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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 29 April 1977 from the Permanent Representatives
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Panama to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from our respective Governments, we have the honour to transmit herewith to Your Excellency the Spanish and Arabic texts of the joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the talks held between Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi, Secretary-General of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and General Omar Torrijos Herrera, Chief of the Government of the Republic of Panama. The said talks were held during the visit of Chief Omar Torrijos Herrera to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya from 12 to 16 April 1977.

We would be grateful if you would have the text of this communiqué distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jorge Enrique ILLUECA
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
Panama to the United Nations

(Signed) Mansur Rashid KIKHIA
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
the Socialist People's
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to
the United Nations

* A/32/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Libyan Arab-Panamanian Joint Communiqué

General Omar Torrijos Herrera, Head of Government of the Republic of Panama, in response to an invitation from Brother Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi, leader of the Great Revolution of 1 September, made an official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 23-27 Rabi el Tani 1397 of the Hegira, corresponding to 12-16 April 1977.

The Head of Government and the group of Panamanian civilian and military officials and other citizens accompanying him were received by Brother Abdul Salam Ahmad Jalloud, who extended a welcome to them, and were greeted with sincere enthusiasm by the Libyan Arab people in a demonstration of the friendship and enthusiasm which is felt for the people and Government of Panama.

The leader of the Revolution of 1 September, Brother Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi, and his distinguished visitor, General Omar Torrijos, held a number of conversations in the course of which they discussed, in a spirit of friendly understanding, bilateral relations between their two countries in the context of the international situation.

Brother Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi informed his illustrious guest of the various achievements of the Great Revolution of 1 September, particularly the attainment of economic and political independence through the elimination of monopolies and foreign military bases, which had given the people effective control over the country's economic resources. He also pointed out the major step forward represented for the Libyan Arab people by the historic Declaration on the Establishment of People's Power, which gives practical effect to the principle of control by the masses of their own destiny and of direct democracy.

The Panamanian Head of Government, General Omar Torrijos Herrera, noted with deep satisfaction that the Great Revolution of 1 September was using the proceeds of the exploitation of its natural resources to develop the country, educate the people, build housing and improve the health of the community, and he observed that that fact provided a splendid example for the world.

General Omar Torrijos also informed Brother Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi of the course and present state of the negotiations between the Panamanian and United States Governments looking to the conclusion of a treaty on the Panama Canal which would ensure the full, effective sovereignty of the Republic of Panama over its entire territory. Brother Colonel Mu'ammār Al-Qathafi in turn expressed admiration and esteem for the series of far-reaching changes being carried out by the people of Panama and particularly for their firm determination to liberate their territory from foreign occupation and colonial domination of any kind.

In the course of the official conversations between the Libyan Arab and Panamanian sides, which were held in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding, relations and various aspects of co-operation between the two friendly countries were discussed, as was the possibility of strengthening them for the benefit of both peoples. Various aspects of the international situation, particularly as regarded the Arab region, Africa and Latin America, were also dealt with.

The Libyan Arab side informed the Panamanian side of the Zionist aggression being carried out against the Arab nation with the support of international imperialism. It also provided information concerning the Arab territories which had been occupied by force and concerning its support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to achieve liberation by appropriate means, to affirm its right to self-determination and to establish a national State throughout its entire territory.

In that connexion, the Panamanian side expressed admiration and appreciation for the achievements of the Great Revolution of 1 September and for the role which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was playing at all international levels, particularly at the Arab level and in the Group of Non-Aligned Countries.

The two sides expressed their conviction that the Lebanese crisis could be resolved only by the freely expressed will of the Lebanese people, without foreign intervention of any kind.

The two sides expressed their opposition to and displeasure at the use of the communications media to distort the real situation and conceal the achievements of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in its struggle to free itself from economic and political dependence.

The two sides felt that Arab unity was the surest means of achieving success in the liberation struggle of the Arab people.

The two sides expressed opposition to colonialism and racism in all their forms as well as their adherence to the principle of peaceful coexistence in international relations.

The two sides recognized that international peace and security depended in large measure on the security of the Mediterranean, which would be possible only when the latter became a peaceful, secure sea for the coastal peoples and for all the peoples of the world.

The two sides expressed strong sympathy for the struggle for national self-determination being carried on in Africa and Latin America, and particularly in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.

They also reaffirmed their support for the United Nations and for the proposals calling for amendment of the Charter to eliminate the veto, since the latter was incompatible with the principle of the sovereign equality of States, as

well as their support for the resolution adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned Countries held at Colombo, Sri Lanka.*

The two sides reviewed international economic problems in general and expressed their belief in the importance of continuing the dialogue between the rich and poor countries with a view to the establishment of a new international economic order which will put an end to the domination of the transnational monopolies, to exploitation and to all forms of inequality in international economic relations.

The two sides reaffirmed their belief in the right of peoples to exercise absolute sovereignty over their natural and economic resources and to utilize them for their own development and for the benefit of their peoples. In that connexion, the Libyan Arab side reaffirmed the solidarity of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya with the struggle of the people and Government of Panama to regain full, effective sovereignty over the whole of their territory and the complete elimination of the colonialist enclave in their territory so as to bring about the geographical integration of the Panamanian nation.

The two sides reaffirmed that it was essential for them to adhere to the principles of non-alignment in order to achieve their noble goals and play their important role in international politics and also in order to secure happiness and prosperity for their peoples and all the peoples of the world.

As a result of the conversations between the two sides, mutual understanding was achieved and their respective points of view were brought closer together, thus tightening further the bonds of friendship between the two countries and broadening the spheres of possible co-operation between them.

The two sides signed the following agreements:

1. A cultural agreement;
2. An economic and commercial agreement;
3. A general co-operation agreement;
4. A summary of the agreements.

The Head of the Panamanian Government, Brigadier General Omar Torrijos Herrera, reaffirmed his invitation to Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr Al-Qathafi to visit the Republic of Panama, and the invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of the visit will be set in due course.

Done at Tripoli on 27 Rabi el Tani 1397 of the Hegira, corresponding to 16 April 1977.

* See A.31/197.