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Item 70 of the provisional agenda\***

**STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

**Letter dated 23 July 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
of the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration on the Prospects of Global Dialogue on Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean (annex I) and the final communiqué (annex II), which were adopted at the conclusion of the Third Ministerial Conference of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers on 25 and 26 June 1990.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have them circulated as official documents of the General Assembly under item 70 of the provisional agenda.

**(Signed) Amar BENDJAMA  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.**

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ANNEX I

Declaration on the Prospects of Global Dialogue on Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean, adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers, on 25 and 26 June 1990

1. The Foreign Ministers of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries, at their meeting on 25 and 26 June 1990 in Algiers, reiterated their deep conviction that security and co-operation in the Mediterranean and in Europe are closely linked and interdependent and they noted with satisfaction the greater awareness in Europe of the need for interdependent action in the Mediterranean region with the aim of promoting the conditions for peace, security and co-operation.
2. After a careful review of the political and economic changes in Eastern and Central Europe, which are opening new prospects in the search for a lasting peace order in Europe, they emphasised the principle that security should not be confined *in* Europe but rather be extended to other parts of the world, especially to the Mediterranean region. In this respect, they took note with interest of the support of Spain and Italy to the convening of a conference on security and co-operation in the Mediterranean.
3. They observed that such positive trends, reflected by the considerable progress achieved within the framework of the CSCE process, have increased substantially the possibilities of implementing the commitment made by the countries participating in the CSCE to intensify their contacts and co-operation with the non-aligned Mediterranean countries in order to strengthen security and work towards the relaxation of tensions, the settlement of crises and conflicts as well as to the development of co-operation in the Mediterranean.
4. They analysed the prospects of the establishment of a *single* European market in 1993 as well as the emergence of the European Community as one of the main political and economic centres on the international arena. In this regard, they stressed the necessity for them to take advantage of these new trends in order to speed up dialogue regarding the Mediterranean and see that the benefits Europe will derive from the new political context and the establishment of the single market would contribute to a better consideration of their countries' interests. In this respect, they paid great attention to the new Mediterranean policy to be adopted by the EEC and considered that it would further intensify the efforts aimed at promoting co-operation in the area, and they have called for its rapid and consequent implementation.

Taking this into consideration, the Ministers:

- (a) Stated their conviction that an open and sustained dialogue as well as an intensive co-operation would increase mutual understanding and trust, thus promoting stability, security and peace in the region. They asserted their will to explore all the possibilities likely to help achieve these common objectives of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries and the European countries of the Mediterranean.

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(b) Reiterated their request that the prevailing practice be re-examined and modified by the participating countries in the CSCE, so that all non-aligned Mediterranean countries will take part on an equal footing in CSCE meetings on the Mediterranean. They assessed that, at a time when a process of establishment of a new collective security system has been initiated within the CSCE as well as consideration of its future role, the participation of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries should be an essential point of this process having in mind the specific nature of the Mediterranean region and its interests for security and co-operation. In this context, they expressed their readiness to make their contribution within the appropriate framework and entrusted the host country to undertake the necessary steps to this end, in particular in view of the main forthcoming CSCE meetings.

(c) Proceeding from their previous positions and initiatives, expressed their support for a conference on security and co-operation in the Mediterranean on the basis of a CSCE model and their readiness and availability to open a regional dialogue on that issue with Spain and Italy as well as the other concerned countries with a view to creating conditions for initiating such a process. In this regard, they entrusted the host country as well as the host countries of the previous and the forthcoming meetings of non-aligned Mediterranean countries to undertake the appropriate contacts and to encourage the holding of meetings between the Mediterranean non-aligned and the European countries of the Mediterranean with a view to elaborating in greater depth this important idea and finding out ways and means to promote its implementation.

(d) Expressed their interests in the objectives of the EEC's Mediterranean policy to be adopted, aimed at securing stability and prosperity for the Mediterranean basin, and supporting the democratic processes and economic reforms as well as development in the Mediterranean countries. In this respect, they requested that its implementation be accompanied by a substantial financial support commensurate with the EEC's real capacities and correspondent to the Mediterranean non-aligned countries' development needs. Similarly, they welcomed with interest the idea of a Euro-Mediterranean bank as well as that of a global aid to the Mediterranean. In this context, they reiterated the willingness of their countries to start with their European partners an open and sustained dialogue based on mutual interest and reciprocal benefit with the aim of developing more audacious forms of co-operation. In this regard they invited the EEC countries, and their Mediterranean members in particular, to jointly work for the holding of meetings aimed at harmonising their views on development and co-operation issues in the region.

(e) Gave a mandate to the host country, as well as the host countries of the previous and the forthcoming meetings of non-aligned Mediterranean countries, to work, in close co-operation with the European Mediterranean non-aligned countries participating in the CSCE, with the aim of promoting the common objectives of peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean.

(f) Gave a mandate to the host country to initiate a dialogue with the group of neutral and non-aligned countries participating in the CSCE with the view of attending as appropriate their meetings on a reciprocal basis in order to promote the common interests and objectives of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries,

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## ANNEX II

Final communiqué, adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference  
of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries, held at Algiers

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The Foreign Ministers of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries, Algeria, Cyprus, ~~Egypt~~, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yugoslavia, met in *Algiers* on 25 and 26 June 1990, in accordance with the decision taken in ~~Brioni~~ in June 1987.

1. The **Ministers** reaffirmed the stands and declarations previously adopted in Valletta and Brioni, expressing the will of their countries to contribute to turning the Mediterranean region into an area of peace and co-operation. They **strongly** reasserted that security *in the Mediterranean is closely* linked to security in Europe as well as to international peace and security.
2. The Ministers took note with great appreciation of the positive changes which had taken place at the global and regional levels, **thus** giving a new impulse to the process of disarmament and peaceful settlement of disputes. They **expressed**, in this respect, the will of their countries to enhance their efforts in order to contribute actively to the elimination of all hotbeds of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions, in accordance with the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations, to the conflicts and crises which are still **threatening** regional peace and stability. In this context, they reiterated in particular their solidarity with all the peoples of the region that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence and consequently they reaffirmed their commitment to the principle of non-acquisition of territories by force and the need to put an end to foreign occupation.
3. The Ministers paid special attention to the rapid changes in Europe which open prospects **for** the establishment of **increased** security, expanded co-operation and lasting peace on the continent. They noted that the deep transformations in Central and Eastern Europe have great potential for **opening** an era of peace and **co-operation** in Europe, with its positive repercussions on world peace, security and co-operation. They also noted the acceleration of the dynamics of development in Europe, marked by the significant **progress** achieved by the EEC, towards the construction of a single market and political union, as well as the **new** prospects it opens for the integration of Europe as a whole.
4. The Ministers paid special attention to the current debate within the CSCE aiming at the establishment of a new system of collective security in Europe and welcomed the progress achieved **in** the fields of disarmament and **confidence-building measures**. They expressed the hope that the current changes on the continent would make it possible to strengthen and widen these processes in the interest of enhancing stability in Europe. While encouraging such a positive process conducive to the reduction of military arsenals of the two military alliances, as well as to nuclear, chemical, biological and conventional disarmament, they also expressed the

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hops that such processes would be strengthened and extended to the Mediterranean region.

5. The Ministers stressed the significance of the CSCE summit to be held at the end of 1990 which will inaugurate the Helsinki II process. In this respect, they expressed the expectation that the summit would give new impulse to the nuclear and conventional disarmament process in Europe in the interest of the security of the region. Equally convinced that the development and promotion of the dialogue on the Mediterranean needed a new impulse, they agreed to intensify their efforts in order to make their own contribution to the proceedings of the forthcoming CSCE meetings.

6. Aware of the ever-increasing importance of integration processes in the world, the Ministers stated that the basic interests of their countries compelled them to play a more active role in the management of the matters of the region mainly through their full participation in the economic and technological development processes and by the promotion of co-operation among European and Mediterranean non-aligned countries in the economic, scientific, cultural, technical and ecological fields, thus contributing to the stability of the region by insuring the growing interdependence among Mediterranean countries. They expressed their resolve to promote the trends that further regional integration and the democratization processes freely expressed by the peoples of the region.

7. The Ministers stressed the relevance of the initiatives taken by their countries for the promotion of co-operation and security in the region and considered that the current context is more favourable to the deepening of dialogue in the Mediterranean, while the current political juncture requires action for the hotbeds of tension and their causes to be eliminated through the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter and relevant resolutions of the United Nations. The purpose is to prepare the conditions likely to reinforce security in the Mediterranean and to find equitable, comprehensive and permanent solutions to the problems which our area is either concerned or faced with, to turn the Mediterranean sea into a region of peace and security and to develop complementary co-operation in various fields. To that end, they noted with appreciation the readiness of the European partners of the Mediterranean to open regional concertation on security and co-operation issues.

8. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the continued efforts displayed by the Mediterranean non-aligned countries towards the strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean, at the achievements accomplished in this regard, within the framework of the United Nations, as well as at the constructive contribution of the European neutral and non-aligned countries within the framework of the CSCE.

9. The Ministers stressed once again that the continuation of the improvement of the international climate calls for the respect of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality among states, justice, the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, the cessation in the region of policies of aggression, annexation, occupation and foreign intervention as well as the violation of internationally recognized borders.

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10. The Ministers once again underlined the importance of reducing military arsenals and foreign fleets, as well as the necessity of the dismantling of their bases and the logistic supports in the Mediterranean. They also requested that military manoeuvres stemming from bellicose *intentions* or resulting from military treaties not be carried out near the borders or within the territorial sea of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries and that their territorial waters be respected. They also urged all the countries, especially those bordering the Mediterranean to refrain from utilizing their: weapons, forces, bases, and all kinds of military facilities against non-aligned Mediterranean countries and not to allow any foreign forces to use their lands, territorial waters and air space to undertake aggressions on non-aligned Mediterranean countries. The Ministers called for efforts to be made together with other countries to abolish the strategic co-operation agreements which constitute a threat to peace, security and stability in the Mediterranean and the Middle East as well as international peace and security.

11. The Ministers referred to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/125 on strengthening security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region, as well as Assembly resolution 38/42, and the position taken by the Non-Aligned Movement in previous conferences with regard to United States military attacks against Libya. The Ministers reiterated their call for reducing tension in the region.

12. The Ministers once again drew attention to the dangers inherent in the proliferation of nuclear arms to peace and international security in general and to the Mediterranean region in particular. In this regard, they reiterated their deep concern over repeated reports of Israel's acquisition of nuclear capability, which constitutes a serious threat for the region, and reaffirmed their stand regarding the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. In this respect, they condemned Israel's continued development of its military programmes including the testing of ballistic missiles in the Mediterranean and of weapons of mass destruction and its continued refusal to implement relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency. They expressed their support to the Egyptian initiative as well as the Syrian proposal aiming at transforming the Middle East region into a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction under effective international control within the framework of the United Nations,

13. After examining the Palestinian issue and the situation in the Middle East, the Ministers expressed their deep concern over the continuation of this crisis and the non-settlement of the question of Palestine - which is at its core - as a result of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian land, including Al Qods, the Syrian Arab Golan, and other Arab territories. They underlined that Israel's continued aggressive policy and annexionist practices in the region, particularly its greater Israel design, constitute serious threats to international peace and security. They also expressed their deep concern over the worsening of repressive measures, confiscation of property, forceful expulsion and banishment of Palestinians and the establishment of settlements by the Israeli occupation authorities.

14. In this respect, the Ministers condemned the Israeli threats of aggression against some non-aligned Mediterranean countries, which constitute a dangerous threat to peace and security in the Mediterranean region and warned against the consequences of such bellicose threats to international peace and security,

15. The Ministers declared that the massive influx of immigrant Jews, particularly from the Soviet Union and their settlement in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Al Qods, the Syrian Arab Golan and southern Lebanon, has innumerable negative consequences for peace in the region, undermines the peace process, frustrates the efforts so far displayed, and constitutes a blatant violation of the international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the fourth Geneva Convention and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people. While supporting every individual's right to leave any country, including his own, and his right to return, the Ministers stressed that, that right should not be exercised at the expense of the third party, in this particular case at the expense of the Palestinians, the Syrians and the Lebanese. They reasserted that all measures taken by Israel to alter the political, cultural and demographic features of Palestine and other occupied territories are null and void. In this respect, they expressed their support to the Final Communiqué issued by the meeting of the Committee of the Nine on Palestine established by the Non-Aligned Movement, which was held in Tunis in March 1990.

16. The Ministers hailed the heroic intifadah of the Palestinian people, which generated important developments in the region, thus creating conditions that induced the whole international community to engage in common action with a view of reaching a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement. They emphasized the constructive stands of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, which rendered a positive contribution in evolving a just and comprehensive solution as was adopted by the National Palestinian Council in Algiers in November 1988. A solution was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution adopted in Geneva on 15 December 1988. Resolution 44/176 emphasised that the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East with the participation, on an equal footing, of the concerned parties, the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, under the aegis of the United Nations, is the adequate formula to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement, which would lead to Israel's total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and secure the Palestinian people's legitimate, inalienable, national rights to return to its homeland, to exercise its self-determination, and to establish its own independent state in Palestine. The Ministers condemned the terrorist practices of the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people and denounced the massacre of civilians and Palestinian workers perpetrated in Aoun Kara on 20 May 1990, which cost hundreds of deaths and injuries among the Palestinians. The Ministers deplored the United States position favourable to Israel as well as its use of the veto which impedes efforts of the Security Council and the United Nations towards providing adequate protection to the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. The Ministers also hailed the steadfastness of the Syrian nationals in the Golan Heights in confronting the Israeli occupation authorities and in their attachment to their lands and to their Syrian Arab identity.

17. After reviewing the tragic situation **prevailing** in Lebanon, the Ministers expressed their deep concern over the resurgence of **fratricidal** violence and the persistent obstacles impeding the continued implementation of the National **Reconciliation Agreement** reached in Taif under the aegis of the Arab Tripartite High Committee. They recalled the stand of the Movement of the non-aligned countries expressed in Belgrade in September 1989, and gave their support to the sustained efforts provided by the Arab Tripartite High Committee for the full implementation of the Taif Agreement within the framework of the implementation of the resolution on Lebanon adopted by the Special Arab Summit held in Casablanca in May 1989.

18. While expressing their full support to the national conciliation agreement and their attachment to the unity, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon, the Ministers voiced their solidarity with the Lebanese people for the suffering it has been undergoing, and called upon the parties likely to exert positive influence towards bolstering the authority of the state of Lebanon, to revive action towards a full implementation of the arrangements laid down by the national conciliation agreement since the latter remains the sole framework capable of restoring peace and conciliation in Lebanon. Likewise, the Ministers expressed their deep concern in the face of the continued Israeli occupation of parts of the Lebanese territory, denounced the repeated Israeli aggressions against Lebanon, whose aim is to undermine the latter's security and to weaken its constitutional institutions, as well as the illegal practices conducted by Israel against the **civilians**. They voiced their respect for the steadfastness of the **citizens** and their valiant resistance to the forces of occupation in southern Lebanon. They called upon the international community to strive towards the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) which provided for the unconditional Israeli withdrawal to the international borders, a withdrawal that would secure the restoration of the legitimacy of the Lebanese Government's authority over all its territorise.

19. Examining the situation in Cyprus, the Ministers **reiterated** their solidarity with and support for the people and Government of Cyprus and reaffirmed their support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-aligned status of the Republic of Cyprus. They called for the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces and settlers, the voluntary return of refugees to their homes, the respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots, the speedy tracing of and accounting for those missing, the repeal of all unilateral separatist actions; they also expressed their concern over attempts to **settle** Varosha and all attempts aimed at altering the demographic structure of Cyprus and recalled the idea of holding an international conference on Cyprus. The Ministers underlined that dialogue and intercommunal talks are the only way of reaching a just solution through peaceful means on the basis of the principles of the United Nations Charter, the United Nations resolutions, the Non-Aligned Movement's declarations and the high-level agreements. They noted with regret that the recent contacts under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General did not lead to any progress towards preparing an outline of an overall agreement, as agreed in April and June 1989, and as expected by the Secretary-General, who has already submitted a set of ideas to that effect. **In** this respect they expressed their regret that obstacles had been set up once again, preventing the pursuit of



effective talks and called for their elimination. ~~The~~ Ministers expressed their full support to the efforts of the Secretary-General aimed at finding a just and lasting solution and appealed to all parties to co-operate fully with him in a constructive spirit.

20. The Ministers examined the economic situation in the region and underlined the aggravation of the development problems of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries in sharp contrast with ~~the~~ positive tendencies in Europe, and in the European Community, in particular. The relaunching of the developing process of Mediterranean non-aligned countries requires, first of all, a substantial increase of the transfer of financial resources in their direction and a just solution to the foreign debt issue as well as the elaboration of appropriate and effective mechanisms of co-operation among the countries of the region, in particular with the EEC. In this respect they paid great attention to the new Mediterranean policy of ~~the~~ EEC which, they hoped, would be rapidly implemented, accompanied by appropriate financial means commensurate with the importance given by the EEC to the Mediterranean region. ~~Considering~~ the elaboration of community measures related to the movement and settlement of persons, they requested that the new mechanisms will not ~~penalize~~ the migrant communities of their countries nor impede ~~the~~ freedom of circulation for the citizens of their countries.

21. The Ministers expressed their conviction that there could be neither stability in the Mediterranean, nor better prospects for the countries of the region as a whole, without a reduction of the economic disparities and a durable growth of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries, which are displaying sustained efforts to adjust and which are making sacrifices in a still unfavourable environment. They reiterated their will to engage with European countries in a constructive dialogue on economic issues and co-operation, and to promote common efforts towards finding efficient solutions to the problems of ~~development~~ and co-operation in the region.

22. The Ministers considered that a favourable international economic environment was vital for the realiaation of their development objectives and called upon the countries of the European community and among them, particularly, the Mediterranean ones, to make efforts to adjust to the new regional realities so that the integration process of Europe in general and in the Community in particular, would contribute to the economies of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries.

23. The Ministers once more urged the cancellation of all coercive measures imposed on some Mediterranean non-aligned countries as they constitute impediments to co-operation and dialogue between Europe and the Mediterranean non-aligned countries.

24. The Ministers noted the growin~ concern of Mediterranean countries over the problems related to environmental protection in ~~the~~ Mediterranean, which have reached alarming proportions during the past few years. In this context, they welcomed the CSCE decision to hold a meeting in September-October 1990 in Palma de Majorca, which would examine, inter alia, ways and means to strengthen further various aspects of the co-operation, particularly, the protection and improvement of the Mediterranean ecosystems. They expressed hope that such an initiative would lead to a co-operation which will include all questions of common

interests. They stressed the imperative need for the Mediterranean countries to multiply efforts towards joint action for the safeguard of the Mediterranean countries and the protection of the Mediterranean area from the dangers constituted by any introduction of toxic, nuclear or industrial waste.

25. The Ministers underlined the growing importance, within the present context, of using the advantage of the economic complementarities of their countries to foster a co-operation in all forms among them. Such co-operation would constitute a further contribution to a greater security in the Mediterranean area, as well as an impetus to the strengthening of co-operation with other European countries and all their institutions. In this regard, they reaffirmed the importance of the programme of action for mutual *economic* co-operation of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries adopted in Brioni and agreed to continue the implementation of its provisions.

26. Bearing in mind the importance of strengthening mutual co-operation, the positive and constructive results of the ministerial meetings of Valletta in 1984, of Brioni in 1987 and the subsequent meetings, the Ministers decided:

(a) That the forthcoming meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Mediterranean Non-Aligned Countries will be held in Cairo at a date which will be fixed later.

(b) That in its capacity as the host country, Algeria shall convey the results of the present meeting to all members of the Non-Aligned Movement and shall request the Secretary-General to circulate the documents it has adopted as official documents of the General Assembly,