerial level, to examine issues related to the current critical economic situation in Africa. Such a meeting would be an opportunity to raise all the economic problems of Africa and, through an integrated approach, to mobilize the international community with a view to an adequate effort to contribute to Africa's economic recovery.

169. The Ministers have also expressed their deep concern over the spectacular increase in the volume of the African debt and in the debt-servicing to the point that the African States are obligated to draw on the meagre hard currency resources they have at their disposal.

170. The Ministers are aware of the fact that certain deficiencies in development policies have contributed to the current crisis; but they reaffirmed that, undeniably, the problem of the foreign debt is essentially due to external factors over which the African countries have no control, factors whose accumulated consequences have resulted in the paradoxical situation whereby Africa, the least developed continent, incapable of completely solving the most elementary development needs, finds itself the net contributor of financial resources to the developed countries.

171. Since the principle of rescheduling which, up to now, has constituted the only possibility, has had unsatisfactory results in its present form, the Ministers have undertaken the search for a more efficient remedy. To this end, they have agreed to mobilize all their energies for a joint action that could evolve around the following point:

- (a) Demand the total or partial conversion into grants of the debts incurred in the context of public aid for development, especially in implementing paragraph 17 of the Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa, annexed to United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/29;
- (b) Extend the periods of repayment and deferred amortization;
- (c) Obtain from the developed countries supplementary financial resources; in this regard, the efforts of the World Bank to set up a special aid fund in favour of African countries;
- (d) Take initiative to hold constructive talks with creditors so as to prepare the way for an international meeting on the African countries' foreign debt designed to provide an overall and lasting solution to the problem.

A. Southern Africa

172. The Ministers considered the policies of military and economic destabilization of the racist régime of Pretoria against the countries of southern Africa, urge member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement and the international community to offer financial and material assistance to these States so as to enable them to face the economic consequences of these policies.

173. In reaffirming their support and solidarity to the southern African States and the liberation movements, the Ministers welcomed recent decisions in some developed countries to halt investments in South Africa and to withdraw financial and technical support from that country which is under an oppressive régime. They accordingly appealed to the international community to come to the assistance of the economically disadvantaged countries in southern Africa that are likely to be adversely affected in the wake of a collapse of the economic and financial institutions in South Africa as a result of the imminent upheavals in that country. They also resolved to dispatch immediately a team of experts to southern Africa to assess the needs of the economically disadvantaged countries in the subregion and submit a report to the United Nations through the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

B. Plan of Action of the Movement

174. The Ministers took note with appreciation of the Plan of Action of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to meet the critical economic situation in Africa, which was adopted by the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries on the Question of Namibia, held at New Delhi from 19 to 21 April 1985. They reaffirmed the desire of the Movement as expressed by its Chairman, the Prime Minister of India, that the solidarity and political support of the Movement for the member States from sub-Saharan Africa, be translated into specific and concrete action to assist in the development efforts of the African States themselves.

175. The Ministers also welcomed the contributions made by several member States of the Movement - Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru and Yugoslavia - and noted the efficient and well co-ordinated efforts by India in co-ordinating assistance in overcoming the emergency needs faced by many sub-Saharan African countries.

176. They expressed the hope that member States would continue the efforts at assisting the medium-term and long-term efforts of the African States south of the Sahara to reconstruct and rehabilitate their severely strained economies, in accordance with the overall provisions of the Plan of Action.

XXIV. LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

177. The Ministers expressed grave concern at the deteriorating socio-economic situation of the least developed countries. They noted that because of the structural constraints these countries are least endowed to withstand external shocks. Consequently, their sufferings have been the severest as a result of the global economic recession of the 1980s. The cumulative burden of adverse climatic conditions, natural disasters, continued unremunerative prices of their exportable commodities, coupled with reduced net overall flow of resources in real terms, have made their recovery efforts infinitely more difficult. The debt service obligations now constitute a major hindrance to the development process of these countries. The severity of the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries demands a comprehensive response of the international community aimed at both short-term recovery and long-term development.

178. The Ministers noted with deep concern that the implementation of this Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s, adopted in 1981 in favour of the least developed countries, has been painfully slow. They reaffirmed the full validity of the Substantial New Programme of Action to enable the least developed countries to overcome structural difficulties and to achieve sustained and self-reliant development and, accordingly, stressed the imperative need for full and timely realization of the goals and objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action. In this context, they underlined the special importance of the meeting for mid-term global review for the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action, to be held at Geneva from 30 September to 11 October 1985, and emphasized the particular need for adopting an action-oriented and comprehensive

set of measures aimed at full and effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action. They reaffirmed their full support for the success of the global review and urged all Governments to participate in the exercise at a high political level with this objective in mind.

XXV. LAND-LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

179. The Ministers noted with concern the grave situation of the land-locked developing countries, especially as this relates to transport, communications and infrastructural facilities, and recommended that the appropriate decisions of the non-aligned countries should be implemented urgently in order to ensure their right of free access to and from the sea and freedom of transit as provided for in article 125 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to provide for necessary international assistance to meet their special needs. They recognized that any programme or action in respect of such transit facilities should be undertaken in consultation with and with the approval of the transit country concerned.

XXVI. ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

180. The Ministers recognized the difficult problem faced by island developing countries, in particular those which suffer handicaps due especially to their smallness, remoteness, proneness to natural disasters, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, heavy dependence on a few commodities or services for their foreign exchange earnings, fragility of the environment and heavy financial burdens.

181. The Ministers further recognized that such handicaps inherently constitute major constraints on the development process, particularly in small island economies, often frustrating and inhibiting their effort to effect the structural transformation necessary to attain self-sustaining growth.

182. In this context, the Ministers emphasized that the criteria, terms and conditions governing the flow of bilateral and multilateral financial and technical assistance of island developing countries should be geared to the special needs and problems of each of the countries concerned and that a major proportion of such aid should be made on a grant basis.

183. The Ministers welcomed the decision of the United Nations General Assembly contained in resolution 39/212 which requests the United Nations Secretary-General, in co-operation with the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to explore the possibility of organizing a follow-up meeting of an interregional nature with the participation of representatives of island developing countries and other interested countries. The Ministers expressed their support for the holding of this meeting and proposed that it take place preferably in 1986. They urged all island developing countries member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to work towards making this meeting a success.

184. The Ministers, bearing also in mind the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and in particular paragraphs 148 to 151 of the Strategy, urged the international community, the competent organs of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, as well as the international financial and credit institutions and bilateral donors, to take urgent and effective steps to intensify their efforts to implement fully the specific measures of assistance in favour of island developing countries, as outlined in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, taking into account, inter alia, the geographical factors, traditional island life and institutions, the physical environment, development priorities and the problems of island developing countries in the international economy.

XXVII. THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES

185. The Ministers viewed with great concern the deterioration in the economic and financial position of the most seriously affected countries since the New Delhi Summit. In this connection, the Ministers recalled the reaffirmation by the Heads of State or Government of the relevant paragraphs of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade pertaining to those countries calling for concrete measures in favour of these countries. They urged that the international community proceed to take the necessary decision as envisaged in the International Development Strategy and implement them without further delay.

XXVIII. DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

186. The Ministers expressed deep concern over the growing problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. They shared the view that the drug problem has become a serious global problem which not only has socio-economic consequences, but also grave security implications.

187. The Ministers were concerned that the continued abuse of narcotic drugs and illicit trafficking would endanger and undermine the development of nations. Apart from the deleterious effects on people, particularly the young, drug abuse and illicit trafficking weaken the social fabric of nations, represent direct and indirect economic costs to Governments and entail criminal activities at the national and international levels which could threaten the stability of States.

188. Conscious of the need for urgent, concerted and determined efforts by the international community towards combating the menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, the Ministers welcomed efforts under way in the United Nations system, in some regional organizations as well as other initiatives such as the Quito Declaration adopted by some Latin American countries. They committed their full support for these efforts and also called for the early conclusion of a Convention

against Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Related Activities. In addition, they expressed their support particularly for the proposal made by the United Nations Secretary-General to convene an International Conference on Narcotic Drugs at the ministerial level in 1987. They also urged prompt agreement on specific technical and economic co-operation programmes to assist those countries most affected by drug abuse and the illicit production of and traffic in drugs.

XXIX. ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

189. The Ministers reiterated the importance of economic co-operation among developing countries as a means to promote rational and efficient use of their human, material, financial and technological resources for the collective and individual welfare of the non-aligned and other developing countries. They stressed that economic co-operation among developing countries is an important means for building up their collective self-reliance and for increasing their countervailing power in negotiations with the developed countries. Co-operation among developing countries is also an important instrument for the restructuring of international economic relations and is a key element in the establishment of the new international economic order.

190. Over the years, co-operation among developing countries has acquired considerable momentum. The Ministers welcomed the fact that bilateral, subregional and regional co-operation among developing countries has been considerably strengthened in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Mediterranean. In this context the Ministers noted the most recent example of subregional co-operation in South Asia through the setting up of the South Asian Regional Co-operation (SARC). Economic co-operation among developing countries has been at the forefront of the preoccupations of the Non-Aligned Movement since its first summit. Activities for ECDC have steadily been intensified, the concept of such co-operation being increasingly elaborated and its contents enriched. A series of consultations and meetings has taken place among them.

191. The Ministers emphasized that the need for developing countries to increasingly rely on national and collective self-reliance had increased in view of the negative effects of the current economic crisis on their economies.

192. In spite of the differences in levels of development among the developing countries, the Ministers reaffirmed the complementarities existing in their diversified resources, capabilities and vast markets, which provide vast, actual co-operation potentialities, based on the principle of collective self-reliance contained in resolution 7 of the Sixth Summit Conference and the Declaration on Collective Self-reliance among Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries adopted at the Seventh Summit. They expressed the hope that this potential would be fully utilized for co-operation to mutual benefit by means of the expeditious implementation of the programmes and priorities already defined in various sectors of economic activity, thus reducing the vulnerability of the developing countries in the face of the economic and other pressures exercised by the developed countries.

193. The Ministers expressed their commitment to provide full political support for the implementation of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation, adopted at the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit, as well as the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, adopted by the Group of 77 at Caracas in May 1981, and expressed their conviction that these programmes constitute a sure step towards the practical application of the principle of collective self-reliance and the strengthening of economic complementarities existing among the developing countries.

194. The Ministers noted the assessment made by the Fourth Meeting of the IFCC of the Group of 77, held at Jakarta in August 1985, that greater efforts of developing countries were needed to accelerate the process of implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action. They welcomed the agreement reached at the IFCC meeting on the necessity to reaffirm and strengthen the commitment into action-oriented measures that would regenerate the momentum for the consistent implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action with a full sense of solidarity and realism.

195. The Ministers considered that non-aligned and other developing countries should, in the spirit of solidarity and mutual preferential treatment, take concrete, individual and joint measures towards promoting mutual economic relations and co-operation. They emphasized the need for the next Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 during the fortieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of imparting dynamism and political impetus for adoption of concrete measures to this end.

196. In this context, the Ministers decided to intensify further the magnitude and momentum of economic co-operation among their countries and recommended regular consultations at various levels, from experts to highest level, with a view to adopting and strengthening common positions in the strategy of the struggle for economic development. They invited other developing countries to join them in this task.

XXX. ACTION PROGRAMME FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (NON-ALIGNED)

197. The Ministers reviewed the state of implementation of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation of the Non-Aligned Countries and took note with appreciation of developments in the following areas:

1. Trade

The Ministers expressed satisfaction at the holding of the Ministerial Meeting on GSTP, from 22 to 26 July 1985 at New Delhi, of developing countries, members of the Group of 77. The Ministers welcomed the positive outcome of the Ministerial Meeting of New Delhi, which had provided significant political impetus to negotiations for the establishment of the GSTP, resulted in concrete progress on such specific issues as the fixing of a firm timetable in regard to the finalization of the legal framework to enable the launching of the first round of negotiations in May 1986 and its conclusion not later than 1 May 1987.

The Ministers expressed the hope that the wide interest shown by many developing countries that participated at this meeting would encourage all members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77 that have not yet done so to signify their intention to participate in GSTP negotiations and to furnish as early as possible the needed information on their trade régimes.

They also welcomed the Declaration adopted at the same Ministerial Meeting on the World Trading Environment and its effects on the trade of developing countries, reflecting the common concern of developing countries on the important issues covered therein.

2. Monetary and financial co-operation

The Ministers took note of the report of the Intergovernmental Initiative Group on the South Bank, held in New York from 24 to 28 June 1985, and of the decision of IFCC (IV) that a High-Level Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting be held by the end of June 1986 with a view to continue work on this matter.

3. Insurance

The Ministers stressed that the increase of co-operative activities of non-aligned and other developing countries in the field of insurance and reinsurance allows for the mobilization, creation and redistribution of financial resources and reserves capable of ensuring the normal and balanced realization of their development plans and programmes, and constitutes an important factor in the struggle for the establishment of the new international economic order.

However, they took note that, in spite of the importance given to insurance and reinsurance and the increasing need to undertake actions aimed at establishing co-ordination measures to provide for an intensification of co-operation among developing countries, much is still to be done in this field.

In this context, and recalling the decisions adopted at the New Delhi Summit Conference, the Ministers called for the implementation of the concrete programmes of co-operation recommended by the group of co-ordinator countries in the sphere of insurance and reinsurance for the purpose of preserving foreign exchange and sharing of risks, thus reducing dependency of the developing countries on transitional corporations and strengthening their bargaining capacity vis-à-vis the insurance markets of developed countries.

4. Scientific and technological developments

The Ministers welcomed the finalization of the Statute of the Non-Aligned Centre for Science and Technology at the Plenary Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries, on 15 June 1984, and the adaptation from the Final Act at the Plenipotentiary Conference held in New York on 4 February 1985. They noted that 24 countries had signed the Statute so far and urged all non-aligned countries to become party to the instrument with a view to making the Centre operational as soon as possible.

The Ministers called upon non-aligned and other developing countries to continue their efforts to conclude expeditiously an effective and universal code of conduct for the transfer of technology.

5. Food and agriculture

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that a meeting of Irrigation Experts of Co-ordinators of Non-Aligned Countries for Food and Agriculture was held at Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 16 to 22 June 1984. The meeting, which was attended by the 14 Co-ordinators and 27 other non-aligned countries discussed ways for further promoting technical co-operation among the non-aligned countries with regard to design, construction and management of large, medium- and small-scale irrigation projects as well as considering the possibilities of establishing joint ventures for the production of a complete range of irrigation equipment. They recommended that the co-ordinating countries take measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the above meeting. They welcomed the offer of Morocco to host the third Meeting of Co-ordinators for Food and Agriculture in 1986.

The Ministers took note of the proposal entitled "Non-Aligned Programme of Action for Agriculture and Food Self-Sufficiency", made by Morocco at the Luanda Ministerial Meeting, and requested the Co-ordinating Non-Aligned Countries for Food and Agriculture to consider at its next meeting the feasibility of an appropriate programme for close co-operation among non-aligned and other developing countries in this field in the context, inter alia, of the recommendations already contained in the Non-Aligned Action Plan adopted by the Seventh Summit in this sector.

6. Fisheries

The Ministers considered that improvement of infrastructure, technology, personnel and research facilities available in developing countries could be accelerated considerably by means of mutual co-operation. In this context, they recommended that co-operation among the non-aligned and other developing countries in the sphere of fisheries should be further intensified as the most appropriate means to overcome the difficulties faced by this sector.

The Ministers welcomed the offer made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to host a meeting of experts on agriculture in the near future in compliance with the decision adopted at the First Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries' Co-operation, held at Havana in April 1981.

7. Health

A meeting of the Ministers of Health was convened on 4 May 1983 at Geneva in the context of the meeting of the World Health Assembly.

The Ministers of Health of non-aligned and other developing countries met at Geneva on the eve of the thirty-seventh session of the World Health Assembly. In preparation for this Ministerial Meeting, a Co-ordinating Group meeting was held at Brioni, Yugoslavia, from 26 to 30 March 1984.

The three major items which received attention at these meetings related to reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the Strategy for Health for all by 2000, review of the programme in technical co-operation among developing countries and discussions on the items of the agenda of the World Health Assembly.

The Ninth Meeting of the Co-ordinators of Non-Aligned Countries in the field of health was held at Havana from 23 to 26 March 1985.

The Ninth Meeting of Health Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries was held at Geneva on 8 May 1985 during the thirty-eighth session of the World Health Assembly. The meeting reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the strategies of health for all by the year 2000 and the item of the agenda of the thirty-eighth World Health Assembly.

The Ministers welcomed the results of these meetings, which had contributed to the development of further co-operation in the field of health among non-aligned and developing countries and towards co-ordination of their positions regarding issues relating to international co-operation in the field of health.

8. Employment and human resources development

The Ministers noted that the Meeting of Ministers of Labour of Non-Aligned Countries had met on 14 June 1983 at Geneva. On substantive issues, the Conference adopted a number of recommendations for action on co-operation in the two areas of Vocational Training and Employment and Human Resources Development in the Rural and Informal Sectors. The two other important and substantive resolutions that were adopted related to the non-aligned countries' participation and co-ordination in the ILO meetings, and the follow-up action to the decisions adopted by the two earlier Ministerial Conferences.

The Ministers noted further that the Third Conference of Ministers of Labour of non-aligned and other developing countries was held at Managua from 10 to 12 May 1984. The meeting emphasized the need for an active co-ordinated action by the non-aligned countries in the ILO meetings, especially with regard to the revision of the present mechanism and procedures, and control and implementation of the international norms of work.

The Ministers further noted that a Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned co-ordination in the field of labour was held at Geneva in June 1985 during the ILO session. This meeting reiterated the need for strengthening the mechanisms for co-operation of the non-aligned countries, especially the designation of Liaison Officers for each Committee of the Conference with the purpose of co-ordinating the interests of non-aligned countries.

9. Sports

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the Non-Aligned Movement's International Sports Seminar (NAMISS) on Training of Sports Cadres was held at the Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala (India), from 3 to 14 April 1984. The Meeting was attended by 36 delegates from 21 countries.

The Ministers reiterated the need for the non-aligned and other developing countries to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the field of sports.

They emphasized the usefulness of close co-operation among non-aligned and other developing countries in international sports organizations.

The Ministers invited the co-ordinating countries to meet at an early date in order to formulate a new programme of co-operation in the field of sports and to submit a report on their work at the forthcoming Meeting of Ministers and other Senior Officials in Physical Education and Sports, which will be held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to host the Second Meeting of Ministers and other Senior Officials in Physical Education and Sports in the near future.

10. Research and information systems

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that a general Conference of Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries (COMINAC) was held at Jakarta from 26 to 30 January 1984. Prior to the Conference, a Meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference was also held from 23 to 24 January 1984. The Conference adopted a Declaration which, inter alia, contained an Action Programme on Media Co-operation.

The Ministers welcomed the offer of the Government of India to host the Second Meeting of the Research and Information System of Non-Aligned Countries at New Delhi in November 1985. In this context, they noted the setting up of a National Institute in New Delhi concerned with research and information systems of non-aligned and other developing countries.

The Ministers welcomed the progress made so far on the establishment of a Multisectoral Information Network (MSIN) and noted that as a first step in the implementation of the network, a pilot project has been initiated.

11. Role of women in development

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the Government of India hosted a ministerial-level meeting of non-aligned and other developing countries prior to the World Conference on the Role of Women in Development, at which a co-ordinated position of the non-aligned and other developing countries was established.

In view of the contribution of the International Centre for Public Enterprises to the preparation of the New Delhi Conference, the Ministers called upon the

Centre to continue to study the problems of the integration of women in the process of development and provide expert and institutional co-operation in the operationalization of the programme for the promotion of the status of women in non-aligned and other developing countries, as well as the programme adopted at Nairobi.

The Ministers took note with appreciation of the information provided by the Executive Director of the Association of Trade Organizations (ASTRO) on the establishment and work of the organization. They invited interested State trading organizations of member countries to join the International Association of State Trading Organizations.

12. Peaceful uses of nuclear energy

(a) The Ministers noted the report of the second Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, held from 12 to 14 April 1983 at Havana.

(b) They also noted the continuing efforts of the co-ordinating countries in evolving principles of international co-operation in use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in pursuance of the recommendation of the above report. They also noted the proposal for a feasibility study of various sizes and dimensions of nuclear reactors that could be used in developing countries and the problems of radioactive waste dumped in the sea.

(c) They urged the co-ordinating countries, other members of the non-aligned movement and other concerned developing countries that have not done so to present their possibilities for co-operation in the nuclear sphere by answering the ad hoc committee's questionnaire, which includes the Movement's priorities in areas of co-operation, with a view to strengthening technical co-operation in this sphere.

(d) They requested the co-ordinating countries in this sphere to continue their efforts to carry out the mandate given them at the second Meeting.

13. Telecommunications

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the Technical Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool met at Cairo in March 1984. A joint meeting of the Ministers of Information and Ministers of Telecommunication of the countries hosting the redistribution centres of NANAP was also held at Cairo from 9 to 10 May 1984. This Meeting made substantial progress towards agreement on reduction of telecommunication tariffs by member States to achieve more efficient and shared utilization of telecommunication facilities and network.

The Ministers reiterated their support for the positions assumed by the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government, held at New Delhi, regarding the recommendations adopted by the meeting of Co-ordinating Countries held at Belgrade in the field of telecommunications, and reiterated the invitation extended

to non-aligned and other developing countries to take individual and collective measures for their implementation.

The Ministers expressed their support for the decision adopted at the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit Conference regarding the establishment of a Centre for Co-operation among all non-aligned and other developing countries in the sphere of postal services and telecommunications and appealed to all those countries that have not yet done so to forward their observations on the draft statutes for the aforementioned Centre.

14. Public enterprise

The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the fact that the International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries, Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, has developed into a well organized institution which renders an important contribution to the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries in the areas of industry, technology, culture, trade and finance.

The Ministers called upon those non-aligned and other developing countries that have not yet become members of the Centre to do so.

15. Housing

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the Meeting at the level of Senior Officials of non-aligned co-ordinating countries in the field of housing was held at Colombo from 23 to 25 October 1983. One of the most important agenda items discussed at the Meeting related to formulated strategies for observing the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, designated for 1987. The role of the Non-Aligned Movement and the co-operation among the member countries in the field of shelter was also discussed. The Ministers exhorted the non-aligned and other developing countries to support and join in the specific plans and tasks of co-operation that emerge from the housing objectives proposed by the Group of Co-ordinating Countries on Housing. They reiterated the need to strengthen co-operation with the United Nations Commission for Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), to support and fulfil measures related to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless which will be observed in 1987.

16. Education and culture

The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress made by the first Conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of non-aligned and other developing countries, held at Pyongyang from 24 to 28 September 1983. They welcomed the adoption of the Declaration and Action Programme for Co-operation in the fields of Education and Culture among the non-aligned and other developing countries by the Conference and recommended its early implementation.

They stressed the need to strengthen further the non-aligned countries' co-operation in this sphere and emphasized the importance of taking a co-ordinated position at international meetings and conferences.

They welcomed the decision to hold the second Conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of the non-aligned countries as well as the offer by Cuba to host the Conference in Havana during the first half of 1986.

The Ministers welcomed the offer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to host the Film Festival and Seminar on the experience gained in anti-illiteracy campaigns and school enrolment of school-age children in Pyongyang in the second half of 1986 in accordance with the Action Programme for co-operation in the field of education and culture.

The Ministers noted with appreciation that many non-aligned countries co-operated with and contributed generously precious works of art to the Gallery of Arts of the Non-Aligned Countries in Pitegrade, Montenegro, Yugoslavia, as a vivid manifestation and wider international affirmation of arts and culture of non-aligned countries and urged the non-aligned countries to develop further their co-operation with the Gallery and actively participate in its programme of work.

17. Standardization, weights and measures and quality control

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that several meetings were held in this field.

A Meeting on Standardization, Weights and Measures and Quality Control was held in Rome on 4 July 1983.

The Fourth Co-ordinating Group Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries in the sphere of Standardization, Measurement and Quality Control was held at Belgrade from 10 to 13 July 1984, at which plans of action for each of the four functional groups established by the earlier Co-ordinating Group Meeting and the time-frame for their execution were approved. This Meeting also discussed the question of co-ordination of the position of Non-Aligned Countries in the International Standards Organisation (ISO) Council Meetings.

The Group Meetings of the Non-Aligned Countries in the sphere of Standardization, Measurement and Quality Control were held at New Delhi from 23 to 31 January 1985.

The Meeting included: (a) Second Meeting of Experts, (b) Fifth Meeting of Co-ordinated Countries, (c) Workshop on Standardization and Quality Assurance and (d) Meetings of the Functional Group. The Meeting of the Co-ordinating Countries reviewed the position of the Functional Groups and sought to co-ordinate positions relating to international organizations.

The Ministers endorsed the recommendation that other members of the Movement should join the sphere as co-ordinators in order to broaden the representation in the co-ordinating countries.

The Ministers welcomed the agreement to hold the Sixth Meeting of Co-ordinating Countries from 23 to 30 June 1986 in Havana, and called upon the concerned member countries of the Movement to participate in this Meeting.

XXXI. CONCLUSIONS

198. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress made towards the implementation of the Action Programme since the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit. They expressed the hope that progress will be made in the other sectors of the Action Programme.

199. The Ministers recommended that the Fifth Meeting of Experts in all areas of the Action Programme should be held as soon as possible before the next Summit, and they invited the Co-ordinating Bureau to consult with the concerned countries in regard to the time and venue of this Meeting.

200. The Ministers expressed satisfaction at the degree of harmonization and co-operation of the Programmes of Action of the Group of 77 and the Non-Aligned Countries and emphasized the need for the maintenance and further promotion of this process.

Resolution on external debt

The Conference,

Profoundly concerned over the increase in and extent of the external debt of developing countries and over the heavy burden of debt-servicing, with its adverse impact on the political, economic and social systems of developing countries,

Stressing that the problem of the external debt of developing countries is a direct consequence of the prevailing world economic environment reflective of the existing inequalities and unjust international economic order,

Reiterating that the establishment of the new international economic order will contribute decisively to the elimination of present unjust and inequitable international economic relations that are largely responsible for the external debt problems of developing countries,

Affirming that the problem of the developing countries' external debt has assumed serious political dimensions and therefore requires political treatment and a global approach,

Emphasizing that the problem of the developing countries' external debt has become more acute as a result of the adverse impact of economic policies pursued by some of the major developed countries and the resulting negative changes in the financial, monetary and trading systems,

Stressing that the present policies of the International Monetary Fund on the solution of the problems of debts are asymmetrical and should take more account of the development prospects of developing countries,

Recognizing that the overwhelming burden of debt-servicing and the strenuous adjustment efforts undertaken by debtor developing countries are having strong social and political effects on them, including a serious decline in the standard of living and a deterioration in their social fabric,

Convinced that the rescheduling of debts is not enough and only postpones the problem,

Recognizing that the external debt is an obligation individually contracted by debtors and which shall be honoured; noting, however, that under present circumstances the financial obligations undertaken by developing countries with creditors from developed countries and multilateral financial institutions have become unbearable; furthermore, unless urgent, just and durable solutions are found by the international community, these obligations may become for some of them beyond the capacities of their economies,

1. Urges the Governments of creditor developed countries and international finance and banking institutions to engage with developing countries in a political dialogue in order jointly to find a mutually agreed, equitable and durable solution to the foreign debt problem of developing countries addressing, inter alia, the following:

(a) Co-responsibility among the Governments of developed creditors and debtor countries and international finance and banking institutions;

(b) Equity and equality among developed and developing countries in the distribution of the costs of the economic adjustment process, reinitiation of financing for development and lower interest rates, significantly improved access to markets, standstill and roll-back of protectionism and stabilization of commodity markets and fair and remunerative prices;

(c) Limiting debt service payments to a percentage of export earnings compatible with the development needs and with the economic and social requirements of each country;

(d) Stretching out of payment, grace and consolidation periods;

(e) Easing the International Monetary Fund conditionality;

(f) In particular, special treatment to the poorer and least developed countries in the solution of their serious external debt problems;

2. Notes that progress in the full implementation of Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX) had been inadequate and called for its urgent implementation;

3. Decides that in the discussion of the item entitled "Inter-related issues of money, finance, debt and trade" at the fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly special emphasis should be placed on the debt problem of developing countries;

4. Further decides to hold consultations and maintain co-ordination among non-aligned and other developing countries in the relevant international forums in order to promote united dialogue with the Governments of developed creditor countries and international finance and banking institutions;

5. Supports in this context the call made by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at the twenty-first Summit for a special international conference on Africa's external indebtedness.

Appendix

Note by the Chairman of the Conference on the Question of
the Iran-Iraq conflict

On the subject of the Iran-Iraq conflict, the efforts by the Chairman of the Movement to find an acceptable formulation by both parties for inclusion in the political declaration, as well as the efforts of the President of the Conference to find as an alternative an acceptable statement to both parties, proved to be of no avail. However, in the general debate in the plenary, it was evident that the overwhelming sentiment among non-aligned countries was for an immediate end to this fratricidal conflict, and for efforts to achieve a just, honourable and lasting peace in accordance with the principles and objectives of the non-aligned movement and international law.
