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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-fifth session  
Items 71, 142 and 144 of the  
provisional agenda\*  
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING  
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY  
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF  
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES  
BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 22 August 1990 from the Permanent Representative of  
France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the nine countries (Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) which are members of the Western European Union, of which France is the current President, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the final communiqué issued at the close of the ministerial session of the Union held in Paris on 21 August (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 71, 142 and 144 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pierre-Louis BLANC

\* A/45/150 and Corr.1.

ANNEX

Final communiqué issued on 21 August 1990 by the countries  
members of the Western European Union

1. The Foreign and Defence Ministers of the Western European Union met on 21 August 1990 to discuss the situation in the Gulf caused by the Iraqi invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait. The meeting was held pursuant to article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Western European Union Treaty, the Rome Declaration of October 1984 and the platform on European security interests of October 1987, which provide for member countries to concert their policies on crises occurring outside Europe in so far as they may affect European security interests.
2. The Ministers of the Western European Union member States repeated their unreserved condemnation of the invasion and annexation of Kuwait by Iraq and called on Iraq to comply immediately and unconditionally with United Nations Security Council resolutions 660 (1990) and 662 (1990). They restated their firm determination to continue to take all necessary steps to comply with the embargo of Iraq in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 661 (1990) and to render the embargo effective. They called on the Security Council to take any further useful measures to that end.
3. The Ministers declared that the determination their countries intended to display in upholding the law was for the sole purpose of ending aggression and its consequences. The action they had initiated was aimed at upholding respect for the principles that should govern relations among States, which concerned the entire international community and served as a safeguard for all its members.
4. Faced with a situation that in the first instance affected the Arab States, the Ministers emphasized the solidarity linking their countries with the Arab world and their resolve to support its efforts to seek a solution from within which respected the relevant Security Council resolutions in the context of their ongoing co-operation and dialogue with the Arab world.
5. The Ministers expressed their acute concern and indignation at the restrictions on the freedom of movement of nationals of the member countries and at the inhuman treatment inflicted on some of those nationals. They warned Iraq of the grave consequences that would inevitably ensue if their safety were to be placed at risk. They reiterated their support for Security Council resolution 664 (1990) and demanded that Iraq comply with it without delay.
6. They stressed that the Western European Union member countries, bearing in mind the vital European interests in the stability, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the States of the area, intended to contribute towards further enhancing the unprecedented international solidarity that had developed since the aggression and had led to effective action by the United Nations Security Council. The countries that were suffering from the economic consequences of that action deserved their solidarity.

7. The Ministers welcomed the measures being taken by Member States in support of United Nations Security Council resolution 661 (1990) and in response to the requests for assistance from States in the Gulf region, with the aim of obliging Iraq unconditionally to withdraw its troops from Kuwaiti territory and restore Kuwait's sovereignty.

8. They decided closely to co-ordinate their operations in the area aimed at implementing and enforcing the measures mentioned in paragraph 7, as well as any further measures the Security Council might adopt, also ensuring, by common agreement, the protection of their forces. Building on the experience acquired, including the consultation mechanisms during the Gulf operations in 1987 and 1988, they instructed an ad hoc group of foreign and defence ministry representatives to ensure the most effective co-ordination in capitals and in the regions. That should cover, among other things, overall operational concepts and specific guidelines for co-ordination between forces in the region, including areas of operation, sharing of tasks, logistical support and exchange of intelligence. Contact points were being designated in the ministries of defence to assist with co-operation at the practical and technical levels and, as an immediate step, to prepare for a meeting of chiefs of defence staff to be held in the next few days.

9. The Ministers emphasized that co-ordination within the Western European Union should also facilitate co-operation with other countries deploying forces in the region, including those of the United States.

10. The presidency of the Council would inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the outcome of the meeting.

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