Thirty-sixth session

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

Letter dated 23 January 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan dated 17 January 1981 and to request you to have the enclosed text and this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

(Signed) M. Farid ZARIF
Chargé d'Affaires
ANNEX

STATEMENT

OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

(17 January 1981)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan would like to make the following statement in connection with the Summit Meeting of Islamic Conference which is going to be held in Mecca at the end of January 1981.

The forthcoming meeting of the Summit Meeting of Islamic Conference at this very sensitive and tense moment of the history of the Islamic world and the Middle East will be held at a time when imperialism, especially the US imperialism and zionism actively pursue the designs which threaten the entire peace of the region and the world.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan believes that it would be better for the entire Islamic countries to pay their attention to how to solve the important and urgent issues which are arising from Israeli aggression, occupation of Arab lands, separate manoeuvres of Israel, Egypt and the United States.

They should denounce the armed aggression of US imperialism and other forms of pressure exerted over the Arab brothers' people and demand the immediate withdrawal of the US military and naval forces from the Gulf and the dismantle of American bases in the region. Likewise, they should call for the prevention of the expansion of foreign military penetration in the Middle and Near East. The exercise of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people including the right to establish its own independent state and the freedom of Jerusalem constitute one of the most urgent issues.

The Summit Meeting of Islamic Conference in taking up the tragic conflict between Iraq and Iran should find a peaceful solution to this problem. Strengthening and unifying of all the forces of Islamic brothers' countries in the final analysis should be the main result of the conference.

It seems that certain reactionary circles tend to include the so-called question of Afghanistan once again on the agenda of the Summit Meeting of Islamic Conference.
It is evident that this manoeuvre has never had any relation to the benefit of Islamic countries while it will only help the further exacerbation of the situation around Afghanistan and will serve as a means to feed the propaganda machinery against Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

The fact is that the situation in Afghanistan is entirely an internal matter of our country and will never threaten the peace and security in the region and the world as a whole.

There is no dispute between Afghanistan and Pakistan and Afghanistan and Iran. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has no territorial claim with regard to these countries.

Of course it is true that some problems have been created by anti-revolutionary gangs which have been financed and armed by US imperialism and Peking hegemonism and have been harbored in the territory of some neighbouring countries especially in Pakistan from where they commit acts of aggression and other forms of intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan proposed to the governments of Pakistan and Iran to solve these problems through bilateral negotiations. The programme of political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and restoration of relations with Pakistan and Iran has been included in the comprehensive declaration of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan of May 14, 1980.

Although no threat to peace and security of the region and the world emanates from the internal developments in Afghanistan, it is Afghanistan which has been subjected to aggressive activities and other forms of intrusion from abroad. So it is for this reason that the limited contingent of Soviet troops has been invited to assist the people and valiant army of Afghanistan in order to repel the aggression from abroad.

The joint communique which was issued on October 16, 1980 by Afghanistan and the Soviet Union during the official trip of the party and government delegation to the USSR declares that as far as the military limited contingent of the Soviet Union stationed in the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the contingent which has been sent on the request of the Government of Afghanistan in accordance with the Afghan-Soviet Treaty of 1978 and the Charter of the United Nations, is concerned, the date of its withdrawal would be fixed within the framework of a political solution and not prior to complete termination of aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and receiving the respective guarantees for non-occurrence of the destructive activity from outside against the people and government of Afghanistan.

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The positive changes which have been brought about after the new phase of the Saur revolution are now increasingly perceived and supported by the vast masses of the toilers of the country and this is indicative of the growing consolidation of the peoples' power, economic development, land reform, the rule of law and order and the full stabilisation of the situation in the country.

The other important event is the conference of national and patriotic forces which has recently been held in Kabul to pave the way for the establishment of a broad national fatherland front, the front which will unite the forces of all the classes, strata and groups of the Afghan society.

Therefore, taking all these facts into account, it is clear that the attempt to impose the so-called Afghan issues for the discussion at the Summit Meeting of Islamic Conference has no other aim except to divert the attention of this meeting from the outstanding and urgent issues of the Islamic countries.

They should pay attention to preventing such collusive attempts and strive that the conference should not be devoted to the discussion of issues which would undermine the unity of the Islamic world, in this case their victory will be achieved against their enemies.

But as far as the respective decision to suspend the membership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the Organization of the Islamic Conference is concerned, it should be pointed out that this decision is completely unjust and without any rationale.

Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan authoritatively stresses that any resolution and decision taken in the absence of the DRA delegation would be void of any legal validity and Afghanistan will not be bound by them.