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SECURITY COUNCIL

Fortieth year

Letter dated 1 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative
of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from His Excellency Prof. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, forwarding a copy of the Declaration

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of the Commemorative Meeting in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Asian-African Conference held in Bandung recently.

It would be much appreciated if this Declaration could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 10, 12, 18, 33, 34, 35, 38, 39, 50, 51, 57, 61, 65, 68, 69, 78, 84 and 94 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali ALATAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 27 April 1985 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Indonesia to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency a copy of the Declaration of the Commemorative Meeting in Observance of the 30th Anniversary of the Asian - African Conference, held in Bandung on April 24 - 25, 1985.

The document contains views regarding important political and economic issues confronting the world today as well as appeals and suggestions for their solution.

I would appreciate it very much, if Your Excellency could kindly arrange for its circulation as an official document of the United Nations.

(Signed) Prof. Dr. Mochtar KUSUMAAATMADJA
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Indonesia

APPENDIX

Declaration of the Commemorative Meeting in Observance of the
Thirtieth Anniversary of the Asian-African Conference

1. Delegations of Asian and African countries representing the peoples of the two continents met in Bandung on the 24th and 25th of April 1985 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Asian-African Conference. They reiterated their deep conviction in the continuing validity of the principles and objectives enunciated in the Final Communique of the 1955 Bandung Conference and stressed in particular the importance and enduring relevance of the Ten Principles embodied in the Declaration on the promotion of world peace and cooperation.

2. The great significance that they attach to these principles emanates from their common legacy and experience in the struggles for national liberation to cast off the colonial yoke, not only for their own countries, but for all peoples of Asia and Africa and other regions of the world.

Truly, more than any other factor it was this sense of common destiny that served as the unifying element and rallying point in bringing the representatives of Asia and Africa together in 1955 to chart their future together, resulting in the accelerated process of decolonization world-wide.

3. The 1955 Bandung Conference gave birth to a reinvigorated sense of national identity and common purpose, which has since become a constant inspiration and guide to joint action among the Asian, African and other states of the Third World. It has kindled a flame, a spirit of solidarity and determination, that has illuminated the hearts and minds of men and women throughout

Asia and Africa and beyond for three decades. The Bandung Conference was also the first international gathering to accord recognition to the liberation movements in Africa.

4. The basic ideas and orientation conceived in Bandung in 1955 found their further expression in Belgrade in 1961, when the Non-Aligned Movement was born, constituting another landmark in the onward march of peoples towards freedom, peace, justice and equality. Indeed, having paved the way for the birth and consolidation of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Bandung Principles today continue to be an inspirational reference for newly independent states and for peoples still struggling for their freedom and independence.

5. The issues and problems addressed by the Asian-African Conference in 1955, on economic and cultural cooperation, human rights and self-determination, colonialism, racism and the promotion of world peace and international cooperation, are as relevant today as they were thirty years ago. Equally valid remain the principles and recommendations enunciated and proposed for their solution.

6. The African and Asian countries observed with regret that many of the factors and conditions that contributed to a gravely disturbing international situation in the 1950's continue to afflict relations among states. Today, the world is beset by pervasive tensions, violence and growing insecurity. The adversary great power relationship has further increased the risk of nuclear war and the continuing need for "abstention from the use of arrangements of collective defence to serve the particular interests of any of the big powers" as contained in the Bandung Principles cannot be over-emphasized. The intensification of the arms race remains at the center of the international community's collective concern. They stressed that at this critical time it is the duty of the

international community to respond with even greater determination and commitment to the pleas of mankind for a halt to this head-long rush towards self-extinction.

7. The Asian and African countries expressed their deep concern at the accelerated arms race, particularly in the nuclear field, the danger of an impending arms race in outer space and the escalation of global military expenditures which represent a wasteful diversion of funds that can be made available for development purposes.

In this regard they emphatically reiterated that while the primary responsibility to prevent a nuclear catastrophe rests with the nuclear weapon states, it cannot be made the exclusive concern of those states, for world disarmament, peace and security are the responsibility of mankind as a whole.

In conformity with the overwhelming desire of the international community to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race, the nuclear weapon states are strongly urged to cease all nuclear weapon tests and the production of nuclear weapons, to commit themselves against their use, and to proceed immediately with negotiations on nuclear disarmament.

Welcoming the commencement of negotiations between the USSR and the USA on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms, they expressed the hope that these negotiations will yield significant results, in the common interest of all nations and all peoples.

8. The African and Asian countries expressed their great concern over the persistence of many conflict situations in various regions of the world. They reaffirmed that the principles of self-determination, sovereignty, non-intervention and non-interference and abstention from acts or threats of aggression or the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any country are inviolable. In this regard the on-going conflicts in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and other parts of the world require a speedy, just and peaceful solution in accordance with the United Nations Charter, the Ten Bandung Principles, and the principles and objectives of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

9. While the process of decolonization in general has reached its final decisive phase, the participating countries noted with great concern that the people of Namibia, having endured a century of colonial bondage, continue to languish under the illegal occupation of the Pretoria regime. They reiterated their solidarity with and support for the heroic struggle of the people of Namibia to achieve self-determination, freedom and national independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole and authentic representative.

They strongly condemned the racist regime of Pretoria for its decision to install a so-called interim administration in Windhoek and called upon all states members of the United Nations not to accord any recognition to or to cooperate with that puppet administration in Namibia. They reaffirmed that the only viable solution to the question of Namibia is the full implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) and rejected any linkage of Namibian independence with extraneous issues.

10. In expressing their strong indignation at the racist Pretoria regime's acts of repression against the people of South Africa, the participating countries reaffirmed that the eradication of apartheid remains one of the most urgent tasks before the international community. They underscored their solidarity with and unconditional support for the struggle waged by the oppressed people of South Africa under the leadership of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), for a democratic, non-racial unitary state.

They reiterated the imperative need for the United Nations Security Council to impose mandatory and comprehensive sanctions to compel the Pretoria regime to terminate its policies and practice of apartheid and its illegal occupation of Namibia.

11. Equally, participating countries expressed their full solidarity with and support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO their sole and legitimate representative, to achieve their inalienable rights, including the right to return, self-determination and the right to establish a national independent and sovereign state in Palestine. They expressed their indignation and condemned the racist brutal practices of Israel against the Arab population in the occupied territories in Palestine, South Lebanon and Golan. They remained fully convinced that there can be no just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict, until Israel totally and unconditionally withdraws from all Palestinian and Arab lands occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, in implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. The participating countries hailed the heroic national resistance in South Lebanon against Israeli occupation.

12. It is a matter of deep concern that three decades after the Bandung Conference the just demand of developing countries for the eradication of economic backwardness, domination and exploitation and for the achievement of equitable development and progress is yet to be fulfilled. The global economy is still embroiled in crisis and international economic relations are still characterized by inequity and structural imbalances. The world has experienced the most prolonged recession in the post war period accompanied by stagnation in the transfer of resources to the developing

countries, deterioration in their terms of trade, mounting protectionism against their exports and the accumulation of a staggering debt burden. Despite their best efforts, the pace of development has been seriously set back in many developing countries and, indeed, reversed in the least developed and poorest among them where deprivation and abject poverty remain the daily plight of hundreds of millions of people.

13. The participating countries expressed strong concern at the critical economic situation in Africa particularly in countries affected by drought, desertification, refugees and other external factors. They urged the international community to take urgent effective measures through bilateral and multilateral assistance to support the considerable efforts of the African countries to alleviate the situation.

14. In the face of the global nature of the challenges confronting mankind, an equally global response is called for. The Asian and African countries called for a new vision in international economic co-operation which recognizes that global economic recovery will be sustained and durable only if it is

accompanied by urgent measures to reactivate the development of the developing countries, inter-alia through the enlargement of the transfer of concessional resources to the developing countries, dismantling of protectionist barriers in the developed countries and a long-term solution of the debt problem. They also stressed the need for the urgent implementation of special measures in favor of the least developed countries. The participating countries further urged all developed countries to join in the early resumption of negotiations to evolve new structures in international finance, trade and industry that are more equitable and responsive to the needs and interests of the developing countries and would usher in the New International Economic Order.

15. By the same token and in conformity with the spirit of Bandung, it is of paramount importance that the developing countries strengthen their mutual co-operation and intensify their efforts for achieving collective self-reliance. Only through the effective implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action of 1978 (TCDC) and the Caracas Programme of Action of 1981 (ECDC) can they begin to reduce the vulnerability of their economies, enhance genuine interdependence, and thus contribute towards the establishment of the NIEO.

16. To deal with the multitude of formidable issues before the international community, the African and Asian countries stressed that the principles contained in the Final Communique of the Bandung Conference and subsequently amplified in the Declarations of the Non-Aligned Movement are central to their peaceful and just solution as well as to the foundation of the NIEO.

17. The Asian and African countries reiterated their conviction that development of cultural cooperation is one of the most effective means in promoting understanding among nations. It is heartening to note that the ever expanding cultural relations among Asian and African states since 1955 have strengthened the fraternal bonds among their peoples. Aware of the significance of the spiritual and universal foundation of the cultures of Asia and Africa they underscored the need to preserve their cultural heritage as a fundamental element of their national identity. Therefore, in the interest of preserving their cultural heritage and national identity and ensuring more balanced flow of information and communication among the international community as a whole, it is imperative to exert greater efforts to achieve the realization of the New International Information and Communication Order (NIICO), initiated by UNESCO.

18. The African and Asian countries also reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Noting the present tendencies among some countries to retreat from multilateralism, they expressed their conviction that the United Nations is the unique and indispensable forum for resolving the major world issues. In this connection they considered that the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations would provide the best opportunity to review the performance of the United Nations system over the past four decades with a view to enhancing its role and effectiveness in achieving peace, security, justice and development as well as in establishing equitable economic relations between states, in developing and strengthening friendly relations among nations, in promoting fundamental human rights and freedoms in the world and generally in solving international problems of a political, economic or social character.

19. The Asian and African countries solemnly pledged their unswerving commitment to continue to promote the spirit of Bandung by strengthening the solidarity among the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and all other developing countries within the framework of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77, and they called on all countries to join them in this endeavour by intensifying their cooperation for a better future.