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and 144 of the preliminary list\*

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SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 12 June 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press communiqué, in Arabic, dated 4 June 1990, issued by the thirty-fifth session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council held at Taif, Saudi Arabia, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Youaef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23, 25, 35, 46, 71, 82 and 144 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Izzat) Bin Sabeel AL-ZADGALY  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

\* A/45/50.

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ANNEX

Press communiqué issued at Taif, Saudi Arabia, on 4 June 1990  
by the thirty-fifth session of the Ministerial Council of the  
Gulf Co-operation Council

The Ministerial Council held its thirty-fifth session at **Taif**, Saudi Arabia, on 11 **Dhu'lqa'dah** A.H. 1410 (4 June A.D. 1990), under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin **Abdullah**, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Chnan and Chairman of the current session, with all its members present.

In accordance with the directives of Their **Majesties** and Their Highnesses the leaders of the States of the Council and drawing inspiration from the principles embodied in the resolutions of the Supreme Council, the Ministerial Council recalled the important resolutions of the Extraordinary Arab Summit **Conference** in Baghdad and the Final statement adopted by it on 30 May 1990. It studied the positive results achieved by the Summit Conference and commended the fraternal and constructive spirit that **characterized** the Conference and the clear resolve to eliminate causes of division and to achieve Arab solidarity, which was the basis of joint Arab **endeavour** and the source of Arab strength in dealing with regional and international challenges.

In this context, the Council expressed its congratulations on the occasion of the establishment of the Republic of Yemen, **which realized the Yemeni** people's desire for unity. It expressed **its backing and support** for this unity, in the hope that this step would contribute to the **realization** of the **aspirations** of the fraternal **Yemeni** people for progress and prosperity in such **a way as** to ensure peace and security in the region.

The Council reviewed the situation in the Gulf region and the developments in contacts with a view to the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987). The Council commended the initiative of Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of **Iraq**, in addressing direct messages to the Iranian President. The Council considered that Iranian responsiveness would assist in preparing a positive climate for the commencement of direct negotiations between the two parties to deal with problems and implement the principles embodied in Security Council resolution 598 (1987). In the light of that, the Council reaffirmed its support for the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Council reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the developments in the intifadah in the light of the resolutions of the Extraordinary Summit Conference. With guidance from the principles laid down by Their Majesties and Their Highnesses and represented in the resolutions of the Supreme Council at its last session, the Council expressed its condemnation of the inhumane Zionist policy aimed at liquidating the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of its independent State, and the use of violent means and torture in opposing the resolve of this people to exercise its legitimate right to eliminate all traces of the occupation, free itself from its bonds and establish its independent State.

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The Council renewed its support for the struggle of the Palestinian people until such time as it was able to arrive at a solution that met its aspirations, accorded with its resolve and realized its will. The Council expressed profound regret that the United States of America should have resorted to the veto in order to prevent the Security Council from sending a mission to engage in fact-finding and provide the necessary protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The Council also reviewed the situation in Lebanon and affirmed the statements made in that regard by the recent Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference in Baghdad. It expressed profound regret at the bloody events that had taken place in Lebanon and its deep sympathy with the suffering of the Lebanese people. It called upon the people of Lebanon to exercise restraint and to put an end to the fighting, halt the violence and avoid anything that might obstruct the course of recovery, reconciliation and peace by rallying under the legitimate banner in order to end the tragedy and ensure the return of peace and stability to fraternal Lebanon. It stressed that its support for the legitimate Lebanese authority would continue, that the Taif Agreement was the appropriate framework for safeguarding the interests of all Lebanese without exception and that it represented the way in which Lebanon could be extricated from the vortex of violence and peace and security achieved.

The Ministerial Council commended the efforts of the High-level Tripartite Committee and called upon it to continue to make further efforts until its goals for Lebanon's recovery of its unity and independence and the extension of the authority and sovereignty of the Lebanese State to all Lebanese territory were achieved.

The Council took note of the developments in the negotiations between the States of the Gulf Co-operation Council and the European Economic Community and of the recommendations of the Financial and Economic Co-operation Committee. In the light of the joint meeting held by the Ministerial Council and the Financial and Economic Co-operation Committee on Sunday, 10 Dhu'lqa'dah A.H. 1410 (3 June 1990), and proceeding from the decision of the Supreme Council to authorize the Ministerial Council to pursue the negotiations, the Council decided that official negotiations with the European Economic Community should begin and that the Secretary-General and the negotiating team should be authorized to take the necessary steps to that end.

The Council decided to hold another meeting with the Financial and Economic Co-operation Committee on Sunday, 13 Safar A.H. 1411 (2 September A.D. 1990) to continue consideration of the question of the negotiations.

The Council also took note of the minutes of the various Ministerial Committees and adopted appropriate decisions concerning them.