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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 2626 (XXV), 3202 (S-VI), 3281 (XXIX) AND 3362 (S-VII), ENTITLED RESPECTIVELY "INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE", "PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER", "CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES" AND "DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION"

Letter dated 29 September 1977 from the Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan to the Secretary-General

At a meeting held today at United Nations Headquarters, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 adopted a Declaration.

In my capacity as Chairman of the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, I have been authorized to forward the Declaration to you and to request that it be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 24, 27 and 67.

(Signed) Agha SHAHI
Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs,
Government of the Islamic Republic of
Pakistan

ANNEX

Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the
Group of 77

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 met on 29 September 1977, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, and issued the following Declaration:

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77

1. Note with satisfaction that since its inception the Group of 77 has worked with vigour and determination for the development of developing countries and towards an equitable and just international economic order through the restructuring of international economic relations. The Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States marked turning points in the pursuit of this objective;

2. Note with particular satisfaction that the positive results so far achieved by the Group of 77 have been primarily due to its unity and solidarity. The members of the Group of 77 recognize that, notwithstanding the diversity of interests in the Group arising primarily from the different levels of economic and social development, its strength lies in its political unity which results from common aspirations and purpose and its identity of fundamental interests. We, therefore, do solemnly reaffirm our commitment to maintain, strengthen and further develop our unity and solidarity;

3. Note that international economic relations continue to suffer from the consequences of an inequitable and unjust economic system and lack of real progress towards the restructuring of international economic relations which is indispensable for the establishment of the New International Economic Order;

4. Note with serious concern the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries and the lack of adequate and resolute efforts on the part of developed countries to reverse this trend. To mention only a few areas: no concrete action has been taken to meet the just demands of the developing countries to improve their terms of trade; inflation generated in developed countries has, through international trade and the international monetary system, produced universal negative effects with disruptive consequences on the economies and development of the developing countries; no effective or serious solutions have been forthcoming concerning the problems of commodities, debt, balance of payments, protection of the purchasing power of the developing countries, trade, transfer of technology, increase in the flow of real resources, and access to capital markets. The renewed trend towards protectionism in the developed countries is a cause of deep concern because of its negative impact on the export earnings of developing countries and on their terms of trade, employment policies and development efforts.

This lack of real progress and the unwillingness on the part of developed countries seriously to commit themselves to solving these and other pressing problems was clearly demonstrated in the results of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation;

5. Reaffirm our strong belief that urgent, more vigorous and concrete steps and actions still remain to be taken, collectively and individually, by all the members of the international community to end without delay colonialism, imperialism, neo-colonialism, interference in internal affairs, apartheid, racial discrimination and all forms of foreign aggression and occupation, which constitute major obstacles to the economic emancipation of the developing countries. We stress that it is the duty of all States effectively to support and extend assistance to the countries, territories and peoples subjected to, and affected by, these practices so as to restore their national sovereignty, territorial integrity and all other inalienable and fundamental rights, including the right to self-determination, in order to enable them to achieve independence, and to promote development and international co-operation, peace and security. We also urge all countries to refrain from participating in, encouraging or promoting, in any way, any investment or economic activities aimed at trade, or exploitation of any resources, or investments in economic activities in the territories subjected to the aforementioned practices;

6. Reaffirm the inalienable right of developing countries to full and permanent sovereignty over their natural resources and all economic activities, including the right of nationalization according to their national laws;

7. Reiterate the commitment of the developing countries to condemn, reject and resist all forms of threats or coercive and discriminatory economic policies and practices, including restrictions on the transfer of advanced technology, either direct or indirect, against individual or groups of developing countries by the developed countries;

8. Continue to view with deep concern the negative aspects of the activities of transnational corporations, including their corrupt practices, in developing countries and in particular their collaboration with minority, racist and apartheid régimes;

9. Emphasize that the restructuring of the international economic system and the accelerated and sustained development of the developing countries are in the interest of the international community and are essential to the continued prosperity of the economies of the developed countries. However, despite the recognition by the international community of the need for the New International Economic Order, very few concrete measures have been agreed upon by the developed countries for its establishment. So far, these measures have been fragmented and limited in scope. The developed countries bear a particular responsibility with regard to the attainment of this goal. The developed countries must demonstrate the necessary political will in this regard;

10. Urge the developed countries to pay special and urgent attention to the particular and pressing needs and requirements of the least developed, land-locked,

most seriously affected and island developing countries, and to implement within specific time-frames the special measures and decisions adopted in their favour by the organs, organizations and other bodies of the United Nations system;

11. Emphasize that the developing countries will continue to strive towards individual and collective self-reliance through economic and technical co-operation among themselves and a collective approach to matters of common interest;

12. Reaffirm the positive role that producers' associations play within the framework of international economic co-operation for the development of developing countries;

13. Believe that full and effective participation of the developing countries in the decision-making process in the organs, organizations and other bodies of the United Nations system on all questions of interest to developing countries, wherever they may be discussed, is of crucial importance for the achievement of concrete and positive results for the promotion of international co-operation for the development of developing countries;

14. Reaffirm the urgent need for the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system so as to make it more effective and responsive to the requirements for the establishment of the New International Economic Order and, in that context, reiterate the proposals submitted by the Group of 77 to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, including the proposal for the establishment of a post of Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation;

15. Stress the need that all negotiations of a global nature relating to the establishment of the New International Economic Order take place within the framework of the United Nations system, which is the only appropriate and fully representative forum for these negotiations. The General Assembly should provide at its current and future sessions guidelines for the conduct of negotiations in the appropriate bodies within the United Nations system, with a view to reaching concrete and positive results within specific time-frames;

16. Call upon the developed countries in this context to display full political readiness to achieve concrete agreements at the forthcoming negotiations in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the establishment of the common fund in accordance with resolution 93 (IV) of the Conference a/ and on the debt problems of the developing countries;

17. Call for the convening of a special session of the General Assembly in 1980 in order to assess the progress made in the various forums of the United Nations system in the establishment of the New International Economic Order and, in the light of that assessment, to take appropriate action for further promotion of the development of developing countries and international economic co-operation, including the adoption of the new international development strategy.

a/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Fourth Session, vol. I, Report and Annexes (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.II.D.10), part one, sect. A.