Thirty-sixth session
Agenda item 58

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 7 December 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a message addressed to Your Excellency
by Dr. Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia.

I should like to request that the enclosed letter and communiqué be
circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 58.

(Signed) Mohamed Hamid IBRAHIM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Letter dated 25 November 1981 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Extraordinary Session of the Political Committee under the Tripartite Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between Socialist Ethiopia, the Socialist People’s Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen held at Addis Ababa from 15 to 17 November 1981, I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency’s urgent attention recent developments in our region which our respective Governments view with utmost concern and gravity.

It is a matter of record that the vast majority of the peoples in the developing countries around the globe yearn, first and foremost, for peace and stability. They endeavour to devote all their energies and resources to combat the common enemies of mankind, namely hunger, disease, ignorance and poverty. They struggle with a singleness of purpose to achieve a measure of economic and social development to enable them lead a decent life.

As the peoples in the developing countries know only too well their material and technological limitations to achieve their national development objectives, they are increasingly fostering good-neighbourliness, peace and co-operation. Realizing that political independence is meaningless without economic independence, they have declared an all-out war against domination and exploitation. Theirs is a resolute struggle for peace and social justice.
On the other hand, die-hard imperialism and neo-colonialism, oblivious to the inexorable course of history, exert their maximum effort, resorting to every guile and intrigue, to perpetuate their grip over and exploitation of the natural resources of Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. It is a fact that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has the paramount mission of implementing this sinister design. It is also evident that recent developments are, in effect symptoms of the underlying malignancy we have briefly outlined above.

The Government of the United States and its NATO allies, have been building new military bases and expanding existing ones, organizing “quick intervention forces” and deploying espionage aircrafts in violation of the sovereignty of the countries of the region. Furthermore, the launching of military manoeuvres such as the current so-called “Bright Star 82” are also being conducted in our region with the sole purpose of destabilising legitimate Governments and stifling genuine national liberation movements.

The brazen aggression that was committed by the United States recently against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya amply demonstrates the policy which the United States pursues to impose its domination through political blackmail, terror, arrogance of power, hostile propaganda, provocation and naked use of force. To give a semblance of legality to their provocative and aggressive acts the U.S. and its allies often revert to feigned pretexts. The latest such pretext is the alleged threat of the Tripartite Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between our three countries to America’s allies in the region. The truth is that pretexts
are endlessly fabricated for the sole purpose of misleading world public opinion and distract attention from explosive situations prevailing in the Middle East and Southern Africa where millions of people are locked in protracted struggle to break the fetters of ruthless exploitation and racist oppression.

In view of the grave developments, our three Governments, as parties to the Tripartite Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation convened and extraordinary meeting of the Political Committee from 15 to 17 November 1981 in Addis Ababa to review the situation.

The Political Committee exchanged views on the international situation in general and recent developments in the region in particular. Having closely examined the implications of the current large-scale joint military manoeuvres spearheaded by the United States, issued a Joint Statement expressing the grave concern and anxiety of our three Governments and peoples.

Since the current manoeuvres have far-reaching implications to global peace and security, as well as the pursuit of unfettered national development by the sovereign States in the region, I am addressing this communication to you and transmitting herewith the text of the Joint Statement.

I shall be very grateful if Your Excellency would be so good as to bring to the attention of the Member States of the United Nations Organization, the contents of this communication and the enclosed Statement as well as take such additional action as you may deem appropriate. I should like to inform you also that I am addressing similar
messages to other relevant regional and international organizations.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dr. Feleke Gato Ghiorgis
Minister

H.E. Dr. Kurt Waldheim,
Secretary General of the United Nations Organization,
New York,
U.S.A.
APPENDIX

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA, THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC OF YEMEN.

In accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between Socialist Ethiopia, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen signed in Aden on 19 August 1981, the Political Committee held an extra-ordinary meeting in Addis Ababa from 16 to 17 November, 1981.

The respective delegations were led by:-

Comrade Dr. Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia.

Comrade Salem Saleh Mohamed, Member of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Brother Abdulati Al-Obeidi Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The Political Committee reviewed the situation prevailing in the region and examined in depth the developments which have unfolded in recent months, where the U.S.A. is busy fomenting discord, misunderstanding and direct conflict among neighbouring countries of the region.

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In their assessment of the international and regional situation, members of the Political Committee expressed identical views and determined that the objectives of imperialism in the world in general and in the region in particular are primarily the perpetual exploitation of the natural resources of the area, imposition of its domination over the countries of the region and the curtailment of their freedom of action, distraction of international attention from the critical problems of the Middle East and southern Africa and impeding the efforts of African and Arab peoples and countries for socio-economic progress.

The Political Committee noted that the U.S. war machine in the Mediterranean, Africa, the Middle East, the Red Sea, the Gulf region and the Indian Ocean has recently been considerably reinforced with the view to maintaining the area in a perpetual state of tension. The Committee stressed that these provocative and aggressive acts being perpetrated by the Reagan Administration are not only directed against Ethiopia, Libya and Democratic Yemen for their anti-imperialist, anti-reaction, anti-racist and anti-zionist stand, but also against all peace-loving, democratic and progressive countries, as well as national liberation movements of Africa and the Middle East.
The Political Committee noted that U.S. imperialism, in collusion with Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman as well as the zionist entity, has at this very moment launched large scale joint military manoeuvres code-named "Bright Star 82" that stretch from southern Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean.

The Political Committee noted that U.S. imperialism in collaboration with its reactionary, racist and zionist allies, is engaged in the deployment of its "Rapid Intervention Forces" with a view not only to intimidating the three countries but also towards ensuring its domination of the region. The Political Committee further noted that the existence of alliances coupled with the U.S. military bases in and facilities offered by, a number of countries in the region constitute a serious threat to the three countries, the stability of the area and to international peace and security.

Having recalled that the vast majority of African and Middle Eastern countries attained their national independence after protracted struggles and enormous sacrifices, the Political Committee emphasised that the axes of exploitation, domination, provocation and aggression are being perpetrated by U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies at a time when African peoples along with their Arab brothers are endeavouring to promote regional co-operation aimed at the effective and rational utilization of their natural resources for the socio-economic development of their peoples. The Committee stressed that the NATO powers, spearheaded by
U.S. imperialism, are engaged in large scale manoeuvres designed to obstruct peaceful co-operation between sovereign states in the area and jeopardize the struggle of genuine liberation movements in Africa and the Middle East.

The Committee noted that the delivery of sophisticated arms to selected countries in the region is calculated to aggravate tension and local conflicts. The establishment of new military bases and the expansion of the existing ones, the creation of the military axis through "strategic consensus" and "Strategic alliances" and the deployment of "quick intervention forces" are all part of a U.S. plan to destabilize the peace of the region for its own political and economic ends.

Referring to the current military manoeuvres, encompassing the entire regions and peoples which stretch from North Dakota in the U.S. through the Atlantic, Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa, the Middle East, the Red Sea and the Gulf region to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, the Committee emphasized that it is aimed at beating the ominous drums of the cold war in preparation for an all out global conflict. The Committee further stressed that the on-going U.S. military manoeuvres are designed to undermine the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states that refuse to accept U.S. diktat, foment
discord, misunderstanding and direct conflict among states of the region with a view to perpetuating the exploitation of their natural resources, as well as distracting the attention of world public opinion from the explosive situation prevailing in southern Africa and the Middle East.

The Committee stressed that, to achieve its objectives, U.S. imperialism employs various methods such as interference in the internal affairs of states, direct aggression, sowing discord and exacerbating existing conflicts among states, establishment of new military bases and expansion of existing ones, deployment of quick intervention forces, carrying out espionage activities by various sophisticated means such as deployment of AWACS and conducting periodic manoeuvres such as "Bright Star 81" and the on-going "Bright Star 82".

In the light of its assessment of the situation and the latest developments in the region, the Political Committee:

Vehemently condemns the large scale military manoeuvres and acts of intimidation by U.S. imperialism and its collaborators in the region.

Vehemently condemns the presence of such imperialist and reactionary forces in the region which are in contradiction with the charters and principles of the Organization of African Unity,
the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations.

Decides to take necessary measures to counter the conspiracies of international imperialism, neo-colonialism, racism, zionism and reaction aimed not only at stifling and reversing the revolutions of the three countries, but also at perpetuating the imperialist and neo-colonialist exploitative grip over the peoples and the natural resources of the region.

Reaffirms the stand of the three countries to further strengthen the friendship, co-operation and solidarity with the countries of the Socialist community.

Calls upon peace-loving, progressive and democratic countries in general and the countries of the region in particular to condemn these acts of provocation and aggression which entail very grave consequences on global peace and security, as well as the stability of the region.

Decides to bring the matter to the attention of the Organization of African Unity, the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations and urge these organizations to take measures commensurate with the grave situation.
Reaffirms the commitment of the three countries to the promotion of good-neighbourliness, peace and co-operation in conformity with the charters and principles of the regional and international organizations of which they are members.

FOR SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA,

FOR THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA,

FOR THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN.

Addis Ababa,
17 November 1981.