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58, 59, 94 and 95 of the preliminary
list*

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
QUESTION OF THE COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE
QUESTION OF NAMIBIA
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
QUESTION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA
QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Note verbale dated 2 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative
of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith the Final Communiqué adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of

* A/33/50/Rev.1.

the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 15 to 20 May 1978.

On instructions from his Government, the Permanent Representative would request the Secretary-General to have the Final Communiqué, which relates in particular to items 12, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 47, 58, 59, 94 and 95 of the preliminary list, circulated as a single official document of the General Assembly.

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FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries met at the Foreign Ministers level in the City of Havana, May 15 through 20, 1978 following the Co-ordinating Bureau Meeting at the level of Foreign Ministers in New Delhi in April 1977. The Meeting provided an opportunity to examine the current international situation, to review progress in the implementation of the decisions of the Fifth Summit as well as to commence preparations for the forthcoming Conference of Foreign Ministers to be held in Belgrade. All these meetings play an important role in charting the course towards the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government to be held in Havana in 1979.

The following members of the Bureau participated:

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Popular Republic of Angola, the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, Botswana, the Republic of Cuba, Chad, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, the Palestine Liberation Organization, Peru, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Also present as observers were the following full members of the Movement:

Argentina, Bangladesh, the People's Republic of the Congo, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cyprus, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Republic of Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Morocco, Mauritania, Panama, Tunisia, Uganda and the Popular Democratic Yemen.

1. The Bureau welcomed the declaration made by the new government of Afghanistan that it would continue as a member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and expressed its concern over campaigns in the imperialist press and the attitude taken by some reactionary States and elements in prejudging the internal political process taking place in Afghanistan and distorting the facts of the current situation in that country, a member State of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. The Ministerial Meeting of the Bureau noted that non-aligned countries, basing their activity on the decisions adopted at different summit meetings particularly, the Fifth Summit Conference held in Colombo, had continued to play an ever-increasing role in international relations despite numerous difficulties and obstacles.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the Movement to examine the international political and economic situation and the development of different forms of co-operation within the Movement. The meeting also provided an opportunity for strengthening the independent role of the Movement as a global factor in international relations, and bringing about closer unity and solidarity, reaffirming its basic character of genuine non-alignment from power blocs or

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military alliances with great Powers and opposing imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, including zionism, apartheid and all forms of foreign domination with the aim of achieving a new, just and equitable international order based on political independence, equality and economic justice, in the interests of all mankind and particularly of the developing countries. The Bureau considered it of the utmost importance to preserve all the principles of non-alignment as enunciated by Heads of States and Governments at previous Summits and to be vigilant against any attempts to subvert those principles or compromise the Movement's role as an independent factor in international affairs.

3. The Bureau examined the current political and economic situation since the previous meeting held in New Delhi in April 1977.

The Bureau noted that while the arms race continued unabated, the solidarity of the non-aligned countries, clearly evidenced during the vital preparatory stages leading to the forthcoming Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, had helped to identify and focus attention on the threat posed by the existence of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. In southern Africa, the ruthless intransigence of the white minority régimes had only infused renewed vigour into the liberation struggle. In the Middle East, the continuing denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and Israel's pursuit of its policy of aggression and annexation, and of seeking to consolidate settlements in territories seized and occupied by force, had not weakened the resolve to find a just and lasting settlement of the whole question. Cyprus remained a vexed issue. In the economic sphere, the promise of a constructive dialogue between developed and developing had all but faded.

The Bureau stressed the need to comply with the decisions of the Fifth Summit Conference, in particular its Declaration and its Programme of Economic Action and took note of the outstanding role played by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in the world context and in the search for solutions of international problems, particularly at the United Nations.

4. The Bureau examined the results of the activities pursued by the non-aligned countries on the international scene and in the realization of the programme of mutual co-operation, noting that satisfactory progress had been made in many areas. The Bureau took note of and approved the Report of the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York relating to the significant results achieved by the non-aligned countries during the thirty-second session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and to their over-all activities. The Bureau also took note of the report relating to other meetings of non-aligned countries.

5. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the increase in the membership of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries was a reflection of the correctness of its line in promoting and safeguarding genuine independence and sovereignty and the territorial integrity of States, as well as the right of the peoples of colonial, non-self-governing and racist dominated territories to self-determination and independence.

6. The Bureau reaffirmed the commitment of the non-aligned countries to maintain

the cohesion, unity and solidarity of the Movement and, in doing so, stressed the importance of struggling against manoeuvres aimed at limiting its action, discrediting its objectives, dividing it and weakening it in an effort to destroy it.

The Bureau noted that the Non-Aligned Movement had significantly resisted all such manoeuvres and continued its efforts to strengthen its unity and solidarity.

It also emphasized the need to promote steadfast adherence to the principles and policies of the Non-Aligned Movement as defined by the Heads of State or Government at Non-Aligned Summit Conferences and to preserve its distinct identity.

7. The Bureau emphasized that now, more than ever, it was of vital importance for the non-aligned countries to maintain the closest possible unity among themselves. Moreover, they should continue in their efforts to co-operate with all peace-loving, democratic and progressive forces throughout the world, thus successfully reinforcing their capacity to defeat the attempts by imperialism to recover the ground it had lost in recent years.

8. The Bureau denounced the intervention and the overt and covert pressures exerted by imperialism in all its forms against the member countries of the Movement, with the aim of destabilizing them or intervening in their internal affairs, and against the peoples struggling for their rights to self-determination and independence. The Bureau recalled the resolution of the thirty-first General Assembly of the United Nations reaffirming the sovereign and inalienable right of each State to determine freely its social, political and economic system, as well as its relations with other States.

The Bureau reiterated the importance attached by the non-aligned States to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, and expressed its dismay that the problem of interference continued with unabated intensity, jeopardizing the freedom, stability, territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of non-aligned countries. The Bureau noted with concern that the ever more frequent instances of interference constituted one of the main forms of aggression against the Non-Aligned Movement, one of the most dynamic emancipating forces in contemporary international relations.

The Bureau reaffirmed its firm solidarity with those non-aligned countries which continued to suffer foreign interference in their internal affairs.

United Nations Resolution 32/153 stated that a Declaration on Non-Interference in the Internal Affairs of States would be an important contribution to the further elaboration of the principles for strengthening equitable co-operation and friendly relations amongst States, based on sovereign equality and mutual respect. In that context the Bureau recommended that the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade should define the basic elements of a Declaration of Non-Interference and propose further action by non-aligned countries within the framework of the United Nations. It therefore recommended that the Working Group of Non-Aligned Countries on Non-Interference in Internal Affairs of States in New York should give their immediate attention to that task.

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9. The Bureau recognized that the struggle for the liberation of peoples from all forms of imperialist, neo-colonialist, colonialist and racial and Zionist oppression and expansion, had been strengthened.

10. The Bureau evaluated the period since its last meeting in New Delhi, noting that the activity of the imperialist forces upholding and defending colonialism and all forms of racism had grown and become more intense. It had become evident that the illegal racist minority régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia were stepping up their aggressive actions and internal repression in an attempt to perpetuate their racist domination and exploitation. Military and economic collaboration between South Africa and Israel was observed to take place with the financial, technological and military support of some western Powers. It was that backing that encouraged South Africa's military incursions into Angola and Zambia and Israel's armed occupation of Lebanese territory.

During the period under review, certain colonial Powers had intensified their efforts to intervene on the African continent with the aim of obstructing the process of decolonization of the peoples struggling for their liberation, and of threatening those States members of the Non-Aligned Movement that manifested their solidarity with those peoples.

11. The Bureau strongly urged the non-aligned countries to take measures to promote action towards collective self-reliance among themselves and other developing countries. Their unity of purpose and mutual assistance would improve their capacity for collective action and their bargaining power in various international fields, and thus enhance the new dimensions of the role of non-alignment.

12. The Bureau reaffirmed its resolve to increase and strengthen the representation of non-aligned countries in international organizations and, in particular, the principal organs of the United Nations, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation and having regard to the need for rotation among them.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DETENTE

13. The Bureau analysed the current international situation and expressed its concern at recent setbacks to the process of détente and at the deterioration of the situation in certain regions due to the lack of progress in resolving some of the most important international problems through the removal of their root causes.

The Bureau noted with grave concern certain dangerous tendencies towards reviving manifestations of the Cold War as reflected inter alia by the ever increasing arms race, which must be reversed as they posed a threat to international peace and security and indeed to the very survival of mankind in the event of an outbreak of nuclear war.

14. The Bureau called for the deepening and broadening of the process of détente in order to encompass all spheres of international relations in all regions of the world, and to contribute to the solving of key international problems with the participation of all countries, and stressed that that would substantially

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contribute to the success of disarmament negotiations. The Bureau reiterated that peace, security and the relaxation of tensions cannot be based on the policy of the so-called balance of power, on the division into blocs and on the arms race.

15. The Bureau reiterated that peaceful coexistence among States should be extended to all regions of the world and all countries alike.

16. The Bureau also regarded that the strengthening of the struggle for the liberation of peoples from imperialist, colonialist, neo-colonialist and racist oppression, including zionism, contributed to the strengthening of world peace and security.

In that regard, the Bureau reaffirmed the legitimate right of peoples to resort to armed struggle in their national liberation struggle.

DISARMAMENT

17. At its meeting in Havana on the eve of the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations devoted to Disarmament convened at the initiative of the non-aligned States, the Bureau expressed its satisfaction with the approach adopted by the non-aligned States in the Preparatory Committee as reflected in the draft final document.

18. The Bureau emphasized the exceptional importance of the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations devoted to Disarmament, which would be the most representative gathering of States convened on that subject. It stated that the task before the special session was of such outstanding importance for international peace and security that no effort should be spared to bring about its successful conclusion, especially in view of the continuing escalation of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race.

19. The Bureau expressed its firm conviction that lasting international peace and security would only be possible if there was general and complete disarmament under effective international control. Consequently, the Bureau called on the special session to agree on specific measures for the cessation of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race. It called for a halt in the development, testing and further production of nuclear weapons, the reduction and ultimate elimination of existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons, and a renunciation by the nuclear weapon powers of the use of nuclear weapons. The Bureau also called for measures against the continued development, production and use of other weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons.

20. The Bureau affirmed that there was a direct link between détente, disarmament and development. It stressed that effective measures of disarmament should release huge resources now devoted to the wasteful arms race for use in the promotion of economic and social development particularly of the developing countries. The Bureau was convinced that the deepening and broadening of détente could contribute to that process.

21. The Bureau reiterated the primary role of the United Nations in the field of

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disarmament, and the consequent need to readjust machinery for discussion and negotiation on disarmament, so as to create necessary conditions that will enable all States, particularly nuclear-weapon States and other militarily powerful States to participate in their solution.

22. The Bureau urged all non-aligned countries to take active part in the solution of those problems and to co-ordinate their actions on the basis of the common approach recommended by the Colombo Summit and the position of the non-aligned countries expressed in the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee, in order to ensure the success of the forthcoming special session.

23. The Bureau took note of the information concerning the proposal of the President of Sri Lanka, His Excellency S. R. Jayewardene, for the creation of a World Disarmament Authority to function as a permanent institution within the United Nations system. The Bureau was convinced that the Governments of the non-aligned countries would give serious and careful consideration to that proposal.

QUESTION OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES

24. The Bureau expressed its firm conviction that, since the decolonization process had reached a crucial stage, the question of foreign military bases in colonial and non-self-governing territories acquired particular relevance as an obstacle to the effective implementation of United Nations resolution 1514 (XV). The Bureau called upon all non-aligned countries to promote decisions during the Special Session of the United Nations devoted to Disarmament and the thirty-third session of the General Assembly aimed at the unconditional dismantling of all foreign military bases in the above-mentioned territories and in other areas in Asia, Africa and Latin America, in order to guarantee to the peoples of those territories the full, effective and free exercise of their inalienable rights to self-determination and independence.

UTILIZATION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES

25. Recalling the decisions adopted at the Fifth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Colombo and at the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi, relating to mutual co-operation among non-aligned countries in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, in particular in those areas in which there could be greater self-reliance in the use of nuclear technology for development purposes and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries recommended that the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries should initiate action to draw up a programme of action, on the basis of a comprehensive study to be conducted by a group of experts from non-aligned countries.

The Bureau also called upon all non-aligned countries to co-ordinate their positions and activities on the basis of a common approach in the United Nations and other international fora in the area of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

MIDDLE EAST

26. On examining the situation in the Middle East the Bureau reached the conclusion that since the question was considered in the Ministerial Meeting of the Bureau in New Delhi the tensions existing in the region had become more acute. The serious threat to world peace and security, which the meeting in New Delhi regarded as capable of provoking a fresh armed conflict, had regrettably been confirmed by the recent violation and occupation by Israel of a large part of the territory of Lebanon.

27. The Bureau reiterated its conviction that the cause of that worsening situation continued to be Israel's policy of occupation and expansion and its stubborn refusal to comply with the principles established in the United Nations Charter and Resolutions.

28. After considering the developments in the Middle East situation that had taken place since its last meeting in April 1977 in New Delhi, the Bureau emphasized that the question of Palestine constituted the heart of the Middle East problem, and that the solution of the two problems was inseparable. The Bureau further stressed the need for safeguarding the intrinsic unity of the question of Palestine whenever it was examined together with the Middle East situation.

The Bureau considered that any effort to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East must necessarily include the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights. It was also convinced that any solution failing to take those two basic conditions into account could not serve to further the cause of peace; on the contrary, it could but help to pave the way for the attempts by the United States of America to liquidate the question of Palestine and assist Israel in achieving its aims and to perpetuate the status quo ensuing from the occupation, thus enabling it to fulfil its role as agent for imperialism and colonialism in the area.

29. The Bureau reaffirmed the decisions adopted by the non-aligned countries at their meetings concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East. It noted that those decisions constituted a set of principles serving as a basis for any attempt to achieve a just and lasting peace in the area.

The Bureau further noted that any attempt to undermine the struggle to have those principles applied was contrary to the resolve of the non-aligned countries to put an end to the occupation of Arab territories by Israel and to assist the Palestinian people to recover their inalienable national rights.

30. The Bureau paid tribute to the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization in their resolute struggle for national independence and against imperialism and Israeli expansionism, and to the maintenance and strengthening of their forces in the face of Israeli aggression. It also paid warm tribute to the people of the Arab countries who were fighting valiantly and persistently, foiling successive dangerous attempts of deception by imperialism, and frustrating the stubborn policy of the Israeli Zionists.

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31. The Bureau considered that Israel's expansionist policy of annexing occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories continued, while expulsions, mass arrests, mistreatment and a systematic policy of plunder and exploitation of the Arab population in the illegally occupied territories were being intensified.

The Bureau categorically denounced Israel's exploitation of the natural wealth and resources of Palestine and other Arab occupied territories in contravention of the provisions of the Hague Regulations and Geneva Conventions and called on all countries to take the necessary measures to prevent any co-operation with Israel that would facilitate such illegal exploitation by the Israeli occupation authorities.

32. The Bureau noted with grave concern and deplored statements made by certain leaders in the United States of America concerning repeated threats to use force against the oil-producing countries especially in the Arab Gulf area and their proposals concerning stand-by military contingents for intervention in that area.

33. The Bureau considered that the fundamental rights and freedoms continued to be denied to the Arab population of the occupied territories, and that religious freedom was restricted. Israel was also intensifying its policy of colonization, fostering and enlarging settlements in occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, with the evident aim of hindering the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and of changing the physical, political, cultural, religious and demographic conditions of those territories. Israel not only illegally and wantonly exploited the Arab labour force, but also continued to violate their human rights, torturing and killing Arab prisoners.

34. The Co-ordinating Bureau expressed grave concern about the persistent violation of the human rights of the Arab population in all the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967. The Bureau condemned the Israeli authorities for their continuing refusal to allow the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories to have access to the occupied territories and its policy of annexation of Arab land.

The Bureau expressed its complete support for United Nations Resolution 32/91 reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 as applicable to all the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

35. The Bureau stressed that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region could only be attained within the framework of a global solution, based on Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and on the recovery and exercise by the Palestinian people of their legitimate and inalienable national rights, including that of establishing a national and independent state in Palestine, and the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in any endeavours for the solution of the question of Palestine and the Middle East.

36. The Bureau confirmed that in the light of Israel's expansionist policy and its delaying tactics designed to perpetuate its illegal occupation of Arab territories, the political, economic and military support given to Israel by the United States of America and other States was a matter of grave concern.

37. The Bureau condemned Israel's recent aggression in the south of Lebanon in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country. The Israeli invasion was aimed at occupying Lebanese territory by destroying Lebanese villages and cities, compelling Lebanese citizens to leave their homes and land, and crushing Palestinian resistance. The Bureau demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory. It also demanded the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 and called for complete respect for the integrity of Lebanese territory and for the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon within its recognized international borders.

The Bureau called upon the Security Council to consider the adoption of mandatory measures under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in order to bring about the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israel's forces of aggression from the internationally recognized territory of the Republic of Lebanon.

38. The Bureau called on all countries to lend their material and moral support to the Arab States and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in its struggle to put an end to Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

39. The Bureau renewed the call for the suspension of all aid designed to augment the military potential of Israel and for the rejection of the changes that the Zionist State was trying to introduce in the region, altering its physical, demographic and economic condition.

40. The Bureau condemned the Israeli military escalation in conventional arms and denounced its intentions of possessing nuclear weapons, as a serious threat to international peace and security and therefore called on all members of the Non-Aligned Movement at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Disarmament to endorse a proposal:

(a) calling upon all States, in particular the United States of America, to co-operate fully in effective international action, in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, to avert the grave menace to international peace and security caused by the continued escalation of Israeli armament;

(b) requesting the Security Council to call upon all States under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations and irrespective of any existing contracts, to refrain from any supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment or vehicles, or any spare parts thereof, to Israel; to ensure that such supplies do not reach Israel through other parties and to end all transfer of nuclear equipment or fissionable material or technology to Israel.

41. The Bureau also condemned Israel's growing military and economic ties with and the sale of arms to South Africa in its policy hostile to the African and Arab

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peoples, and noted with concern that the sale of Israeli manufactured arms to various countries, especially Guatemala and Nicaragua, strengthened the Israeli war industry.

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

42. The Bureau reaffirmed that the question of Palestine was at the heart of the conflict in the Middle East and condemned all the policies of the United States of America designed to ignore the legitimate inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and to impose partial settlements.

43. The Bureau reiterated its grave concern that Israel's continued usurpation of Palestine, its flagrant denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, and the expansionist racist policy of the Zionist State, were being intensified in flagrant defiance of the international community and in steady and increasing violation of the principles of the Charter and Resolutions of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

44. The Bureau recalled that the Fifth Summit Conference in Colombo had stressed the need for the non-aligned countries to exert greater pressure on Israel in the United Nations and in all its specialized agencies and, in particular, had called on the Security Council to take effective measures including those under Chapter VII of the Charter, to oblige it to comply with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations. It observed with great concern that despite those actions, the Zionist State had carried out further violations and aggressions which, like that perpetrated against Lebanon, had led to international condemnations. The Bureau considered it necessary to emphasize the gravity of the situation and to call for stronger and firmer action to halt Israel's policy of systematic aggression.

45. The Bureau urged the Security Council to implement the measures necessary for implementing the recommendations in the reports of the United Nations Special Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-first and thirty-second sessions and, in particular, the recommendations to enable the Palestinian people to attain and exercise their inalienable rights, including the right to return to their homes and property and their national right to self-determination and to establish their national independent State in Palestine.

46. The Bureau reiterated the decision of the Colombo Summit Conference asking all the non-aligned countries to pledge their support to the Palestinian people in their struggle under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative, until they had fully recovered their inalienable national rights.

47. The Bureau called for the annual observance, commencing in 1978, of 29 November as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

48. The Bureau recalled that the Colombo Conference had reaffirmed that zionism was a form of racism and racial discrimination and had called upon the non-aligned countries to bear that in mind in their participation in the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, to be held in August 1978.

WESTERN SAHARA

49. The Bureau reiterated the declaration of the Fifth Summit on the Western Sahara question, called for the application of United Nations resolution 1514 (XV) establishing the principle of self-determination of people, and requested the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 32/22 of 28 November 1977 to follow the events in the zone closely and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session in order to enable it to find a just and lasting solution to the problem.

At the same time it expressed the earnest hope that the Extraordinary Summit Session of the Organization of African Unity to be convened for that purpose would be able to arrive at a solution mutually satisfactory to all the parties interested in the problem.

The Bureau considered that the growing presence of former colonial powers in the region obstructed the efforts of the Organization of African Unity and of the United Nations to find a peaceful solution to the problem. Consequently, it called for an end to that presence.

AFRICA

50. In Africa, the struggle to rid the continent of the last vestiges of imperialism, colonialism, foreign occupation, domination and exploitation continues unabated. The imperialist forces, on the other hand, have intensified their efforts through political and economic pressures to frustrate the liberation struggle in order to hinder the process of decolonization and to threaten States of the Non-Aligned Movement which express solidarity with those peoples.

51. In their attempts to destabilize African countries and to arrest the liberation struggle, the forces of imperialism have intensified their recourse to interference and intervention, to staging colonial and neo-colonial manoeuvres, to the use of mercenaries and to creating artificial divisions and conflicts between friendly African neighbouring States.

52. The Bureau condemned all such provocative acts. It urged the Non-Aligned Movement to remain vigilant and united in its continued support for African freedom and thereby realize the irreversible processes of economic, political, social and cultural emancipation of African nations and peoples, and to intensify its support for liberation movements.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

53. The Bureau reviewed in detail the developments in southern Africa since the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi and registered its satisfaction at the ever-growing international solidarity with the oppressed people of southern Africa. In that regard, the Bureau recalled the significant results of the International Conference on Solidarity with the People of Zimbabwe and Namibia, held at Maputo in May 1977, and the World Conference

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for Action Against Apartheid, held in Lagos in August 1977. It urged all States to participate fully in the forthcoming World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination to be held in Geneva in August 1978.

54. The Bureau expressed grave concern at the worsening situation in southern Africa manifested in the escalating conflict arising from the very existence and persistence of racist minority régimes and their obstinate clinging to their aggressive and intransigent policies in a desperate attempt to maintain their stranglehold on the region and perpetuate the system of colonialism and apartheid. Not only had the racist minority régimes amplified and intensified their brutal repression and mass extermination of the African peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, but they had also become ever more aggressive and provocative against the neighbouring independent African States.

55. The Bureau observed that support for the liberation of southern Africa was now, more than ever before, one of the top priorities of the Non-Aligned Movement.

56. The Bureau reviewed the situation in Southern Rhodesia and expressed its profound indignation at the continued oppression and repression of the people of Zimbabwe by the illegal racist minority régime of Ian Smith, and at the deliberate and repeated acts of aggression committed by the illegal régime against the front-line States of Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia, which were a rear base for the liberation struggle of the people of Zimbabwe.

57. The Bureau reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Zimbabwe of self-determination and genuine independence, and to that end it pledged its full and unswerving support to the oppressed people of Zimbabwe in their legitimate and just struggle to liberate their country from racist oppression and domination.

58. The Bureau categorically denounced the colonial designs of the illegal racist minority régime of Ian Smith to circumvent attempts to bring about an internationally acceptable negotiated settlement to end the illegal racist rule. Those designs were also intended to deprive the people of Zimbabwe of their inalienable right to self-determination and genuine independence by staging deceptive and despicable manoeuvres, including the so-called "internal settlement" in Rhodesia, which the Bureau utterly rejected and strongly condemned. The so-called "internal settlement", which the racist régime contrived in an attempt to hoodwink the international community, was in fact aimed at entrenching and perpetuating racist white minority rule. Recognizing the importance of strictly observing the sanctions imposed by the Security Council against Ian Smith's régime, the Bureau expressed its deep concern at the increasing violations of sanctions particularly by some western and other countries, and reiterated its call upon all States to enforce strictly the mandatory sanctions.

59. The Bureau noted that the intransigent racist régime of Southern Rhodesia was persistently and systematically carrying out acts of aggression against the neighbouring States of Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia in a bid both to intimidate those States into abandoning their support for the oppressed people of Zimbabwe and to internationalize the conflict.

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60. The repeated aggression against Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia, including the invasion of Chimoio in Mozambique, Luangwa in Zambia and the villages in Botswana bordering on Southern Rhodesia had resulted in the massacres of hundreds of innocent civilians and refugees and in the wanton destruction of valuable property. The Bureau expressed its solidarity with those States and the Zimbabwe Liberation Movement, and resolved that those dastardly acts by the Smith régime against the front-line States must not go unpunished. In that connexion, the Bureau urged that effective measures be taken to end the repeated violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of those States, the root of which was the continued existence of the illegal régime.

61. The Bureau commended the Patriotic Front for prosecuting and intensifying the armed struggle to end the illegal occupation of their country and pledged its fullest and unequivocal support to the liberation movement in its struggle to free Zimbabwe from colonialism and to achieve full independence.

62. The Bureau considered that there could be no lasting and peaceful resolution of the Zimbabwe problem without the involvement of the fighting liberation forces. The Bureau holds the administering colonial power, Britain, responsible for the very existence of the Ian Smith régime.

63. The Bureau reiterated its grave concern at the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa in utter defiance of the United Nations, the International Court of Justice and the international community as a whole. In seeking to perpetuate its illegal occupation of that country, apartheid South Africa was continuing to subject the people of Namibia to brutal and savage oppression and repression. More recently, South Africa's reign of terror in Namibia had been escalated, as reflected in the arbitrary mass arrests, torture, detention, and imprisonment of Namibian patriots, particularly members of SWAPO, under "emergency powers" assumed by the so-called Administrator-General. South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia had also increasingly become characterized by a systematic campaign of harassment, intimidation and humiliation of the Namibian people.

64. The racist régime of South Africa had consistently and constantly sought to divide the Namibian people on ethnic lines in its attempt to perpetuate its stranglehold over the territory. It was for that reason that Pretoria exported into Namibia its policies of apartheid and bantustanization and sponsored the so-called Turnhalle Constitutional Conference attended by its hand-picked puppets. While the régime was purporting to seek an internationally acceptable settlement, it was, in fact, frantically preparing for a so-called "internal settlement" in Namibia designed to give a semblance of power to a puppet régime and a veneer of legality to racist occupation, to foster civil war and to propagate the fiction that the struggle of the Namibian people for the liberation of its territory would be aggression perpetrated from the outside. In that connexion, South Africa had also set up tribal armies in Namibia.

65. In a dastardly and outrageous act designed to undermine the territorial integrity, economic independence and national security of Namibia, the South African régime had rammed through its so-called parliament an illegal act purporting to annex Walvis Bay.

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66. The racist régime of South Africa had also intensified its military build-up in Namibia and was illegally using the territory for committing acts of aggression against neighbouring independent African countries, in particular the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Zambia, which constituted a rear base for the Namibian Liberation Movement. The racist régime had, moreover, stepped up the recruitment of mercenaries.

67. The Bureau reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Namibia to self-determination and national independence in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 385 (1976). It strongly condemned the racist régime of South Africa for its continued illegal occupation of Namibia, its intensified oppression and repression of the Namibian people, its manoeuvres designed to impose a puppet régime in the territory and its illegal annexation of Walvis Bay. The Bureau categorically and unequivocally expressed its support for the territorial integrity of Namibia including Walvis Bay and stressed, in that connexion, that it considered the South African annexation of Walvis Bay as null and void and as an inadmissible act of territorial usurpation and expansionism.

68. The Bureau also condemned South Africa for its invasion of the People's Republic of Angola launched on 4 May 1978 from Namibia. The new act of aggression against Angola by South Africa, which had resulted in considerable loss of life and property, once again demonstrated the relentless and criminal attempts of the régime to undermine the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola and at the same time to cripple the Namibian liberation movement and exterminate Namibian refugees. The Bureau expressed satisfaction that the United Nations Security Council, in its resolution 428 (1978) had promptly condemned South Africa for its armed attack on the Angolan villages of Kassinga, Dombondola and Tchetequera. In the event of further aggression, the Security Council should adopt effective measures that would once and for all compel apartheid South Africa to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola.

69. The Bureau also noted with gratification that the United Nations General Assembly had recently met in a special session on Namibia and adopted by overwhelming majority an important Declaration and Programme of Action for the Liberation of Namibia. The special session was a fitting demonstration of the resolve by the international community to terminate South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia and to bring about the genuine liberation of the territory which was long overdue. The Bureau commended to all Governments the Declaration and Programme of Action on Namibia adopted at the special session. The Bureau also urged the United Nations Security Council to take immediate measures to implement the relevant provisions of that document, in particular the call for comprehensive economic sanctions, an arms embargo and an oil embargo against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

70. The Bureau considered South Africa's intensified reign of terror in Namibia and its recent armed invasion of Angola as proof, once again, that the racist régime had no intention of withdrawing peacefully from Namibia. That posture by South Africa was incompatible with its protestation that it intended to withdraw

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from Namibia on the basis of Security Council resolution 385 (1976). The Bureau therefore considered that maximum pressure should be brought to bear against South Africa to compel it to vacate Namibia.

71. The Bureau commended the people of Namibia, under the leadership of SWAPO, its sole legitimate representative for their gallant struggle against illegal South African occupation and for their genuine national liberation. In reaffirming its unequivocal support for, and solidarity with, the Namibian people in their just struggle, the Bureau appealed to the international community to render increased and sustained material and other forms of support to the people of Namibia and their national liberation movement, SWAPO.

72. The Bureau concluded that the racist régime in apartheid South Africa had continued to develop and institutionalize monstrous mechanisms of repression and exploitation to a high degree of sophistication. The Africans were subjected daily to indiscriminate mass killings, brutal torture, arbitrary imprisonment and detention, mass removals and various other forms of harassment in a bid to destroy their resolve to realize their inalienable elementary rights. In a manoeuvre to hoodwink the international community, to create buffer zones, to fragment African opposition and to create a reservoir of cheap labour, the apartheid régime had set up the bogus "independence" of Transkei and Bophuthatswana, and was rushing through with plans to give equally bogus "independence" to the so-called Venda bantustan.

73. In its attempt to bolster its colonial power and to intimidate African States, South Africa had further increased its military build-up, including the development of a nuclear testing site in the Kalahari Desert with the help of certain Western Powers.

74. The Bureau categorically condemned South Africa's plans to develop nuclear weapons and urged the forthcoming special session of the General Assembly to consider the matter and take effective measures to forestall that serious development which was fraught with grave implications for Africa and for international peace and security.

75. The Bureau strongly condemned the South Africa régime for maintaining the abominable policy of apartheid and called for the total eradication of that system in the interests of international peace and security. The Bureau reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of South Africa to self-determination and paid tribute to those who had made great sacrifices in the cause of the liberation of South Africa.

76. The Bureau further condemned the régime in Pretoria for its systematic inhuman treatment of the African people in South Africa by massacres, brutal torture, arbitrary arrests and detentions, forced exploitative labour, mass removals and other forms of harassment.

Recalling the relevant United Nations resolutions condemning the creation of the so-called bantustans by apartheid South Africa, the Bureau categorically denounced and rejected the bogus "independence" of Bophuthatswana bantustan and

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declared its so-called independence invalid. It called upon all States to continue to ignore the existence of such entities.

77. The Bureau deeply deplored the actions of the States and foreign economic interests which were continuing to collaborate with the racist Pretoria régime in contravention of the relevant United Nations resolutions and thus encouraging it to persist in its criminal policies. Furthermore, in recalling Security Council resolution 418 (1977) imposing a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, the Bureau strongly condemned those Western countries which were continuing to arm South Africa and collaborating with it in the nuclear field.

78. The Bureau expressed its grave concern that the axis formed by the racist régimes in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and Israel had strengthened its links in the political, economic and military fields, particularly in the field of nuclear armaments. The Bureau reiterated that those régimes aimed at the elimination of the liberation movements in southern Africa and Palestine and the domination of Africa and the Arab world.

79. In reaffirming the role of the front-line States as the strategic rear base for the liberation movement, the Bureau recognized that those countries continued to make tremendous economic and other sacrifices in the just struggle for freedom and independence in southern Africa. The Bureau recalled, in that regard, the United Nations resolutions on assistance to Angola, Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia and commended those States which had responded positively and provided the much-needed assistance. The Bureau renewed its appeal to the international community to render increased and sustained assistance to the front-line States in order to enhance their ability to contribute effectively to the liberation struggle and to enable those countries to defend themselves against the racist minority régimes.

80. Lesotho's economic development continued to suffer as a result of its refusal to recognize the bogus "independence" of the Transkei in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. The Bureau commended States which had already given aid to Lesotho, and appealed to those which had not yet done so to come to the aid of Lesotho to enable it to carry out its development projects and enhance its ability to implement fully the United Nations resolutions on apartheid and bantustans.

81. The Bureau commended those members of the Movement which had contributed to the Solidarity Fund for the Liberation of Southern Africa established under resolution 2 of the Fifth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and made a further appeal to those countries which had not yet done so to respond positively and promptly.

CYPRUS

82. Recalling the previous Non-Aligned Declaration with regard to Cyprus, the Bureau expressed its grave concern regarding the continuation of the crisis and deplored the fact that part of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus continues

to be occupied by foreign troops, despite the resolutions of the United Nations and the Declarations of the Non-Aligned Movement. It reiterated its full support for and solidarity with the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus, a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement, demanded the immediate implementation of the United Nations resolutions - and more particularly resolution 3212 (XXIX), unanimously adopted by the General Assembly and endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 365 (1974) - and called upon all States strictly to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of Cyprus and to cease all foreign interference in its affairs; it called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the foreign armed forces from Cyprus and for urgent steps to be taken to ensure the safe return of all refugees to their homes, as well as for respect for the human rights of all Cypriots, including the tracing of and accounting for those missing.

83. The Bureau also urged all parties to refrain from taking unilateral measures and deplored those already adopted, particularly the arbitrary measures for promoting in whatever way a change in the demographic structure of the island. The situation created by this kind of measures should not be allowed to influence the solution of the Cyprus issue.

84. The Bureau recommended that the Security Council should keep the question of Cyprus under constant review and take effective measures, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, in order to ensure the speedy implementation of the United Nations resolutions on Cyprus.

MAYOTTE

85. Despite having gained independence, the Comoro Islands are still victims of imperialist aggression. The French Government violates the territorial integrity and political unity of the said State trying to dismember Mayotte, which together with the islands of Anjouan, Grand Comoro and Moheli make up the archipelago.

The Bureau condemned French intervention in that area, which violates the principles contained in the United Nations Charter, and in particular those in resolution (XV), 14 December 1960.

86. The Bureau is of the view that the decision of the people of the Comoro Islands has not been respected by France and urges that power to engage in talks with the Government of the Comoro Islands to put an end to the present situation; it further demands that France withdraw from the Island of Mayotte and dismantle its military bases therein.

KOREA

87. The Bureau examined the situation prevailing in Korea and demanded the immediate cessation of the new war provocation manoeuvres in South Korea and the schemes to create "two Koreas" and reiterated its support for the just demand of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country without foreign interference, on the basis of the three principles of reunification

stipulated in the North-South Joint Statement on 4 July 1972; by unconditionally withdrawing all foreign troops stationed in South Korea, all their means of war including nuclear weapons and military bases, dissolving the United Nations Command and replacing the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

KAMPUCHEA AND VIET NAM

88. The Bureau expressed the hope that, in conformity with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, the problems regarding relations between Viet Nam and Kampuchea would be settled peacefully on the basis of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs and that negotiations between the two countries for that purpose would take place.

LAOS AND VIET NAM

89. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the Solidarity Fund of Non-Aligned Countries for the Reconstruction of Laos and Viet Nam had been established in accordance with the respective resolution of the Colombo Summit Conference. The Bureau called upon all non-aligned countries to renew their support for that Fund so that a report of its successful operations could be presented to the Heads of State or Government at the Sixth Summit Conference.

EASTERN TIMOR

90. The Bureau, basing itself on the decision adopted by the Fifth Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries, reaffirmed the right of the people of Eastern Timor to self-determination, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.

LATIN AMERICA

91. The Bureau manifested its determined support of the actions of the Latin American countries, aimed at the consolidation and defence of their national sovereignty and the recovery of their natural resources, and condemned the acts of hostility and external economic pressure intended to check such actions.

92. The Bureau reaffirmed its concern over the existence of colonial territories in Latin America, and over the presence of foreign military bases, which endanger peace and security in the region. It also reaffirmed its active solidarity with the peoples of those territories in their legitimate struggle for self-determination and independence and for the elimination of all forms of military presence from their territory.

93. The Bureau emphasized the need for an immediate and unconditional end to the United States embargo against Cuba, and supported the right of the Cuban people to compensation for the large material losses caused by the embargo. The Bureau expressed once again its solidarity with the demand for the return of Cuba of that part of its territory currently occupied against its will by the United States naval base at Guantánamo.

94. The Bureau recalled its most resolute support for the Government and people of Panama in all forums, and congratulated them for their success in their efforts to regain the effective exercise of their sovereignty over all their national territory. It took note of the signing by the United States and Panama of the Treaty concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal and the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977, which both countries had decided to ratify, with express reaffirmation by the United States of the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of Panama. The Bureau considered that the treaties were a step towards the elimination of colonial conditions in the strip of Panamanian territory in which the Canal was situated, and they also contributed to progress towards full decolonization throughout Central America and the Caribbean. The Bureau also took note of the fact that Panama and the United States had agreed to open the Protocol of the Treaty on the Neutrality of the Canal to accession by all States, and asked all Powers to respect the permanent neutrality of the inter-oceanic waterway and to observe strictly the principle of non-intervention in the affairs of the Republic of Panama, emphasizing that any act or activity hostile to the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of Panama would be an infringement of the United Nations Charter, the principles of international law that govern relations among the States of the region, and it would constitute a threat to world peace and security.

95. The Bureau viewed with grave concern the persistence of the threats to and pressures on the inviolability and territorial integrity of Belize which continue to prevent the people of that territory from exercising their right to self-determination and independence.

The Bureau in reaffirming its solidarity with the people of Belize called on member States of the Movement and the international community to do all within their power to enable the people of Belize, while preserving their territorial integrity to advance speedily to an early and secure independence.

96. In the case of the Malvinas Islands, the Bureau supported the just aspiration of the Republic of Argentina, and urged that the negotiations between the interested parties be accelerated in order to restore said territory to Argentine sovereignty.

97. The Bureau endorsed the resolutions of the thirty-second United Nations General Assembly on the situation in Chile and appealed to the United Nations Secretary-General and to the President of the General Assembly to do everything in their power, in exercise of the Assembly's mandate, to restore human rights and fundamental freedom in Chile, and to try to obtain information on the whereabouts of the missing persons in that country.

98. The Bureau recalled its previous decisions and reaffirmed its support of the legitimate right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence, and called for the prompt adoption of measures for obtaining this objective.

99. The Bureau condemned the expanding ties between Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and other countries, with the racist régime of South Africa.

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EUROPE

100. Recalling the stand of the Fifth Conference of Non-Aligned Countries concerning the situation in Europe and in the Mediterranean, the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau took note of the positive results of the Belgrade Meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and of the intention of the participating States to ensure the continuity of the development of equal multilateral co-operation based on the Final Act of CSCE, in particular co-operation in the Mediterranean region. The Bureau considered that consistent implementation of all the provisions of the Final Act was indispensable, particularly those relating to the principles of co-operation of European with other countries of the world, particularly in the solution of global problems such as development and disarmament. The Bureau noted with satisfaction the successful co-operation and joint efforts of non-aligned and neutral countries of Europe exerted at the Belgrade meeting to that end.

MEDITERRANEAN

101. With regard to the Mediterranean, the Bureau pointed out the need for the intensification of concerted efforts of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries aimed at transforming that region into a zone of peace and co-operation, which could contribute considerably to the strengthening of international peace and security of the countries of that region. In this connexion, the Bureau recommended that the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade should co-ordinate further efforts of non-aligned countries, in particular within the United Nations, for the implementation of the decisions of the Fifth Conference of Non-Aligned Countries concerning the Mediterranean.

INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE

102. The Bureau recalled the Colombo Declaration and reaffirmed the commitment of the non-aligned countries to the Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace adopted by resolution 2832 (XXVI) at the United Nations General Assembly in 1971. It called for the elimination from the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions of foreign bases, military installations and logistical supply facilities, the disposition of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and any manifestation of great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean conceived in the context of great Power rivalries. It condemned the establishment, maintenance and expansion of foreign military bases such as Diego Garcia. The Bureau condemned the existence of South African military bases in the area and the close military co-operation between the régimes of Pretoria, Israel and other western Powers in the region. The Bureau particularly condemned the existence of the Simonstown and Silvermine bases as well as the Advokaat Project, among whose aims was that of surveying the African national liberation movements. It also affirmed that the membership of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean in military alliances of pacts conceived in the context of great Power rivalry deters the realization of the objectives of the Indian Ocean peace zone Declaration, and therefore urged them to withdraw from such membership.

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103. The Bureau expressed its conviction that any attempt of establishing spheres of influence in the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions, would be contrary to the aims of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Peace Zone. It noted that the great Powers have been negotiating the issue of the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean. It noted also that the great Powers have established contacts with the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and expressed the hope that the great Powers and the major maritime users would co-operate effectively with the Ad Hoc Committee. It urged the great Powers to speed up their negotiations with a view to complying with the terms of General Assembly resolution 2832 of the twenty-sixth session.

104. The Bureau recalled the decision made in resolution 32/86 adopted by the thirty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly that as the next step towards the convening of a Conference on the Indian Ocean, a meeting of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean be convened in New York at a suitable date.

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

105. The Bureau noted with regret that disputes between some non-aligned countries had led to conflict situations. It recommended that the non-aligned countries should seek peaceful solutions to their disputes in accordance with the principles of non-alignment and of the Charter of the United Nations, on the basis of strict mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs and the right of peoples to unimpeded national and social development. The Bureau recommended that the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries should consider ways and means whereby the Non-Aligned Movement as a whole could contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes among non-aligned countries.

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION

106. The Bureau took note with satisfaction of the important reports on the question of information as presented respectively by Tunisia in its capacity as Chairman of the Inter-governmental Council for the Co-ordination of Information and Mass Media, by India in its capacity as Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee of the Press Agencies Pool and by Yugoslavia in its capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Co-operation between the broadcasting organizations of non-aligned countries.

107. The Bureau welcomed the successful outcome of the First Conference of Non-Aligned Radio and Television Organizations held in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia from 24 to 29 October 1977 and the beginning already made towards the purposeful implementation of the Plan of Implementation and Programme of Action.

108. The Bureau expressed satisfaction that the Non-Aligned Press Agencies Pool was now consolidating its operational phase and endorsed the concrete decisions recently taken by the Co-ordination Committee of the Press Agencies Pool at its second meeting in Djakarta from 3 to 5 April 1978.

109. The Bureau endorsed the decisions taken at the second meeting of the Inter-governmental Co-ordination Council on Information and Mass Media of Non-Aligned Countries held in Havana from 16 to 19 April 1978.

110. The Bureau urged the Governments of non-aligned countries to implement the recommendations made by the Council and the two other bodies, particularly in regard to the improvement in communications, infrastructure, lowering of transmission tariffs and overcoming the lack of trained cadres and personnel through the organization of training courses and co-operation with UNESCO.

111. The Bureau recommended that the non-aligned countries co-ordinate their positions and present a unified front at the United Nations and UNESCO in order to give the debates on information the necessary orientation towards the evolution of a new international information order as envisaged in the Colombo Summit Declaration.

112. The Bureau welcomed the proposal of Sri Lanka to establish a Non-Aligned Documentation Centre in Colombo which would collect, catalogue and maintain the documents and publications of the Non-Aligned Movement since its inception and make available copies of such documents to member countries. It was agreed that the establishment of such a Non-Aligned Documentation Centre would fulfil the genuine need for the systematic collation of valuable documentary material making such material available conveniently and readily to member countries and to scholars. The Bureau recommended that that proposal should be submitted to the Ministerial Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade for consideration.

113. The Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries held in Havana, Cuba from 15 to 20 May 1978 noted with appreciation the smooth manner and friendly atmosphere in which the Meeting was held.

The Bureau expressed its great satisfaction with the excellent arrangements made, particularly that the Government of Cuba responded to the appeal of the Bureau under special circumstances. The facilities provided by the host country and the warm reception and friendly attitude of the people of Cuba contributed immensely to the success of the Meeting.

The Bureau expressed its profound thanks and deep gratitude to the Government and people of Cuba under the leadership of H.E. Comandante en Jefe Fidel Castro, President of the Republic.

The Bureau reiterated its high appreciation for the role played by Cuba in its support of the cause of National Liberation and Freedom and its contribution to promote International Peace and Security.

The Bureau reaffirmed the importance of the forthcoming Sixth Summit Conference to be held in Havana, Cuba in 1979, and expressed its conviction that the Sixth Summit will contribute further towards the consolidation of the Non-Aligned Movement and strengthen its role in international affairs.

ECONOMIC MATTERS

1. The Bureau noted that the observation of the Heads of States or Governments of the Non-Aligned countries at their meeting in Colombo in August 1976, to the effect that developing countries continued to face "an acute crisis both with regard to the attainment and maintenance of minimal living standards of their peoples and their prospects for development" was still painfully valid.

2. The Bureau recalled that at its last meeting held in New Delhi it had concluded that there had been little or no improvement in the situation of developing countries due to the absence of any substantial progress towards the restructuring of the world economy.

The Bureau therefore considered that the continuation of this situation made it even more imperative for all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to intensify their efforts to ensure the early establishment of the New International Economic Order.

3. It reiterated that the struggle against the unjust world economic order was an integral part of the struggle of peoples against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, racial discrimination, Apartheid and all other forms of domination and exploitation as well as foreign occupation.

Review of the International Economic Situation

4. The Bureau reviewed the international economic situation and noted with concern that, since its last meeting in New Delhi in April 1977, there had been little or no progress towards restructuring the world economy and that the gap between the developed and developing countries continued to widen. Consequently, the situation of Non-Aligned and other developing countries, and in particular that of the least developed, landlocked and most seriously affected countries in the world economy continued to deteriorate.

The present international economic situation was characterized by retrogressive trends in the policies of developed countries regarding trade and transfer of resources for development.

5. In the area of trade, the protectionist policies of the developed countries could be viewed as their response to the shifts of comparative advantage in favour of developing countries in certain sectors, and to the efforts of the latter to process their own raw materials. The Bureau called upon developed countries to take all necessary measures to reverse that trend through the implementation of such well-conceived adjustment policies within their own economies, which are not to the detriment of developing countries.

6. The Bureau noted with concern the lack of progress in the multilateral trade negotiations which were being carried out in a discriminatory manner among the developed countries on a bilateral basis.

7. While the manufactures and semi-manufactures exported by developing countries faced tariff and non-tariff barriers, the earnings from raw materials exported by them continue to be vulnerable to external factors. This situation, coupled with the increase in prices of imports of the developing countries on the one hand, and the relative stagnation of prices of their exports on the other, had led to a worsening of the terms of trade of the developing countries as a whole.
8. In the area of transfer of resources for development, the Bureau noted with regret that such transfers from developed to developing countries, had fallen in the period 1976-77. That factor, in addition to the loss in export earnings by the developing countries, had led to an intolerable degree of indebtedness of the developing countries. The Bureau called upon those countries that had not already done so to make every effort to meet the target set for the transfer of ODA. The Bureau reiterated that aid should not be used as a means to exercise pressures on developing countries in shaping their national priorities and policies.
9. In summing up its review of the present international economic situation, the Bureau expressed its special concern over developments in the following areas: the decrease in the purchasing power of the developing countries as a consequence of the growing imbalance between the prices for their exports and the prices for their imports; the obstacles to the expansion and diversification by developing countries in the production of manufactured and semi-manufactured goods, caused, inter alia, by the protectionist and discriminatory policies of the developed countries; the adverse effects of inflation on the international economy, in particular, on the economies of developing countries; an international monetary system characterized by disorderly movements causing, inter alia, great loss in the earnings of developing countries exporters of raw materials and the necessity for a reform of the international monetary system to ensure adequate participation by developing countries in decision-making in that area, in order to make it more responsive to the needs of the developing countries; and lastly, the mounting external indebtedness of developing countries.
10. The Bureau reiterated the need to take into account the situation faced by those countries whose territories remained under colonial domination in order to consider measures to support their just cause of national liberation and the defence of their national resources. The Bureau reaffirmed the right of those peoples to compensation for the losses suffered during the period of struggle against colonial occupation, Zionism, racial discrimination and apartheid.
11. The Bureau reaffirmed its support for, and solidarity with, all developing countries in their efforts to exercise their right of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources.
12. In the face of the critical deterioration in the economic situation of the developing countries, the Bureau viewed with serious concern the lack of positive response on the part of many developed countries to the specific proposals of the developing countries in the various fora where negotiations were being held on the establishment of the NIEO, despite the flexibility shown by developing countries in these negotiations. The Bureau endorsed the decision of the General Assembly that these negotiations should take place within the United Nations system.

13. The Bureau noted with regret that the Conference on International Economic Co-operation fell far short of its agreed objectives.
14. The Bureau expressed its deep disappointment at the failure of the second negotiating session of the Common Fund. It reiterated, in particular, that the Common Fund must be conceived as the key instrument in attaining the objectives of the Integrated Programme for Commodities as contained in UNCTAD Resolution 93 (IV). It noted that the denial of the essential elements of the Common Fund by some developed countries had created the deadlock in the negotiations. The Bureau therefore appealed to those developed countries to reconsider their positions and to demonstrate the flexibility necessary for the resumption of the negotiations with a view to their early and successful conclusion.
15. The Bureau also expressed its deep regret at the lack of progress in the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities in so far as individual commodities were concerned. It noted that the deadline of February 1978, set in resolution 93 (IV), for the conclusion of the preparatory meetings for individual commodities which did not have agreements had passed without the completion of the stage of preparatory meetings on the 18 commodities identified at Nairobi, except one, natural rubber. While the developed countries had always affirmed their willingness to co-operate in preventing excessive price fluctuations in commodity markets, this has not been reflected in the meetings held so far on the individual commodities. The continuing drift at the meetings posed a real danger that the momentum towards the establishment of the Integrated Programme for Commodities would be lost, and that the Programme would become yet another exercise in frustration in the commodity field.
16. The Bureau called on all developed countries to take appropriate measures to enable the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities as a whole, at an early date.
17. The Bureau reviewed the results of the Ministerial meeting of the Trade and Development Board on Indebtedness held in March 1978 and noted the consensus in the international community to view debts of developing countries in a developmental perspective and in the context of the transfer of additional resources to developing countries. However, the Bureau expressed its concern that the developing countries continued to face a crushing debt burden, in particular the least developed countries, the land-locked countries and the most seriously affected countries and was of the view that the developed countries should make a conscious effort to resolve this problem which continues to exist. In this context, the Bureau noted with appreciation the steps taken by some developed countries to provide debt relief to developing countries.
18. The Bureau regretted the delay in the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency of the United Nations, and urged all parties concerned to make every effort to successfully conclude the negotiations as early as possible.
19. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the International Fund for Agricultural Development had started its operations.

20. The Bureau welcomed the creation of the Committee of the Whole established under United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/174. It noted with deep disappointment, however, that the first substantive session of the Committee had ended inconclusively and without concrete results as a consequence of a lack of will on the part of developed countries to negotiate. The Bureau urged all participants to make strenuous efforts to enable the Committee to fulfil effectively its role as a vital instrument for the establishment of the NIEO.

21. The Bureau recalled with satisfaction the crucial role played by the Non-Aligned Movement in promoting the acceptance of the principles of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries as an essential element of the NIEO in keeping with the principles of collective self-reliance. In this context, the Bureau welcomed the decision to hold a United Nations Conference on TCDC in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in August 1978, and expressed the hope that the Conference would be successful in ensuring the acceptance of TCDC as an important dimension of technical co-operation and as one of the principal means for the achievement of the collective self-reliance of developing countries.

22. The Bureau also welcomed the decision to hold a United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development in Vienna (Austria) in 1979 and expressed the hope that the Conference would successfully apply itself to the task of finding ways and means to ensure that the most recent and appropriate developments in science and technology would be made available, without any hindrance, to the developing countries to help them accelerate the process of their economic development.

23. The Bureau urged the Non-Aligned Countries to play an active role in the regional meetings and in the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, which would be held in Tanzania, in order to co-ordinate their positions on the issues to be discussed at UNCTAD V.

Role of the Non-Aligned Countries

24. Taking account of the current status of international economic negotiations, the Bureau expressed its satisfaction at the continuing unity of Non-Aligned Countries and reiterated the need for the Movement to maintain its catalytic role in the Group of 77. The Bureau called on all Non-Aligned Countries to maintain and strengthen the common front of the Group of 77 in regard to their legitimate demand for the early establishment of the NIEO. The Bureau emphasized that the Non-Aligned Countries should continue to take initiatives and play their role within the Group of 77 and achieve this objective.

The International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade in the context of the NIEO

25. The Bureau recalled the firm conviction expressed by the Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries at the Fifth Summit Conference that only a restructuring of international economic relations would provide a lasting solution to world economic problems, especially those of the developing countries and reiterated the urgent need to establish the New International Economic Order.

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26. The Bureau reiterated the need for the Non-Aligned Movement to take the initiative in the elaboration of a Strategy for the Third Development Decade, based on the principles for the establishment of the NIEO. The Bureau further recalled its decision at its last meeting to establish a working group of Non-Aligned countries, comprising experts nominated by respective Governments to elaborate a blueprint for the Third Development Decade.

27. The Bureau expressed the view that the blueprint for the Third Development Decade should be based on the twin pillars of global interdependence and collective self-reliance of developing countries.

28. The Bureau directed the working group of Non-Aligned countries on the Strategy for the Third Development Decade to bear in mind that the main objective of the Strategy must be to accelerate the development of developing countries through the establishment of the NIEO. The Bureau reaffirmed that the primary responsibility for the development of developing countries, including the satisfaction of the basic needs of their peoples, rests with themselves. It also reiterated that the efforts of developing countries alone would not achieve the desired objective of the New International Economic Order unless an adequately favourable external economic framework was also established. Any attempts to impose global priorities through alternative approaches to international development co-operation, such as through a global "basic needs" approach should be eschewed.

29. The Bureau was of the view that any alternative approaches would not only accentuate existing distortions in international economic relations but would also divert international attention from the need for the establishment of the New International Economic Order. The Working Group should elaborate measures which would not only restructure existing international relations but would facilitate the optimum utilization of resources of developing countries for their development on the basis of nationally determined needs and priorities.

30. The Bureau noted that some progress had already been achieved by the developing countries in regaining their sovereignty and control over their natural resources. Any future strategy of international development would not only have to ensure that such control was complete but also that conditions existed for the meaningful exploitation of such resources to ensure the creation of appropriate infrastructural and other conditions to further accelerate the economic development of developing countries.

31. The Bureau therefore decided that the new Strategy for the Third Development Decade should aim at the achievement of the following fundamental goals:

- Firstly, the new Strategy should be geared to ensure the early establishment of the New International Economic Order. Strenuous efforts would have to be made by all developed countries to show a greater degree of flexibility in restructuring existing economic relations;

- Secondly, the spirit of co-operation which seems to be moving in certain areas of international negotiations should be preserved, strengthened and universalized.

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- Thirdly, the new development Strategy must be based on the premise that the developmental process is indivisible; a concentration on any one sector of developmental activity through alternate approaches to international co-operation for development such as a global "basic needs" approach should be eschewed. External interference in the internal, social, economic and political processes in developing countries is not only undesirable but would be counterproductive.

- Fourthly, mutual co-operation among developing countries for the achievement of their collective self-reliance would not only terminate their economic dependence on the developed countries but would also reinforce and strengthen their collective bargaining power in international negotiations.

32. Among the essential elements of the new Strategy, the Bureau stressed the special importance of the following:

(a) Improvement in the position and increase in the share of developing countries in international trade.

(b) Promotion of industrialization in developing countries through optimum utilization of available resources, and scientific and technological co-operation, with a view to increasing their share in world industrial output.

(c) The exercise of effective control over foreign capital and particularly over the activities of transnational corporations in accordance with national laws and regulations and the development plans and priorities of developing countries.

(d) Substantial growth of agricultural production in the developing countries.

(e) Increased flows in real terms of untied financial resources to developing countries on a predictable, continuous and assured basis.

(f) The restructuring of the international monetary system to make it more responsive to the needs of developing countries.

(g) Development of the technological capacity of developing countries through, inter alia, utilization of indigenous resources and assured access to advanced technology.

(h) Contribution to the promotion of individual and collective development of developing countries, through programmes of economic co-operation among themselves.

(i) The elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, zionism, apartheid and other forms of racial discrimination which constitute important obstacles to the development of developing countries.

33. The Bureau expressed the hope that the Working Group of Experts would be convened at an early date, to submit, if possible, its preliminary report to the Ministerial Conference in Belgrade, scheduled to be held in July 1978.

Collective Self-Reliance

34. The Bureau emphasized the importance of Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries in promoting the development of the developing countries and as a strategy for building the necessary countervailing economic power to improve the bargaining position of the developing countries in the negotiations on the establishment of the NIEO.

35. The Bureau reiterated that the most pressing need was to develop a common will and to evolve suitable mechanisms to fully utilize the complementarities of resources and capabilities existing within the Non-Aligned and other developing countries for their mutual benefit and collective advancement. The Bureau therefore emphasized the importance of examining the possibilities for the promotion of arrangements for industrial complementarity among developing countries based on utilization of their various natural resource endowments.

36. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that since its last meeting the Non-Aligned countries had recorded, despite innumerable obstacles, encouraging progress towards the promotion of their economic independence and the expansion of economic co-operation among themselves.

37. These efforts and successes had created more favourable conditions for Non-Aligned countries in consolidating their individual and collective self-reliance. The Bureau emphasized the continuing necessity for all Non-Aligned countries to strengthen their unity and solidarity and to deploy greater efforts in implementing the Colombo Action Programme for Economic Co-operation. In this connection, the Bureau urged the formation, as appropriate, of new producers' associations and the strengthening of existing associations.

Implementation of the Colombo Action Programme for Economic Co-operation among Non-Aligned and other developing countries: Reports of the Co-ordinating Countries

38. The Bureau reviewed the implementation of the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation adopted in Colombo on the lines decided upon at its New Delhi meeting, and noted that some progress had been achieved towards the fulfilment of the decisions taken in Colombo in the following areas:

(a) Raw materials

(Co-ordinating Countries: Panama, Algeria, Peru, Senegal, Indonesia, Iraq, Cameroon, Cuba, Afghanistan)

39. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that, in accordance with the decision taken at its last meeting, a Plenipotentiary Conference of States Members of the

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Group of 77, took place in Geneva from 5 to 7 April 1978. The Conference adopted the Statutes and a Resolution establishing a "Council of Associations of Developing Countries, Producers - Exporters of Raw Materials."

40. The Bureau urged all Governments, members of Producers' Associations listed in the Annex to the Statute to take necessary action to enable those Associations to fulfil with all expedition the conditions for entry into force of the Statute as laid down under its relevant provisions.

(b) Trade

(Co-ordinating Countries: Afghanistan and Guyana)

41. The Bureau took note of the report of the Co-ordinating Countries and in the context of the decision taken at its last meeting concerning a study on the viability of extending the functions of the proposed Central Commercial Information Unit within the APEC/TTI Project in Georgetown, welcomed the establishment of a Trade Information Cell within the Project.

42. The Bureau urged all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to ensure the co-operation of national, sub-regional and regional trade promotion agencies in developing working links with the Trade Information Cell in order to enable it to disseminate on a regular basis trade and business information among developing countries.

43. The Bureau took note of the preparations being made by the APEC/TTI Project in Georgetown to convene a meeting of representatives of State trading organizations and foreign trade ministries, in keeping with the relevant decision of the Colombo Summit, and urged Non-Aligned and other developing countries to participate fully in the proposed meeting and to ensure the establishment of an appropriate system of co-operation among these organizations.

44. The Bureau noted that the study on suitable schemes for the fullest use of complementarities in terms of resource endowments and industrial and technological capacities would be presented by India to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries, for action by that Conference.

(c) Monetary and Financial Co-operation

(Co-ordinating Countries: India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Peru, Cuba, Yugoslavia)

45. The Bureau reviewed the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries and took note with satisfaction that the Co-ordinating Countries met in Belgrade in June-July 1977 and that a meeting of the Working Group of promotion of co-operation among central banks of Non-Aligned and other developing countries was held in Belgrade in January 1978.

46. On the basis of the recommendations of the Co-ordinating Countries in this sector, the Bureau decided:

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- (i) to invite interested Non-Aligned countries to volunteer to host the meeting of representatives of the Ministries of finance and of central banks, pursuance of the mandate given by the Colombo Summit and the meeting of the Governors of Central Banks as proposed by the Working Group on Co-operation among Central Banks of Non-Aligned and other developing countries.
 - (ii) to have the meeting determine the causes of delay in the implementation of the Colombo decisions in the Monetary and Financial sector and define the measures that should be taken to guarantee the most rapid and efficient realization of these objectives, including the implementation of the conclusions of the first meeting, held in Belgrade.
 - (iii) to speed up completion of the reports being prepared by the co-ordinators for presentation in the Monetary and Financial sphere.
 - (iv) to urge all Non-Aligned countries to sign and ratify the Statute of the Solidarity Fund for Economic and Social Development of Non-Aligned Countries, to enable the Fund to become operational at an early date.
 - (v) the Co-ordinating Countries, in consultation with the Government of Kuwait, explore ways and means to expedite the commencement of operations of the Fund, and make appropriate recommendations to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.
- (d) Industrialization

(Co-ordinating Countries: Guyana, Afghanistan)

47. The Bureau took note of the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries.

47 bis. The Bureau welcomed progress made in the implementation of the interregional project on co-operation among developing countries in the field of pharmaceuticals and urged Non-Aligned and other developing countries to co-operate in ensuring the success of the subject.

48. The Bureau decided that there be an intensification of the activities planned in other sectors of industry, such as fertilizers and pesticides, food processing and sugar derivatives and their production, with a view to presenting a progress report at an early date.

(e) Fisheries

(Co-ordinating Countries: Cuba, Libya, Morocco and Somalia)

49. The Bureau reviewed the report of the Co-ordinating Countries and noted with satisfaction the results of the meeting of experts of Non-Aligned and other developing countries held in Havana in November 1977. On the basis of the recommendations of that meeting the Bureau decided:

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- (i) to urge Non-Aligned and other developing countries to take measures to implement the decisions and recommendations of the experts meeting;
- (ii) to urge the Co-ordinating Countries to arrange periodic meetings at the expert level of all interested non-aligned and other developing countries to promote action in the areas identified at the Havana meeting, referred to above;
- (iii) that the Co-ordinating Countries convene meetings of Non-Aligned and other developing countries during the sessions of the FAO Committee on Fisheries, in order to co-ordinate their positions and review, as appropriate, their activities in this field.

(f) Transport

(Co-ordinating Countries: Guyana, Afghanistan)

50. The Bureau noted the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries.

- (i) It reiterated its call to all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to sign and ratify the Convention on the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences at an early date.
- (ii) The Bureau took note that the study on "The Development of Shipping Services between Developing Countries" had been circulated to all Non-Aligned and other developing countries and noted further that, as a second phase of the activities in this sector, a study on the volume and direction of trade flows among Non-Aligned and other developing countries over the next 10 years, is being undertaken by the APEC/TTI project in Georgetown.
- (iii) The Bureau further took note of the preliminary studies being undertaken by the APEC/TTI Project, on the feasibility of establishing an International Shipping Development Fund for financing the acquisition of ships by developing countries and on the establishment of an International Shipping Institute for training personnel from developing countries in the management of shipping. It urged the Co-ordinating Countries to expedite finalization of these studies with a view to their circulation among Non-Aligned countries.

(g) Telecommunications

(Co-ordinating Country: Cameroon)

51. The Bureau took note of the Report of the Co-ordinating Country in this field and requested all Non-Aligned countries to study the proposals contained in the report and to communicate their views to the Co-ordinating Country at an early date. The Bureau recommended that the forthcoming Ministerial Conference take further action in promoting co-operation in this sphere as identified in the Report of the Co-ordinating Country.

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52. In this context, the Bureau also took note of the important recommendations made in this field by the Co-ordinating Country of the Press Agencies Pool Committee on Co-operation of the Broadcasting Organizations and the Intergovernmental Council on Co-ordination of Information and Mass Media. It recommended that the Ministerial Conference in Belgrade urge the Non-Aligned Countries to endorse and implement recommendations particularly in regard to

- (i) improvements in mutual telecommunication facilities by establishing satellite communication, earth stations or other means to facilitate timely exchange;
- (ii) subsidizing news agencies, telex expenses to the extent of at least 50 per cent among Non-Aligned countries; and
- (iii) early introduction of concessional tariffs for direct mutual exchange of news.

(h) Insurance

53. The Bureau took note of the information conveyed by Algeria that, in accordance with the decision taken at its last meeting in New Delhi, a meeting of the representatives of insurance organizations of Non-Aligned Countries was held in Algiers in May 1978. It invited the host country to submit the final documents adopted at this meeting, to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference on Non-Aligned Countries for consideration and further action.

(i) Public Enterprises

54. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that in accordance with the decision of its last meeting held in Delhi, a sufficient number of countries had ratified and acceded to the statutes of the International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries in Ljublyana, Yugoslavia, which had created the necessary conditions for the holding of the General Conference in July 1978.

The Bureau urged all interested Non-Aligned and other developing countries which have not yet done so, to ratify and accede to the Statute of the International Centre for Public Enterprises at an early date.

(j) Health

(Co-ordinating Country: Cuba)

55. The Bureau noted the report of the Co-ordinating Country in this field and decided:

- (i) to endorse the Action Programme agreed to at the meeting held in Geneva in May 1978, attended by Health Ministers and representatives of the non-aligned and other interested developing countries, in particular the recommendations regarding strengthening the capacity of nations to define

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their health problems by diagnosing the present situation, thereby enabling them to establish national health policies and set priorities in this field; the promotion of training and advancement of professionals, technicians and skilled workers; the organization of statistical information and promotion research, integral medical care and material-child care health programmes; and regulation over production, import, marketing and distribution of medicines to cater to the real needs of the people.

- (ii) The Bureau further recommended that the non-aligned and other developing countries should ensure that the Sixth Work Programme of the WHO covering the period 1978-1983, earmark adequate resources for the promotion of health in the developing countries and in particular the implementation of the Action Programme.

(k) Technical Co-Operation and Consultancy Services

(Co-ordinating Countries: India, Panama)

56. The Bureau noted the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries in this field, and recommended that:

- (i) all Non-Aligned and other developing countries should actively participate in the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries scheduled to be held in Argentina in August 1978, at Ministerial level;
- (ii) In view of the fact that TCDC is primarily the responsibility of the developing countries, they should meet at an appropriate time to co-ordinate their positions on the issues to be discussed at this Conference.

57. The Bureau noted that in pursuance of the decision at its last meeting, the meeting of experts from national consultancy firms from all developing countries would be held in India by the end of 1978.

In this context the Bureau invited Non-Aligned and other developing countries to indicate to the host country a short list of the consultancy organizations in their own countries which would be interested in participating in this meeting.

(l) Scientific and Technological Development

(Co-ordinating Countries: Algeria, India, Peru, Somalia and Yugoslavia)

58. The Bureau took note of the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries, welcomed India's offer to host the Non-Aligned Centre for Science and Technology and recommended that the forthcoming Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries approve the setting up of the Centre in India. The Bureau further recommended that the host country should convene a Plenipotentiary Conference to approve the statutes for the Centre, at an early date.

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59. The Bureau noted further that a meeting of Co-ordinating Countries in the area of Science and Technology will convene in New Delhi, India from 19-21 June 1978 in order inter alia to prepare for the meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Application of Appropriate Technology.

(m) EMPLOYMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

(Co-ordinating Countries: Tunisia, Sri Lanka and Panama)

60. The Bureau noted the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries in this area.

61. The Co-ordinating Bureau further took note with satisfaction of the Report of the "First Conference of Ministers of Labour of Non-Aligned and other developing countries" held in Tunis in April 1978.

62. The Bureau recommended that the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries take appropriate action to facilitate the speedy implementation of the results of the Tunis Conference. The Bureau noted that the Co-ordinating Countries in this sector had been entrusted by the Ministerial Conference in Tunis with the task of following up this implementation, in particular the Action Programme, and informing the Non-Aligned and other developing countries of the progress in this regard.

63. The Bureau took note of the decision of the Tunis Conference that the Co-ordinating Countries for this sector present the Action Programme to the 65th Session of the International Labour Conference and to the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries which will take place in Buenos Aires (August 30 to September 12, 1978). In this regard, the Bureau recommended to the Non-Aligned and other developing countries to ensure that the relevant parts of the Action Programme are reflected in the decisions to be adopted by the Buenos Aires Conference.

(n) Role of Women in Development

64. The Bureau took note of the Report submitted on this subject. It reiterated its recommendation made at its last meeting that the following be designated Co-ordinating Countries:

Angola, Cameroon, Cuba, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Liberia, Yugoslavia and any other interested countries.

65. The Bureau welcomed the offer made by Iraq to host the Conference on "Role of Women in Development" in spring 1979 and recommended that the forthcoming Ministerial Conference accept this offer. The Bureau further welcomed the offer made by Iraq to host the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference on "Role of Women in Development", from 3-5 June 1978.

66. The Bureau therefore decided:

- (i) that participation in the Preparatory Committee be at the official and expert level;

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- (ii) the Preparatory Committee inter alia draft the agenda for the Conference on Role of Women in Development and commission any other preparatory work that may be required;
- (iii) the Research and Information System undertake, as a matter of priority, the completion of its task as outlined in the decision of the New Delhi Bureau Meeting, in order to contribute to the preparations for the Conference on Role of Women in Development;
- (iv) that the Report of the Preparatory Committee be presented to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries for further appropriate action.
- (o) Research and Information System

(Co-ordinating Countries: India, Peru, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Yugoslavia)

67. The Bureau took note of the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries in this area, and decided:

- (i) that the meeting of the Group of Experts of the System as defined at the New Delhi Bureau Meeting, be organized at an early date, if possible, before the forthcoming Ministerial Conference;
- (ii) to invite interested Non-Aligned Countries to offer to host a meeting of the Group of Experts;
- (iii) the study on the integration of women in development be completed by the end of 1978;
- (iv) the Group of Experts meeting also propose additional areas of interest to the Non-Aligned and other developing countries, in order to enable the next Ministerial Meeting of the Bureau to select other issues of vital interest to all developing countries;
- (v) calls upon all Non-Aligned and other developing countries to nominate their national institutions and experts to participate in the System, so as to broaden the area of co-operation in this field.

67 bis. The Bureau noted the proposal made by Sri Lanka concerning the provision of a Co-ordinated Information System with regard to trends in prices and supplies of key commodities in the international trade of Non-Aligned and other developing countries. The Bureau further noted that Sri Lanka will submit a working paper on the proposal in time for consideration at the Ministerial Conference to be held in Belgrade in July, 1978.

(p) Tourism

(Co-ordinating Countries: Cyprus, Morocco, Tunisia, United Republic of Cameroon)

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68. The Bureau took note of the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries and the Action Programme for Co-operation in Tourism among Non-Aligned and other developing countries annexed thereto.

69. The Bureau decided to transmit the Action Programme to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries for further action.

70. The Bureau requested the Co-ordinating Countries to circulate the Action Programme as soon as possible, before the Belgrade Conference, to all Non-Aligned and other developing countries.

71. The Bureau invited interested Non-Aligned countries to offer to host the meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts, which is to propose the practical modalities for the concretization of the Action Programme. The Bureau was of the view that this meeting should be held as early as possible, before the Sixth Summit Conference.

(q) Transnational Corporations

(Co-ordinating Countries: Algeria and Cuba)

72. The Bureau took note of the report of the Co-ordinating Countries in this field.

73. The Bureau noted that of the 20 Non-Aligned Countries that had signed the Statutes of the Information Centre on Transnational Corporations, three had ratified it so far. The Bureau therefore called upon all Non-Aligned countries to sign and ratify the Statute to enable the Centre to become operational at an early date.

74. The Bureau suggested that the Co-ordinating Countries should explore ways and means to expedite commencement of the work of the Centre and make appropriate recommendations to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries.

Sports (Algeria and Cuba)

75. The Bureau noted that a meeting of experts was due to be held in Algeria on 19 and 20 May 1978 and recommended that further action in this field should be decided upon at the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries based on the report of the Algiers Meeting.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

(Co-ordinating Countries: Egypt, Nigeria and Panama)

76. The Bureau took note of the report of the Co-ordinating Countries in this field and expressed its satisfaction at the unity of action of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries in the various international conferences and meetings held since the New Delhi Bureau Meeting.

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77. The Bureau stressed the necessity to sustain such unity of action at future conferences and meetings through careful preparation and co-ordination of the positions of the developing countries.

78. In particular, the Bureau called upon Non-Aligned and other developing countries:

(a) to press for the early implementation of the resolution adopted by the Ministerial Meeting of the Trade and Development Board on the debt problems of developing countries, held in March 1978.

(b) to seek greater harmonization of their positions on the preparatory meetings for individual commodities and to continue to press for the early conclusion of action on the 18 commodities enumerated in the Integrated Programme for Commodities in UNCTAD Resolution 93 (IV).

(c) to maintain their solidarity on the main elements of the Common Fund as the key instrument for the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

(d) to co-ordinate joint action for early resumption of negotiations for the transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency.

(e) to work for the mobilization of adequate financial and technical resources for the implementation of the plan of action of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa in accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 32/160.

(f) to arrange preparatory meetings for the careful preparation of the position of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries at the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, due to be held in Buenos Aires in August/September 1978, the UN Conference on the International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology scheduled to be held in Geneva in October/November 1978, the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development to be held in Vienna in 1979, and the Third General Conference of UNIDO to be held in New Delhi in 1980.

79. The Bureau recommended that the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade should review the preparatory work for UNCTAD V which had already been initiated by the representatives of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries in Geneva.

80. It further recommended that the forthcoming Belgrade Conference consider the strategy to be adopted by the Non-Aligned and other developing countries at the next session of the Committee of the Whole, established under United Nations General Assembly Resolution 32/74.

81. The Bureau reaffirmed its conviction of the urgent need to put an end to colonialism, neocolonialism, zionism, racial discrimination, apartheid, foreign

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aggression and occupation, which represent major obstacles to the development of developing countries. Assistance should therefore be intensified in support of the struggle for liberation of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Palestine. In this connexion greater efforts for contribution to the Non-Aligned Fund for the Liberation of southern Africa should be made by all Non-Aligned countries.

82. The Bureau called upon all Non-Aligned countries to undertake concrete steps to implement the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation. It was noted that the progress so far had been slow and was yet to acquire the desired momentum. The Bureau therefore called upon the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting in Belgrade to make a critical assessment of the over-all progress made so far in the implementation of the decisions of the Colombo Summit to identify the factors which impede the speedy implementation of the Action Programme and find ways and means of removing these obstacles.

83. The Bureau decided that the Report of the Co-ordinating Countries and other related documents referred to in the Communiqué be circulated separately to all Non-Aligned countries.

84. The Bureau noted that active interest had been expressed by some countries to act as Co-ordinating Countries in certain specific areas of the Action Programme. The Bureau, therefore, recommended to the forthcoming Ministerial Conference to consider their formal inclusion in the list of Co-ordinating Countries in the relevant fields of activity.

85. The Bureau reiterated that countries entrusted with the task of co-ordination in different fields were concerned with initiating, monitoring and follow-up action in their respective fields of activity.

Item 5 (d) Land-locked Countries

86. The Bureau expressed deep concern over the continuing lack of progress in the on-going negotiations on the Law of the Sea, including safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of land-locked developing countries. The Bureau recognized that in addition to the problems facing all developing countries, land-locked countries face additional burdens arising from diversions of their scarce resources to meet transportation costs which arise as a result of the denial of free transit to and from the sea. The Bureau called upon all States to render appropriate assistance to these countries.

87. The Bureau further urged the Non-Aligned and other developing countries, in a spirit of collective self-reliance and co-operative interdependence, to work towards a harmonized position on matters being considered by the Law of the Sea Conference.

FUTURE MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

88. The Bureau warmly welcomed an invitation from the Government of Mozambique

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to hold an Extraordinary Meeting of the Bureau at Ministerial level in Maputo. Recognizing the important developments taking place in southern Africa and bearing in mind the special concern of the Non-Aligned Movement in the struggle for the political liberation of the African continent, the Bureau considered that such a meeting of the Bureau would provide a unique opportunity to focus added attention on solidarity with the national liberation movements which were struggling for their freedom and national independence and on solidarity with the front-line states facing constant aggression by the racist and colonial regimes.

The members of the Bureau instructed their Permanent Representatives at the United Nations to choose the most convenient date for holding the Extraordinary Meeting in liaison with the Government of Mozambique.

The Bureau welcomed the offer by Sri Lanka to host its last ministerial meeting before the Havana Summit.

The Bureau particularly points out the need for all the non-aligned countries to make their full and active contribution in the successful holding of the forthcoming Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade, which should inter alia reassert and develop further, in accordance with the decisions of the Fifth Summit Conference in Colombo, the role of the Non-Aligned Movement as an independent universal factor in the struggle against colonialism and for a new system of political and economic relations in the world and to formulate specific courses of action in this respect; further reinforce the unity and solidarity of non-aligned countries; promote mutual co-operation on the basis of a broadest common denominator; make adequate preparations to ensure the successful holding of the Sixth Conference of Non-Aligned countries in Havana.

The Bureau noted with satisfaction the information given by the Yugoslav delegation on the preparations made so far by the host country for the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries and the provision of adequate conditions and facilities for the successful holding of this important gathering of non-aligned countries in Belgrade. The Bureau has decided to forward this information to all non-aligned countries.

The Bureau confirmed its previous decision to hold the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade from 25 to 29 July 1978 and instructed the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York Meeting at the level of Ambassadors and Officials to begin, as soon as possible, further preparatory work for the Conference. For this purpose following the practice of the Bureau, its deliberations would be open to all non-aligned countries and one of the priorities would be to establish the agenda of the Conference. The Co-ordinating Bureau at the level of Ambassadors and Officials will meet in Belgrade on 22 and 24 July 1978 prior to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries.
