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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Letter dated 15 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from His Excellency Mr. Abdulkarim El-Eryani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic, in his capacity as Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to have the text of the attached communiqué of the co-ordination meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in New York on 9 October 1985, circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 28, 30, 33, 34, 35, 38, 46, 88 and 94, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Salem BASENDWAH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Communiqué of the co-ordination meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the
Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in New York on 9 October 1985 (25 Muharram 1406 H)

1. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization of the Islamic Conference held their annual co-ordination meeting on Thursday, 9 October 1985 (corresponding to 25 Muharram 1406 H), at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The meeting was presided over by His Excellency Mr. Abdulkarim Ali El-Eryani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic.
2. The Chairman of the Islamic Conference, Mr. Abdulkarim Ali El-Eryani, and the Secretary-General of the Conference, Syed Sharifuddin

Pirzada, made opening statements dealing with the issues of special interest and concern to the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference included in the agenda of the fortieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

3. The meeting had before it the reports of the Committee of Six on Palestine and the Ad Hoc Committee on Afghanistan, which had met on 7 and 8 October, respectively. Background notes on the question of the Middle East and Palestine, South Africa and Namibia, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war and the drought situation in the Sahel, prepared by the General Secretariat at the Conference, were also submitted to the meeting.

4. The meeting reviewed the current international situation, dealing specifically with matters of direct concern to the members at the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the light of the reports of the two Committees and the background notes submitted to it.

5. The meeting approved the report of the Committee of Six on Palestine and the recommendations contained therein. It reiterated its position that no just and durable peace in the Middle East could be established without the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and the exercise by the Palestinian people at their inalienable national right, including their right to return, their right to self-determination and their right to an independent and sovereign homeland in Palestine.

6. The meeting denounced and condemned the dastardly Israeli attack on 1 October against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tunisia and the offices of the PLO. It expressed serious concern at the dangers posed to the cause of Palestine and to the Palestinian people through oppression and military action by the Zionist State aimed at obliterating the national identity of the Palestinian people. It called upon the members of the Islamic Conference to participate in the debate on the question of the Middle East and Palestine in the Security Council, requested by the Non-aligned Ministerial Conference held in Angola in September 1985, in order to expose the true nature of the Zionist entity and to focus the attention of the international community on this explosive issue.

7. The meeting also requested all Islamic countries to sign the letter to be addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressing reservations regarding the credentials of Israel. It called for further strengthening of co-operation and collaboration between the Conference and the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people.

8. The meeting expressed deep concern at the desecration and destruction of Islamic holy shrines in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and demanded that such criminal acts cease forthwith. It condemned the Zionist authorities for their threats of closure and other oppressive actions against the universities and institutes of learning of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and demanded that such practices be condemned by the international community. The policy of the Zionist entity to sequester the land and properties of the Palestinian people, the blowing up of Palestinian houses and the building of Zionist settlements in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories were strongly condemned.

9. The rejection by the Zionist entity of the decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, in particular its rejection of the decision of the General Assembly for the holding of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, was condemned. The meeting demanded that the international community take the necessary measures, including the imposition of sanctions as provided for under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, to ensure that the Israeli entity abide by the Charter of the United Nations, international law and morality, the norms of international conduct and the decisions of the United Nations.

10. The meeting reaffirmed its full support to the struggle of the people of Namibia to exercise their right of self-determination and to achieve independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole and authentic representative. It expressed the view that the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist minority régime of South Africa is an act of aggression against the people of Namibia. It condemned the efforts by the illegal minority racist régime of South Africa to continue its hold on Namibia in order to continue to exploit the human and natural resources of Namibia. The meeting also rejected any linkage between the independence of Namibia and the withdrawal of Cuban troops stationed in Angola. The Islamic countries would co-ordinate their position with like-minded delegations at the United Nations with a view to adopting the necessary measures at the fortieth session of the General Assembly to bring about the independence of Namibia immediately.

11. Guided by the Islamic principles of equality, justice, human dignity and tolerance, the co-ordination meeting condemned and rejected the abhorrent and abominable system of apartheid applied by the illegal racist minority régime of Pretoria against its black majority population. It noted with deep concern the increasing resort by the Pretoria régime to repression and inhuman practices to crush the demand of the majority African population for their fundamental human rights and equality. It denounced the emergency rule imposed in South Africa by the Pretoria régime in a desperate bid to suppress the people of South Africa and called for: the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations against the racist Pretoria régime, which continues to disregard and violate all decisions of the United Nations, international law and norms of conduct.

12. The meeting also adopted the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Afghanistan. It noted with concern that in recent months the Soviet-Karmal forces had intensified their attacks against the Mujahideen and had violated the frontiers and airspace of Pakistan on numerous occasions during 1985. It expressed full support to the Afghan people who, despite the limited and primitive means at their disposal, had been conducting a valiant struggle against occupation forces for six years. The Committee also expressed appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for providing shelter and relief to more than three million Afghan refugees in a purely Islamic and humanitarian spirit. It also expressed its appreciation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for providing refuge to two million Afghans who have been forced to leave their homes, in the spirit of brotherhood and solidarity enjoined by Islam.

13. The meeting expressed support for the efforts by Pakistan to find a comprehensive settlement of the problem and took note of the fact that two rounds of proximity talks had been held during 1985 between Pakistan and the Karmal régime under the auspices of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and that a third round was planned for December 1985. The meeting reiterated that any comprehensive settlement must be within the framework of the principles enunciated by the Islamic Conference and the United Nations, namely, the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the restoration of the Islamic and non-aligned character of Afghanistan, the right of the people of Afghanistan to choose their own socio-economic and political system, and the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes in safety and honour. The meeting also approved the draft resolution prepared by Pakistan for submission to the General Assembly.

14. The meeting reviewed the continuing conflict between Iran and Iraq which had entered its sixth year. In this context, it took note of the declarations adopted by the Islamic Peace Committee during its two sessions held at Jeddah in May and September 1985. It appreciated the efforts being undertaken by the Islamic Peace Committee to bring about an honourable and just peace, based on Islamic principles and international law, between the two warring nations.

15. The meeting also noted with serious concern the continuing situation of drought and famine in the countries of the African Sahel. It reaffirmed its total solidarity with the victims of this natural disaster and called upon its members and the international community to increase emergency assistance in order to alleviate the sufferings of the drought-stricken people, as well as to provide long-term project aid to the African countries to prevent the recurrence of such natural disasters in the future.

16. The meeting took note of a statement made by the representative of Somalia concerning the violation by Ethiopia of its territory. It also took note of a statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey regarding the plight of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria.
