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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Thirty-ninth session  
Items 25, 68, 80, 124 and 125  
of the preliminary list\*  
THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:  
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES  
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING  
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY  
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION  
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-  
NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES  
BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 11 April 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.  
of the Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué issued at the conclusion of the meeting of Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela, members of the Contadora Group, held at Panama City on 8 April 1984.

I request you to have this communiqué circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 25, 68, 80, 124 and 125 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Leonardo KAM  
Ambassador  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

\* A/39/50.

ANNEX

INFORMATION BULLETIN

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela met on 8 April 1984 for the purpose of reviewing the critical situation in the region, the most recent events in Central America and the progress of the working commissions established within the framework of the Contadora process to deal with political, security, economic and social questions.

With regard to the situation in Central America, the Ministers considered the extent to which effect had been given to the Document of Objectives adopted in September 1983 by the five Central American Governments, which spelled out the commitments undertaken in the negotiating process. They noted that it was necessary for the Governments of the region to bring their international conduct into line with the conciliatory spirit embodied in the document "Measures to be taken to fulfil the commitments entered into in the Document of Objectives" adopted in January of this year.

They noted that in recent weeks the situation in the region had shown signs of serious deterioration. The activities of irregular forces had been stepped up with support in the form of supplies and assistance from communication centres situated in the territories of neighbouring countries with the aim of destabilizing Governments in the area. Sophisticated weapons, new military tactics and dangerous forms of attack had been introduced. Operations such as the mining of ports were being carried out, causing damage to the economy, disturbing trade and violating the freedom of navigation.

They further noted with concern the increasingly open presence of foreign troops and advisers, the escalation of the arms build-up, the proliferation of military actions and manoeuvres, all of which served to heighten tensions and deepen mistrust.

They therefore considered that it was essential for countries with links to and interests in the region to demonstrate with tangible deeds the support they had expressed for the Contadora Group, emphasizing once again that a wider conflict would have serious repercussions for the countries of the region and would affect the entire continent.

Turning their attention to the political situation, the Ministers took note of the electoral processes which were under way and reaffirmed the view that such processes could help to bring about domestic reconciliation and regional détente provided appropriate guarantees were ensured by an independent electoral body and there was effective participation on the part of all political movements.

On economic and social questions, they referred to the official establishment and the beginning of work of the Action Committee for the Support of Economic and Social Development in Central America (CADESCA), which provided a useful and timely forum for channelling international support for the internal efforts and the integration of the Central American countries, in co-operation and co-ordination with the economic agencies already established by the Governments of Central American countries themselves.

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In assessing the progress made by the working commissions, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group agreed that, while meaningful progress had been made on some issues, obstacles remained with respect to others, stemming in some cases from attitudes that were not always flexible and effectively geared to negotiation.

In the light of the foregoing, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group called upon the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to renew their political will and intensify preparations for the final phase of the working commissions, which were expected to submit their legal drafts, studies and recommendations to the Joint Meeting of Foreign Ministers scheduled to be held beginning on 29 April. Towards that end and with a view to preparing for that meeting, they agreed to contact directly their Central American counterparts in the next few days.

Panama City, 8 April 1984

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