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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 55TH MEETING

Chairman: Mr. GBEHO (Ghana)

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ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 11.00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 58, 59 AND 137 (continued)

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee will continue its general debate on agenda items relating to the strengthening of international peace and security.

Mr. KORNEENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic)(interpretation from Russian): The discussion of the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security is taking place at a complex time and one which is disturbing for the whole of mankind. We must note with great alarm the further worsening of the international situation, the increasing danger of a thermo-nuclear conflict, which would have catastrophic consequences for life on earth, and the heightened threat to the freedom and independence of peoples.

The main source of the exacerbation of international tensions has been the policy adopted by the imperialist circles of the United States: an anti-détente policy; a policy of confrontation, force, threats, diktat and interference in the internal affairs of States. As a result of this, not only are existing hotbeds of military tension being kept alive, but new military conflicts and crises are breaking out in various parts of the world.

The arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, which is now spiralling out of control, and efforts to achieve military supremacy pose particular danger.

As has been emphasized in this discussion, the problems of international security and disarmament are closely inter-related, and progress towards their solution can only be achieved by parallel action on both. It is impossible to conceive that the accumulation of ever newer mountains of weaponry, attempts to achieve military advantages and a reliance on force could strengthen peace. The absurdity and danger of that policy is obvious, as is the fact that halting the arms race and achieving measures of genuine disarmament on the basis of the principle of equality and identical security would diminish the military threat and promote the strengthening of confidence among States, reducing tensions and strengthening international security. It is therefore impossible to agree with the arguments of those who would relegate the solution of disarmament issues to a position subordinate to and dependent on the solution of problems of strengthening

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international security. Those arguments are nothing but an attempt to justify the continuing arms race and the absence of progress towards disarmament, and an unwillingness to agree to concrete disarmament arrangements. Now, at a time when the threat of nuclear war hanging over mankind is very real, it is more than ever necessary to achieve the decisive and urgent implementation of practical measures of disarmament, particularly of nuclear disarmament.

As has already been pointed out, the unilateral assumption by the Soviet Union of an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons has great historical significance. This was a concrete and important contribution to the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

In the draft resolution adopted in this Committee on 23 November, the hope is expressed that other nuclear-weapon States would consider making similar statements. Unfortunately, we must note that not only has the United States not followed that example, but it is now relying very heavily precisely on force, on an arms build-up and on the possibility of using nuclear weapons. In efforts to achieve military supremacy, the Washington Administration, discarding agreements earlier arrived at, has embarked on a record build-up of its military budget and on a complex plan for the development of United Nations strategic armaments of unprecedented dimensions, including the latest MX missiles, which possess a first-strike capability. It is clear that all these steps taken by the United States towards over-armament are designed not to strengthen international security as we are led to believe, but to attempt to consolidate the United States policy of acting from a position of strength and to lay the political and psychological foundation for dangerous doctrines and various scenarios of nuclear war. The strategists of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) do not hide the fact that their military doctrine does not exclude the possibility of the first use of nuclear weapons or even that it is virtually built on that dangerous postulate.

World public opinion is being led to believe that force will continue in the future to be the sole instrument of policy and that wars making use of nuclear neutron weapons and other types of weapons of mass destruction are entirely admissible.

The cause of peace and security requires maximal efforts to halt the process of the aggravation of tensions and to exclude the use of force from international relations. That cause would be served by the prompt conclusion of a world treaty

on the non-use of force in international relations. Such a measure is long overdue. But it has thus far been blocked by the United States and its allies. If adopted that measure would provide a reliable means of opposing the use of any type of weapons, nuclear or conventional, and would build confidence among States, promoting the peaceful settlement of problems, disputes and disagreements, and the establishment of good-neighbourly relations between States.

As is emphasized in the communiqué issued at the meeting of Foreign Ministers of States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty held at Moscow on 21 and 22 October this year:

"No matter how complex contentious issues between States may be, there can be no justification for attempts to solve them by the use of force or the threat of force. All international disputes must be resolved solely by political means, through negotiations, in keeping with the principles and norms of international law".

The attainment of the aims of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security requires the solution by peaceful means, without the use of force, of existing international conflicts, and the prevention of the outbreak of new hotbeds of tension.

We are convinced that it is precisely in that way that it will be possible to solve any problem, whether world-wide or regional. What is needed for this is first of all good will, a responsible approach and a renunciation of the policy of force, threats and diktat. But, taking cover behind fabricated notions of a mythical "Soviet threat" and carrying out a campaign of slander against the socialist countries, the imperialist circles are not merely stepping up the arms race and accumulating weapons at an unprecedented rate, but are also engaging in interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States and adopting a policy of the escalation of conflicts and the consolidation of so-called spheres of influence. What regions of the world, we wonder, are not to be declared zones of so-called vital United States interests? Already more than 1,500 military bases and facilities have been set up on that basis in all regions of the world. And Western propaganda would have it that those interests are in danger. For their "defence" the notorious rapid deployment force is being established, attempts are being made to piece together new military and political groupings, a new "crusade" against

socialism has been proclaimed, and so forth. That truly constitutes a neo-colonialist and imperialist policy which is doing immense harm to the aims and principles of the Declaration and the cause of peace and security in general.

In response to this policy, the socialist countries have espoused a responsible and constructive approach and a policy of reaching agreements on all relevant international problems.

Bearing in mind the need to promote the general relaxation of international tensions, the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty have, as is well known, proposed the simultaneous dissolution of the two military-political alliances, NATO and the Warsaw Treaty. They have also proposed that neither of those alliances should extend its activities to other regions, such as Asia, Africa and Latin America. We are entitled to expect similar action from NATO.

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The cause of the strengthening of security and co-operation in Europe requires ensuring the success of the Madrid meeting. In this regard particular significance would attach to the meeting's adoption of a decision for the convening, within the framework of the general European process, of a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe and agreement on its mandate.

In the recent past there has been a sharp exacerbation of the situation in the Middle East. The Israeli aggression in Lebanon, the stepping up of the policy of genocide against the Arab people of Palestine and the barbarous slaughter of civilians in West Beirut were direct consequences of the Camp David conspiracy and the strategic co-operation between Washington and Tel Aviv.

The only thing that can eliminate the military focal point of tension in the Middle East is a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement, which should in particular include the full withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, implementation of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to set up their own independent State, and the guaranteeing of the right of all the States of the region to a secure and independent existence. It is essential without delay and in a responsible manner to set about the task of bringing about a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East with the participation of all interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization. Only thus, and not by means of separate deals, will it be possible to bring a lasting peace to the peoples of the Middle East.

A serious danger to the cause of peace and security is posed by the strengthening of the campaign of threats and provocations against Cuba and Nicaragua and interference in the internal affairs of El Salvador and other countries of Central America. It is therefore essential to redouble efforts to seek normalization of the situation in the region on the basis of respect for the right of each people freely to determine its own fate.

In order most promptly to implement the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security special attention should be paid to the complete elimination of the remnants of colonialism and racism and the criminal

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system of apartheid, and it is essential without delay to grant independence to the people of Namibia and to put an end to the constant aggressive acts of South Africa against Angola and other independent African States.

Here again, invoking its notorious 'vital interests', the United States has openly taken the racists of Pretoria under its wing and is strengthening its strategic co-operation with them and thereby encouraging them to commit ever more crimes against the African peoples. Aided by the South African Republic, the imperialist forces have thus been trying to preserve the colonial and racist set-up in southern Africa and to destabilize the situation in a number of independent African countries, to undermine the national liberation movement in the region and to provide for the further plunder and exploitation of Africans.

It is precisely in this light that we must also view attempts to impede the granting of independence to Namibia and the artificial linkage of this question to the presence of Cuban contingents in Angola.

In response to the Secretary-General's questionnaire the Ukrainian SSR has already set forth its views on concrete measures for the strengthening of security in the Mediterranean region, the conversion of which from a region of military and political confrontation into a zone of stable peace and co-operation would be an important step towards the guaranteeing of a general and stable peace.

Of great significance for the strengthening of security in Asia would be realization of the initiative of the Mongolian People's Republic on the conclusion of a convention on mutual non-aggression and the non-use of force in relations between the States of Asia and the Pacific. We support that important and relevant proposal. It follows the same lines as the proposals for the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The Ukrainian SSR also expresses its solidarity with the struggle of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea for the normalization of the situation in the Korean Peninsula and the peaceful, democratic reunification of the Korean homeland without outside interference. It favours the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea.

The elimination of focal points of tension in South-East Asia would be very conducive to the cause of peace as a whole. That is why we support

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the initiative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea for the transformation of that region into a zone of peace and stability.

A path to the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan has been opened up by the constructive proposals of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Above all it is essential that there be a full cessation and guarantee of non-resumption of aggressive actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and other forms of interference in its internal affairs.

One of the conditions for the strengthening of international security is the prompt overcoming of the present crisis situation in the world and the resurgence and strengthening of détente and the peaceful coexistence of States. It is impossible not to see that there is no other reasonable alternative to the policy of détente. Only thus will it be possible to avert nuclear disaster, normalize the situation in the world, bring about real disarmament, guarantee the very existence and development of human civilization and solve the many global problems confronting mankind in the most varied spheres.

A major role in the resurgence and development of the process of détente could be played by the United Nations, which must justify its role as an important instrument for the maintenance of peace.

This month the Soviet people is observing an outstanding date in its history, the sixtieth anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. For all those years our country has consistently defended the principles of peaceful coexistence and advocated the elimination of war from the life of mankind.

As was emphasized by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Comrade Andropov, in his statement of 22 November of this year:

'From the first days of Soviet power our State has unwaveringly expressed its willingness to engage in open and honest co-operation with all countries that will reciprocate. Differences in social systems must not impede this, and indeed do not impede it, when there is good will on both sides.'

(Mr. Korneenko, Ukrainian SSR)

It is only thus - through détente, negotiation and co-operation, and not through a policy of anti-détente, confrontation, the arms race and pressure - that a peaceful future for mankind as a whole can be secured. That is why it is the duty of the United Nations to do its utmost to ensure that the positive achievements of the 1970s will be retained, strengthened and developed so that the world will not be allowed to slide towards a nuclear abyss and that the development of constructive dialogue for the strengthening of peace and security will be promoted.

Mr. MURRAY (Trinidad and Tobago): Mr. Chairman, in taking the floor for the first time during this session, my delegation wishes to extend to you and the other Officers of the Committee sincere congratulations on your election to your posts and on the efficient manner in which you have directed this Committee during its deliberations. You, Sir, enjoy a special relationship with our country and we offer special greetings to you and take pride in the fact that it is you who are guiding this important Committee at the present time.

My delegation also wishes to associate itself with the tributes paid to Ambassador Alfonso Garcia Robles and Mrs. Alva Myrdal, the recipients of this year's Nobel Peace Prize, and to a former Nobel Laureate, the late Lord Noel-Baker.

During the past few weeks, this Committee has been concentrating on disarmament issues and we shall be recommending 57 draft resolutions, or even more, to the General Assembly for adoption. However, there appears to be a general feeling of despondency, a certain sense of frustration, that we have in fact made little significant progress towards the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament.

This air of despondency hovering over the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly is, of course, born out of the situation of near-anarchy which now exists and passes for the present international "order". This international system is characterized by a lack of mutual trust and respect among Member States and a flagrant disregard for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations which finds a suitable outlet in the spiralling arms race.

The international community now finds itself on a roller-coaster ride to self-destruction. Fortunately, we, the Member States, have it in our power to halt this madness. The report of the Secretary-General, document A/37/1, points the way and poses a challenge to each of us Member States, a challenge which we cannot ignore. This report sounds an optimistic note and this optimism must prevail if we are to save this Organization and mankind.

(Mr. Murray, Trinidad and Tobago)

For many delegations, the items now before this Committee represent an anti-climax after the heady stuff of disarmament. For my delegation, however, these items encompass those elements which are vital in preparing a world climate which can be more conducive to the search for general and complete disarmament and for international peace and security.

It is our contention that, in our search for international peace and security, the only weapon in the armoury of those small States, like ours, with no pretensions to military might, is the force of moral persuasion. Our delegations must therefore continue to prick away at the political consciences of the military Powers; we must seek to motivate the political will necessary to propel us all towards peaceful coexistence. The Secretary-General's report calls it "a conscious recommitment by Governments to the Charter". Through this, we shall engender the kind of international atmosphere where trust and confidence in each other and in this Organization can flourish and in which Member States can exercise the spirit of co-operation necessary to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for international law can be maintained, as called for in the Charter.

In his statement during the general debate in the General Assembly on 29 September 1982, the Chairman of my delegation, Senator the Honourable Basil Ince, Minister of External Affairs, said:

"Twenty years ago, Trinidad and Tobago, a small newly-independent developing country, joined this Organization. We, like many others, were attracted by the system of collective security enshrined in the United Nations Charter. It was this which impelled us to seek entry to the United Nations immediately upon our achievement of independence. We have neither the desire nor the means to embark upon any large-scale expenditure for arms or sophisticated weapons of war in order to make ourselves independently secure. Even those who have embarked upon such a course delude themselves into believing that they can be secure.

(Mr. Murray, Trinidad and Tobago)

"Today Trinidad and Tobago views with considerable concern the widening gap between the purposes and principles of the Charter and the increasing lawlessness in the world community. This lawlessness is characterized by utter and distressing disregard for human life and suffering and with little respect for the dignity of man. History will surely indict the United Nations and its Member States for their chronic inaction in the face of such lawlessness. The Security Council has failed to fulfil its primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security and to act in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. Loss of confidence in the United Nations system brings the world closer to the brink of disaster as nations seek to impose their will on others by force and to ignore decisions of the world body aimed at resolving international conflicts peacefully."

(A/37/PV.7, pp. 2-6)

We must therefore restore that confidence, and for that reason my delegation welcomed the inclusion on the agenda of item 137 entitled "Implementation of the Collective Security Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the Maintenance of International Peace and Security". It is of paramount importance that we heed the appeal of the Secretary-General:

"to make a serious effort to reinforce the protective and pre-emptive ring of collective security which should be our common shelter and the most important task of the United Nations." (A/37/1, p. 9)

My delegation commends the work of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization and we subscribe to those recommendations and proposals which originate out of a desire to strengthen the role of the Organization and, more particularly, to enhance the effectiveness of the Security Council.

The Security Council is unquestionably the primary organ of the United Nations, responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, and therefore merits special attention. The Security Council can only be as strong and effective as we, the Member States, allow it to be. Article 25 of the Charter states:

"The Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter."

(Mr. Murray, Trinidad and Tobago)

On the other hand, the Security Council has the added responsibility of acting at all times in such a manner as to earn the esteem and respect of the Member States so that its decisions are not flouted and Member States can, with confidence, comply with Article 25.

The Security Council must, like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion.

Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations spells out "Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression". Its Articles 39-51 indicate the responsibilities and obligations of the Security Council and the other Member States.

It is 37 years since the Charter was formulated: surely that has been sufficient time for the international community to ascertain whether we need radical changes in the Charter - and here we are primarily concerned with Chapter VII - or modifications to strengthen what is already provided for. Either way, the international situation cries out for the effective - and I wish to emphasize "effective" - implementation of whatever machinery we collectively decide upon.

The crucial aspect of the implementation is that the Member States must accept it and demonstrate this acceptance by fulfilling the obligations inherent in the system. This acceptance is in fact the commitment to the Charter principles which is so sadly lacking at present, a commitment which must now be displayed by all Member States; and where else should such an example come from but from the members of the Security Council and in particular from the permanent members?

It is for this very reason that my delegation sincerely hopes that the permanent and other members of the Security Council will grasp the opportunity provided in the draft resolution before us to initiate significant steps in the right direction.

In introducing the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.73/Rev.1, the Ambassador of Sierra Leone pointed to the need for adopting "a spirit of co-operation". My delegation sees this spirit of co-operation as the crux of the question of international peace and security. It is therefore desirable that this draft resolution be adopted by consensus; it is essential that all members of the Security Council lend it their full support; and it is imperative that we, the Member States help to:

"... reconstruct the Charter concept of collective action for peace and security". (A/37/1, p. 5)

Mr. S. M. ALI (Bangladesh): We are coming to the close of deliberations in this Committee and are left with only a few items on our agenda. One of the items is the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States which has been inscribed on our agenda on the basis of resolution 34/99. The initiative of Romania in this regard has been widely appreciated and resolutions have been adopted by consensus during the last three years.

The Government of Bangladesh is convinced that good-neighbourliness can bring about a climate of confidence and security among States. We also believe that the promotion of good-neighbourliness between all nations will positively contribute towards creating a climate of understanding and mutual respect and in strengthening and safeguarding peace and security throughout the world. In this connection, the Government of Bangladesh has submitted a reply which has been circulated in document A/36/376. We also have before us a report of the Secretary-General, as contained in document A/37/476 on the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States. It is a balanced and well-formulated document and my delegation supports the recommendations made by the Secretary-General.

The second item before us is the review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. Although the historic Declaration was adopted by virtual consensus by the General Assembly more than a decade ago, we are all aware that so far it has not been possible to ensure the full compliance of all States with all the provisions of the Declaration. The worsening international situation as evidenced in the recent past has proved conclusively that the lack of political will has been the principal stumbling block in the way of the full implementation of the provisions of the Declaration. Also on this item we have before us the reports of the Secretary-General contained in documents A/37/355/Add.1, 2 and 3 pertaining to the strengthening of security and co-operation in the region of the Mediterranean.

The preceding speakers have emphasized in their statements the importance of the items before us. We share these feelings and believe that the present deliberations could enhance our efforts to ensure wider recognition and acceptance of these concepts. We are indeed thankful to the Secretary-General for his useful reports, which contain an orderly presentation of views and suggestions on these important issues.

(Mr. S. M. Ali, Bangladesh)

The cardinal principle of Bangladesh foreign policy is based on friendship towards all and malice towards none. Guided by this conviction the Government of Bangladesh has always sought to foster with its neighbours solutions to all problems in a spirit of co-operation and understanding based on the principle of equity and justice. As an extension of this policy, Bangladesh has wholeheartedly supported the spirit of détente and general relaxation of global tension. While pursuing good-neighbourly relations with our neighbours, Bangladesh at the same time encouraged the gradual evolution of the process of democratization of international relations with a view to facilitating the participation of all States, big or small, weak or powerful, developed or developing in all international conferences on the basis of equality. Bangladesh has also made concerted efforts in the United Nations, as well as in other forums, namely, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Commonwealth, in favour of the cause of peace and international security and the development and intensification of co-operation, economic and political, between all States of the world.

Bangladesh has also been making unrelenting efforts for promoting peace and stability in the South Asian region through the creation of a climate of trust, understanding and co-operation on the basis of mutual respect for sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of States. Taking into account our friendly relations within our region with India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives, Bangladesh has initiated a proposal for the creation of a regional co-operation forum among those countries. Substantial progress has already been made towards the implementation of this proposal. A meeting at the level of Foreign Ministers is expected to launch the forum next year.

In pursuance of its active interest in this issue, Bangladesh has sponsored the draft resolution on the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States as contained in document A/C.1/37/L.77. Along with other sponsors, we have undertaken detailed consultations with a large number of member countries.

(Mr. S. M. Ali, Bangladesh)

The draft resolution underlines the basis for good-neighbourly relations and is based on the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equality, non-interference in the internal affairs of States and non-use of force in resolving problems. It also reaffirms that good-neighbourliness conforms with the purposes of the United Nations and is founded upon the strict observance of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration of the Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States.

Bangladesh believes that the principles of good-neighbourliness should be further considered and elaborated with a view to seeking agreement on specific modalities to ensure universal and strict adherence to it as the basis for promoting peace, co-operation and mutual respect among nations.

Let me now turn to the question of the review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. The adoption of the Declaration was considered a landmark in the history of the United Nations. This important document provides guidelines and a broad programme for the strengthening of the United Nations as an instrument for the easing of international tension and the creation of conditions for the attainment of just and lasting peace. The General Assembly, at each of its last 10 regular sessions, has adopted resolutions solemnly reaffirming all the principles and purposes contained in the Declaration. All States are called upon to adhere fully to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the Declaration as well as those of the Declaration on the Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States as the basis of State-to-State relations, irrespective of their size, level of development and political, economic and social systems. At the same time, the General Assembly has noted with deep concern that many of the principles and provisions of the Declaration have been ignored or violated, particularly with regard to the principles of national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-intervention and non-interference, recourse to the threat or use of force resulting in breaches of the peace and threats to international peace and security. Attention has also been drawn to the non-compliance by States with their obligations to solve disputes by peaceful means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and to disregard of the role of the United Nations and reduction of the effectiveness

(Mr. S. M. Ali, Bangladesh)

of the Security Council in ensuring international peace and security. The Assembly has also expressed its grave concern at the continued existence of crises and focal points of tension in various regions, the continuing existence of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and apartheid, which remain the basic obstacles to the strengthening of international peace and security. The General Assembly and the Security Council have in the recent past been seized in several instances of a great number of disputes and conflicts brought about by the failure to comply with obligations assumed under the Charter. Such conflicts have proved profoundly detrimental not only to the parties involved, but also to the international community as a whole.

The foreign policy of Bangladesh is also based on total adherence to the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter. We see this world body as a unique instrument for promoting global peace and development based on justice and equity. We greatly appreciate the candour with which the Secretary-General has brought to our notice the shortcomings of our Organization. Bangladesh will fully support all efforts aimed at the strengthening of the role of the United Nations for the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, particularly by enhancing its peace-making and peace-keeping capabilities, including the improvement of the machinery for pacific settlement of disputes. The current deep crises in the international situation have clearly underlined the need for redoubling our efforts to seek urgent solutions of conflicts in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

There is a close inter-relationship between disarmament, development and the strengthening of international security. Concerted international co-operation in the economic field on the basis of an agreed strategy to reduce and eliminate the gap between the developed and developing countries is a vital precondition for the strengthening of international peace and security. It is essential that the developed countries demonstrate the necessary political will better to understand the plight of the developing countries, particularly the least-developed countries, and join their efforts to avoid an economic cataclysm with unforeseen consequences for international peace and security.

(Mr. S. M. Ali, Bangladesh)

The present world economic crisis is of a global nature. The inter-relationship of issues and the interdependence of countries are so clearly established that isolated measures undertaken by any individual or any group of countries cannot solve the contradictions and difficulties that appear as a result of profound structural imbalance. The present state of crisis can be overcome only through a global and concerted effort by all countries. We believe that a lasting improvement in international economic relations can be achieved only through a global dialogue.

(Mr. S. M. Ali, Bangladesh)

Bangladesh has, therefore, actively joined in all the initiatives and efforts for the early launching of global negotiations and it will continue to render its humble contribution towards these efforts in its capacity as Chairman of the Group of 77.

In conclusion, I wish to state once again that Bangladesh believes in peace -- peace in the region and the world -- through strict adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States. Its commitment to the cause of general and complete disarmament is firm and total. Bangladesh's participation, at the highest level, in the second special session on disarmament clearly demonstrated the importance it attaches to the questions of disarmament and international security.

Mr. SILOVIC (Yugoslavia): On behalf of the 13 sponsors I have the honour to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.78, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

First of all, I should like to emphasize that the draft has been elaborated by non-aligned countries and that it is the result of broad consultations among a great number of non-aligned countries, exceeding the number of sponsors. Therefore it is natural that it contains views and positions based on the policy of non-alignment.

During the process of elaboration we were guided by the basic goal we wanted to achieve, one which actually imposed itself, that is, the promotion of international peace and security. In addition to outlining ways to achieve it, the draft gives an assessment of the causes of the tension existing in the world. We are convinced that only by an objective perception of the policies that have brought about the unfavourable situation in the world can we direct our common efforts to the creation of indivisible and stable international security. Certainly the sponsors were particularly motivated by current developments, characterized by exceptional tension and dangerous amplification of the existing crises in international relations.

(Mr. Silovic, Yugoslavia)

In the preambular part of the draft resolution, grave concern is expressed over the ever more frequent use of force, intervention, interference and aggression against independent countries. It underlines the fact that the policy of rivalry and the struggle for spheres of influence and domination continue. The lack of solutions for the grave economic problems facing the developing countries is stressed, as well as the fact that in the meantime the arms race continues and intensifies. The continuation of the policies of apartheid, racism and colonialism is also pointed out. Those are some of the more important elements which adversely affect existing relations in the world, with regard to which an urgent solution is indispensable.

The draft resolution particularly draws attention to the intensification and frequency of manoeuvres and other military activities as instruments of pressure and threat to the independence of States, and it would call upon States, in particular the leading military Powers and other members of military alliances, to refrain from such activities.

Having in mind this international situation, the draft would request that the Security Council undertake necessary measures aimed at preventing its further deterioration and, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, that it effectively fulfil its primary responsibility, the maintenance of international peace and security.

The struggle of the peoples under colonial domination and racist régimes and their inalienable right to self-determination are stressed again as one of the basic issues facing the international community. States Members of the United Nations are called upon to undertake urgent and effective measures for the elimination of colonialism.

In the draft resolution the Member States are also called upon to contribute fully to the success of the conference on the Indian Ocean, which would constitute an important step towards the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Owing to the fact that a number of States have expressed their views and positions regarding the strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean on the basis of last year's resolution, the relevant report of the Secretary-General is adequately reflected in the draft. As the Permanent

(Mr. Silovic, Yugoslavia)

Representative of Yugoslavia, Ambassador Golob, stated in the debate on international security in this Committee last week, the draft resolution would call for the inscription of a new item on the agenda of the next session of the General Assembly entitled "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region".

The sponsors of this draft resolution expect that it will be widely accepted. In the process of its elaboration account was taken also of the positions and views of a wider circle of countries. On behalf of all the sponsors we express our readiness to continue consultations with all interested delegations so that the text can be further improved and supported as widely as possible.

Mr. MICHAELSEN (Denmark): On behalf of the 10 member States of the European Community, I should like to make the following statement on the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.77, introduced by Romania, concerning the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States.

The Ten are prepared to join in a consensus on the draft resolution. The Ten obviously share the interest of all nations in the strengthening and development of a friendly climate between States that have common borders and also among all other States. Indeed, good-neighbourliness was not absent from the elements which, inter alia, played an important part in bringing about the process that led to the European Community.

The Ten tend to think that the ideas behind the notion of good-neighbourliness are already adequately covered in the preamble to the United Nations Charter and in the Declaration adopted at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. However, as already stated on previous occasions, we have some hesitation with regard to whether the notion itself does necessarily correspond to any existing principle of international law. Therefore we consider it important that any further elaboration of the notion of good-neighbourliness, as envisaged in operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, should be consonant with the Charter and the said Declaration.

(Mr. Michaelsen, Denmark)

In the light of this, the Ten strongly recommend that any further work on the issue of good-neighbourliness be done in the Sixth Committee and the Special Committee on the Charter, where legal expertise on such matters is available.

We should like to express the hope that this view is shared by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.77.

The meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.