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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Note verbale dated 5 September 1978 from the Permanent Representatives
of Benin and Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-
General

The Permanent Representatives of the People's Republic of Benin and the Republic of Guinea to the United Nations present their compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and have the honour to request him to arrange for the circulation as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the preliminary list, of the joint declaration issued by Guinea and Benin, which was signed by President Ahmed Sékou Touré, the Supreme Head of the Guinean Revolution, and President Mathieu Kérékou during the former's official visit to Benin from 25 to 27 May 1978.

* A/33/150.

ANNEX

Joint declaration signed at Cotonou on 27 May 1978 by
the President of the Republic of Guinea and the
President of the People's Republic of Benin

1. His Excellency President Ahmed Sékou Touré, Secretary-General of the Democratic Party of Guinea, the State Party, and Supreme Head of the Guinean Revolution, replying to the invitation by His Excellency President Mathieu Kérékou, Chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, President of the Republic, Head of State and Head of the Revolutionary Military Government, made a friendly visit to the People's Republic of Benin from 25 to 27 May 1978.
2. President Ahmed Sékou Touré, Supreme Head of the Guinean Revolution, was accompanied by a sizable delegation, which included:

Dr. Lansana Béavogui, Prime Minister;
Mamadi Kéita, Minister of Education and Culture;
Fly Cissoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs;
Saifoulaye Diallo, Minister for Social Affairs;
Senainon Béhanzin, Minister of Information and Geology;
N'Faly Sangaré, Minister of Planning and Co-operation;
Aly Bangoura, Ambassador, Head of Protocol; and
Seydouba Yattara, Ambassador.
3. During his stay in the free African country of Benin, President Ahmed Sékou Touré visited Cotonou, the economic capital of Benin, and the towns of Abomey and Porto-Novo.
4. The deep and vital friendship which has existed for a long time between the revolutionary peoples of Guinea and Benin and the very special relations between the Republic of Guinea and the People's Republic of Benin ensured that the President of the Republic of Guinea and his delegation received a spontaneous, enthusiastic and extremely warm and revolutionary welcome everywhere they went.
5. In their talks, the two Heads of State conducted a comprehensive review of African and international matters.
6. With regard to African questions, the two Heads of State welcomed the spontaneous development on our continent of the revolutionary struggle for national liberation of African peoples subjected to colonial and neo-colonial domination.

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7. They emphatically reaffirmed the support of their peoples and Governments for the heroic and inevitably triumphant national liberation struggle being waged in southern Africa by the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe against the colonialist and fascist régimes which dominate, exploit and oppress the African peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.
8. The two Heads of State also reaffirmed their solidarity with the front-line States which, within embattled Africa, play an avant-garde role in providing support to the anti-colonialist and anti-racist struggle of the peoples of southern Africa.
9. The two Heads of State vigorously condemn the cruel and repeated acts of aggression perpetrated against those countries, in particular, Mozambique, Angola and Zambia, by the fascist troops of South Africa and Rhodesia.
10. Presidents Ahmed Sékou Touré and Mathieu Kérékou expressed their deep concern over the situation in the Middle East.
11. They reaffirmed their confidence in the inevitable victory of the Palestinian people through the strengthening and development of the armed struggle, thanks to the unity and cohesion shown by all the Arab people with respect to this sacred cause.
12. As regards the Horn of Africa, the two Heads of State were of the view that the progressive African countries should do all in their power to assist the development and consolidation of the Ethiopian revolution and to safeguard and foster the Somali revolution.
13. Embattled Africa has a duty to make every effort to establish and consolidate true peace in that region of its continent, in order to lay the foundations of a genuine and fruitful co-operation between the two fraternal peoples of Ethiopia and Somalia.
14. As regards the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Community of West African States, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations, the two Heads of State reaffirmed the necessity of effective co-operation, which they, together with their partners, have a duty to maintain in order to accelerate the sustained development and the continued consolidation of their economic, social and cultural relations.
15. President Ahmed Sékou Touré and President Mathieu Kérékou sincerely and resolutely renewed their unswerving commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, to the charter of the Organization of African Unity and to the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as to the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national unity and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. They stated their firm support for the principle of peaceful settlement of any dispute that might arise between States.

16. With regard to international matters, the two Heads of State noted that, faced with the constant escalation, the scale and the development of the struggle waged by the exploited and oppressed peoples of Asia, Latin America and Africa for their liberation, independence and social progress, moribund international imperialism was using puppet régimes to intensify its barbarous repression of peoples still under colonial domination, and it was hiring mercenary troops to commit aggression against independent countries, with the intention of destabilizing progressive African régimes in order to be able to effect the colonial reconquest of our continent.

17. The two Heads of State strongly condemned all those criminal manoeuvres by international imperialism and hailed the historic contribution made on the occasion of the Week of Solidarity with peoples and countries struggling for their national liberation and the International Conference on Mercenaries, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978 on the initiative of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin and the Government of Benin.

18. The two Heads of State made a patriotic and revolutionary appeal to all countries, movements, organizations and parties which participated in those meetings on behalf of embattled peoples throughout the world, requesting that the resolutions and declarations issued by the Week of Solidarity should be fully implemented with a view to the speedy and effective elimination of imperialism and its odious system of aggression, applied through the use of international mercenaries.

19. The two Heads of State called for increased vigilance on the part of the peoples of the third world and urged them to unite in establishing a new international economic order - the only way of ensuring that those peoples can effectively enjoy the fruits of their national economic resources.

20. At the bilateral level, both Heads of State, in turn, praised the quality of the extremely diverse ties and the depth of the extremely vital and revolutionary feelings which have always characterized relations between the peoples of Guinea and Benin.

21. President Ahmed Sékou Touré and President Mathieu Kérékou agreed upon the necessity of reimpacting fresh momentum to the development of existing relations between the two countries.

22. To that end, the two Heads of State signed a treaty of friendship and active, fraternal and fruitful co-operation between the Republic of Guinea and the People's Republic of Benin.

23. At the end of his visit of friendship, President Ahmed Sékou Touré thanked President Mathieu Kérékou, the militant people of Benin as a whole, the Party of the Revolution and the Revolutionary Military Government for the warm and fraternal welcome which he and his delegation had received throughout their stay in the People's Republic of Benin.

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Annex

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24. President Ahmed Sékou Touré invited President Mathieu Kérékou to make a friendly State visit to the Republic of Guinea. President Mathieu Kérékou accepted this invitation. The date of the visit will be determined at a later stage.

(Signed) Ahmed SEKOU TOURE
President of the
Republic of Guinea

(Signed) Mathieu KEREKOU
President of the
People's Republic of Benin