

the magnitude of the social and economic problems posed to Pakistan and Iran by the presence on their soil of millions of Afghan refugees,

Deeply conscious of the urgent need for a comprehensive political solution of the situation in respect of Afghanistan,

Conscious that a successful final political settlement of the Afghanistan problem would have a favourable impact on the international situation and provide an impetus for the resolution of other acute regional conflicts,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General and his Personal Representative for their efforts to bring about peace and security,

Supporting the statement of the Secretary-General on Afghanistan of 21 May 1991,⁴⁵

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General⁴⁶ and the status of the process of political settlement,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Agreements on the Settlement of the Situation Relating to Afghanistan, hereinafter referred to as the "Geneva Agreements", concluded at Geneva on 14 April 1988 under United Nations auspices, which constitute an important step towards a comprehensive political solution of the Afghanistan problem;

2. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General and his Personal Representative for their constant efforts to achieve a political solution of the Afghanistan problem;

3. *Calls* for scrupulous respect for and faithful implementation of the Geneva Agreements by all parties concerned who should fully abide by their letter and spirit;

4. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to promote actively the search for ways towards a political solution, acceptable to the Afghan people, on the basis of principles contained in the statement of the Secretary-General on Afghanistan;⁴⁵

5. *Reiterates* that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned and Islamic character of Afghanistan is essential for a peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem;

6. *Reaffirms* the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and to choose their economic, political and social system free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever;

7. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to work urgently for the achievement of a comprehensive political solution, the cessation of hostilities and the creation of the necessary conditions of peace and normalcy that would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homeland in safety and honour;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for an early start of the intra-Afghan dialogue for the establishment, through democratic procedures acceptable to the Afghan people, including free and fair elections, of a broad-based government to ensure the broadest support and immediate participation of all segments of the Afghan people;

9. *Also calls upon* all parties concerned to exert every effort to promote a political settlement acceptable to the Afghan people in order to bring to an end the protracted conflict that has prevailed in Afghanistan for the past several years;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General and his Personal

Representative to continue to encourage and facilitate the early realization of a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Agreements and of the present resolution;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees aimed at providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghan refugees and facilitating their voluntary return, and appeals to the parties concerned to take all necessary measures to ease their lot;

12. *Renews its appeal* to all States and national and international organizations to continue to extend humanitarian relief assistance with a view to alleviating the hardship of the Afghan refugees, in coordination with the High Commissioner;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Coordinator for Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes Relating to Afghanistan and calls upon all States to provide to the Coordinator adequate financial and material resources for the purposes of achieving the speedy repatriation and rehabilitation of the Afghan refugees, as well as for the economic and social reconstruction of the country;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep Member States and the Security Council informed of progress towards the implementation of the present resolution and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the situation in Afghanistan and on progress achieved in the implementation of the Geneva Agreements and the political settlement relating to Afghanistan;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

64th plenary meeting
5 December 1991

46/24. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,⁴⁷

Recalling the decision of the Council of the League of Arab States that it considers the League as a regional organization within the meaning of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation the desire of the League of Arab States to consolidate and develop the existing ties with the United Nations in all areas relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to cooperate in every possible way with the United Nations in the implementation of United Nations resolutions relating to Lebanon and to the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East,

Aware of the vital importance for the countries members of the League of Arab States of achieving a just, compre-

hensive and durable solution to the Middle East conflict and the question of Palestine, the core of the conflict,

Realizing that the strengthening of international peace and security is directly related, *inter alia*, to economic development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Convinced that the maintenance and further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Also convinced of the need for more efficient and co-ordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

Recognizing the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in realizing the goals and objectives set forth in the Strategy for Joint Arab Economic Development adopted by the Eleventh Arab Summit Conference, held at Amman in November 1980,⁴⁸

Having heard the statement of 5 December 1991 on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,⁴⁹ and having noted the emphasis placed therein on follow-up actions and procedures on the recommendations in the political, social, cultural and administrative fields adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations and the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as on the recommendations relating to political matters contained in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴⁷

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, held at Tunis in 1983,⁵⁰ at Amman in 1985⁵¹ and at Geneva in 1988;⁵²

4. *Expresses its appreciation also* to the Secretary-General for his efforts to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and commends the League of Arab States and its Tripartite High Committee for their endeavours to promote the peace process and reconstruction efforts in Lebanon;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen cooperation with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States for the purpose of implementing United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East in order to achieve a just, comprehensive and durable solution to the Middle East conflict and the question of Palestine, the core of the conflict;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States,

within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the follow-up action to facilitate the implementation of the proposals of a multilateral nature adopted at the Tunis meeting in 1983, and to take appropriate action regarding the proposals adopted at previous meetings, including the following:

(a) Promotion of contacts and consultations between the counterpart programmes of the United Nations system;

(b) Setting up joint sectoral inter-agency working groups;

9. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(a) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(b) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes, in order to facilitate their implementation;

(c) To associate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(d) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 15 May 1992, of the progress of their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in particular the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

10. *Decides* that, in order to intensify cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress as well as to prepare comprehensive periodic reports, a general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should take place once every two years, the next general meeting to be held in 1992, and inter-agency sectoral meetings should be organized annually on areas of priority and wide importance in the development of the Arab States;

11. *Takes note* of the intention of the League of Arab States to hold a high-level Arab regional meeting on children in 1992 and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the organizations and agencies of the

United Nations system to cooperate with the League of Arab States in the furtherance of this objective;

12. *Recommends* that the United Nations and the other organizations of the United Nations system should utilize Arab expertise to the extent possible in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation and follow-up action of multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted by the meetings between the two organizations;

14. *Recommends* that the next general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States address itself to the development of a mechanism for enhancing cooperation between the two organizations;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

64th plenary meeting
5 December 1991

46/71. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,⁵³

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its previous resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 45/34 of 20 November 1990, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism is one of the priorities of the Organization for the decade beginning in 1990,

Deeply conscious of the need to take, speedily, measures to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism by the year 2000, as called for in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the elimination of colonialism, as well as of the need for the total eradication of racial discrimination, apartheid and violations of basic human rights,

Conscious that the success of national liberation struggles and the resultant international situation have provided the international community with a unique opportunity to make a decisive contribution towards the elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting also with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, as well as their continued readiness to receive United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Noting with concern the negative impact which the non-participation of certain administering Powers has had on the work of the Special Committee, depriving it of an important source of information on the Territories under their administration,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including particularly the small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations within its system,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions on decolonization, including its resolution 43/47 in which it declared the decade beginning in 1990 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination and independence;

2. *Affirms once again* that the continuation of colonialism in any form or manifestation—including racism, apartheid and economic exploitation, as well as policies and practices to suppress legitimate national liberation movements—is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁵⁴ and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and poses a threat to international peace and security;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful and strict observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again* its support for the struggle of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

5. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1991, including the programme of work envisaged for 1992;⁵⁵

6. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the speedy