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SECURITY COUNCIL

Fortieth year

Letter dated 14 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request you to arrange for the document entitled "Declaration and Programme of Action", adopted at the Ministerial Regional Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa, held at Lomé (Togo) from 13 to 16 August 1985, to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 25, 30, 34, 35, 48, 59, 61, 62, 68 and 69, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kwam KOUASSI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Regional Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa

Lomé Declaration and Programme of Action

In accordance with resolution AHG/Res.126 (XX) and AHG/Res.138 (XXI) adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at their twentieth Assembly, in 1984, and their twenty-first Assembly, in 1985, respectively, and taking into account United Nations General Assembly resolution 37/100 F on regional disarmament and 39/63 J on the World Disarmament Campaign, a ministerial regional Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa was convened in Lomé, Togo, from 13 to 16 August 1985 by the Organization of African Unity in co-operation with the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. After having thoroughly considered the issues of security, disarmament and development in Africa, the Conference adopts the following:

- A. Lomé Declaration on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa; and
- B. Programme of Action for Peace, Security and Co-operation in Africa.

A. LOME DECLARATION ON SECURITY, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
IN AFRICA

1. The Conference recognizes the close interrelationship and interdependence between the objectives of security, disarmament and development, not only in Africa but world-wide, and expresses its conviction that their realization is essential for durable peace and security everywhere in the world.
2. The Conference considers peace and security as the highest priority objective of independent African States and the foundation for socio-economic development. The Conference affirms its conviction in the legitimate right of every State to security and self-defence and stresses the position that the progressive reduction of arms must be to enhance peace and security through the minimum level of armaments and armed forces.
3. The Conference stresses that the concept of security in the region must go beyond military security and the prevention of armed conflicts to encompass a sustained commitment by States of the region to African, national, bilateral and multilateral programmes of socio-economic development, justice, equity and human dignity.
4. The objective of disarmament efforts in the region should take into account existing realities in other regions and avoid placing Africa in a real or perceived permanent security disadvantage. There should be a collaborative effort that eliminates inter-State arms competition in the region, fosters the peaceful settlement of disputes and enhances a united approach in dealing with threats to the region's peace and security.

5. The Conference recognizes that Africa's military expenditures are relatively low compared to those of other regions of the world, taking into consideration particularly the multiple threats and the permanent aggression of the racist South African régime. At the same time the Conference takes note that vis-à-vis the current situation, security requirements of African States impose extremely heavy burdens at the detriment of the social and economic development of African States.

6. The Conference considers that an improved international climate, especially in the relations among the major Powers, in particular the two super-Powers, as well as in the relations between North and South, would enhance the prospects for security, disarmament and development in Africa, and the world as a whole. The Conference takes note of recent signs towards relaxation of tension in great power relations, as reflected in the seemingly widening scope of contacts and negotiations between the two super-Powers. The Conference however, calls for a more sustained process of negotiations among the major Powers, especially between the two super-Powers, in the disarmament field since the continued possession of nuclear weapons and the continuing nuclear and conventional arms race constitute a constant destabilizing factor for all regions and the greatest danger to human survival.

7. The Conference, recognizing the universality of the objectives of security, disarmament and development, emphasizes the urgency and indispensability of international co-operation in efforts towards their attainment. In this connection, the Conference believes that despite inadequate progress, the United Nations remains the appropriate forum for global common endeavours towards a new world order free from war and want, more just and equitable, and hence, more peaceful.

8. The Conference, at the same time, underlines the importance of regional efforts at peace-keeping and conflict resolution among States in accordance with the principles of the OAU charter. Such efforts aimed at building confidence, promoting friendly relations and co-operation and finding solutions to local disputes among the States of the regions concerned can play a vital role in enhancing the objectives of security, disarmament and development in the region.

9. The Conference considers that closer co-operation between the United Nations and regional and interregional organizations will allow for more effective utilization of the wide international experience, capabilities and resources of the United Nations to the service of regional efforts. In this connection, the Conference welcomes the existing co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and attaches much importance to the continuing expansion of such co-operation to cover also activities and programmes in security-related fields.

10. The Conference reaffirms that Africa is currently confronted by a critical socio-economic situation which has developed in part because of natural conditions such as drought, cyclones and desertification and is being aggravated by conditions and instances of instability and conflict in the region. While taking note with appreciation and commending efforts deployed by the OAU Heads of State and Government and assistance provided regionally and from other countries and regions

as well as international organizations, to alleviate the immediate problems of famine, the Conference recognizes the primary responsibility of African States for long-term rehabilitation and development in the countries concerned and in the region as a whole.

11. The Conference considers that it is the existence of insecurity that compels African States to divert their meagre resources to meet the burdens of military expenditures for the purpose of maintaining internal stability and the defence of their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

12. The Conference views the minority apartheid régime and its policies in South Africa as one of the main causes for insecurity, aggression, economic destabilization and an arms race in Africa. The régime thus threatens regional as well as international peace and security, especially since achieving a nuclear weapon capability, and it continues to expand its overall military establishment. The Conference expresses its conviction that the elimination of the apartheid system in South Africa and the attainment of immediate independence by Namibia in accordance with the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity would greatly reduce the climate of tension and conflict in southern Africa and enhance the prospects for disarmament, development, security and peaceful co-operation throughout Africa.

13. The Conference expresses deep concern over the active collaboration between the South African racist régime, Israel and some Western Powers in the establishment and continued development of the South African nuclear weapon capability. The Conference views such collaboration as worsening the already explosive situation in the region and firmly condemns it.

14. The Conference emphasizes the importance of the need for concrete action to promote peace, security and disarmament in Africa with a view to reinforcing durable conditions and structures for inter-African development and co-operation in the region. The Conference is convinced that declarations on peace, security and co-operation and African regional agreements of non-aggression and assistance on matters of defence should be supported with more concrete and practical measures without delay and re-activate consideration of the Draft Convention on the Denuclearization of Africa or consider an appropriate legal instrument that would define Africa as a nuclear-free zone.

15. The Conference expresses its firm conviction that only through arrangements and mechanisms that mitigate inter-African tensions can the region maintain a credible and positive role in a world confronted by the deadly East/West rivalry that African States cannot control but whose outcome could decisively affect the destinies of African States as well.

16. As the Conference has taken place on the fortieth anniversaries of the use of the first atomic weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the end of the Second World War and the birth of the United Nations, the Conference views this gathering as an especially solemn and auspicious opportunity for Africa to join the rest of the world in an urgent recommitment and rededication to the principles and objectives enshrined both in the Charter of the United Nations and the charter of the

Organization of African Unity. It calls on all States to replace despair with hope, to end fear and want, to build bridges of friendship, peaceful coexistence and co-operation in a world free from nuclear weapons and "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

**B. PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN AFRICA**

The Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa,

Recalling that the fundamental objective of African States since their accession to independence has always been the quest for peace as a practical course of action that would allow them to devote their energies and resources fully to the urgent task of improving the well-being of their peoples,

Reaffirming the continuing validity and urgent need for firm recommitment to the concrete implementation of the purposes of the Organization of African Unity as provided in article II of the OAU charter, as follows:

- (a) To promote the unity and solidarity of African States;
- (b) To co-ordinate and intensify their co-operation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa;
- (c) To defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and independence;
- (d) To eradicate all forms of colonialism from Africa; and
- (e) To promote international co-operation, having due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that this first high-level regional political gathering on security, disarmament and development in Africa has provided a valuable opportunity for OAU Member States to reflect collectively on three of the most critical issues affecting Africa's present and future aspirations and strategies for peace and progress,

Bearing in mind its Lomé Declaration on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa,

Adopts this Programme of Action for Peace, Security and Co-operation in Africa by which the Conference, as a matter of priority:

1. Calls for a continuous and sustained process of diplomatic contact and negotiation within the framework of OAU towards arriving at politically binding commitments fostering regional peace, security and co-operation within the context of a future Conference on Security and Co-operation in Africa;

2. Calls urgently upon African States, individually, bilaterally, subregionally and regionally, to implement measures aimed at realizing internal and inter-State peace, security, co-operation and solidarity in the region;

3. Calls upon African States to keep OAU informed of decisions or agreements reached by them bilaterally or subregionally relating to defence or military co-operation with a view to facilitating its co-ordinating role in regional defence, in accordance with the OAU charter;

4. Calls for intensified co-operation with and assistance from the United Nations towards the realization of concrete and effective measures initiated by African States themselves to ensure peace and security in the region;

5. Calls upon the Secretary General of OAU, with the assistance and co-operation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to elaborate and submit to the 44th OAU Council of Ministers, concrete proposals which could serve as a basis for discussions and negotiations among Member States on the following:

- (a) Possibilities and arrangements for defence co-operation and co-ordination at the subregional and regional levels;
- (b) Possibilities and arrangements for the reduction of military expenses by Member States at the subregional and regional levels;
- (c) Possibilities and arrangements for preventing arms transfers to mercenary forces and other non-governmental groups in independent African States;
- (d) Concrete measures for the implementation of the OAU Declaration of 1964 on the Denuclearization of Africa and the re-activation of the Draft Convention on the Denuclearization of Africa or the drafting of an appropriate legal instrument that would define Africa as a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

6. Calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to create as soon as possible a United Nations regional centre in Africa for peace and disarmament, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/63 J which envisages the establishment of a regional organ under the World Disarmament Campaign Programme of the United Nations and OAU resolution AHG/Res.138 (XXI) of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity requesting that such a centre be established in Africa;

7. Welcomes with appreciation the offer of the Government of Togo to host the proposed United Nations regional centre for peace and disarmament and to provide the United Nations at no cost with office space for the centre;

8. Stresses the utmost importance for the proposed centre to serve as a focal point for promoting co-ordination and harmonization of research, study, documentation and information activities in the interrelated fields of peace, security, disarmament and development, in co-operation with the institutions of the United Nations especially the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,

the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the United Nations University;

9. Calls upon African scientists, researchers and institutions to submit to the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government through the OAU Secretary General within one year, views and suggestions on the possible establishment of a subregional or regional programme for nuclear research for peaceful purposes in Africa;

10. Calls upon all States, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other agencies or institutions in all States to terminate any form of collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field until that régime opens up all its nuclear facilities to IAEA safeguards and inspections and abandons its policies of aggression, internal oppression and apartheid;

11. Calls upon all States, institutions and the international community as a whole to terminate all purchases of uranium from the racist régime of South Africa until that régime ends its illegal occupation of Namibia and abandons apartheid;

12. Calls upon the United Nations Security Council to assume its responsibilities under the United Nations Charter with regard to the maintenance of peace and security and to take the necessary measures to deter the racist régime of South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter from its breaches of and threats to international peace and security;

13. Calls upon the Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council in general, and the two super-Powers in particular, to assume their responsibilities under the Charter with regard to international security, and take effective action to stop South Africa's expanding military and nuclear programmes and activities;

14. Calls for concrete implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 39/151 G on the review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, initiated by a group of African countries and adopted at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly by consensus, as a matter of highest priority;

15. Calls for the strengthening of the capacity of the United Nations for effective action in the field of disarmament, which, inter alia, should enable the world organization to render adequate assistance and co-operation with regional organizations especially OAU in the fields of security, disarmament and development;

16. Supports the convening, in 1986, of an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as agreed to by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 39/160;

17. Recommends to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity to designate 15 August, the date of the adoption of the Lomé Declaration on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa, as an African Day of Peace and Disarmament.