Twenty-sixth session
Agenda item 34

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

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1. The Government of Pakistan solemnly reaffirms the universal and unconditional validity of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as the basis of relations among States irrespective of their size, geographical location, level of development or political, economic and social systems, and expresses the conviction that the breach of these principles cannot be justified in any circumstances whatsoever.

2. The Government of Pakistan regards the United Nations Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security as a major effort aimed at strengthening the United Nations and as a sign of rededication to its purposes and principles. However, it has to be recognized with regret that some Members of the United Nations, while pledging support for its provisions, are engaged in undermining the very principles enunciated in it, thus endangering international peace and security.

3. In your confidential memorandum to the President of the Security Council, dated 20 July 1971 and published later, you drew his attention, inter alia, to the threat to peace which has arisen in the India-Pakistan subcontinent. This threat to peace exists because India, in violation of its solemn obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, not only refuses to honour its commitments with regard to the peaceful settlement of outstanding disputes between Pakistan and itself but is also openly interfering in the internal affairs of Pakistan. Further, India has concentrated its armed forces along the borders of East and West Pakistan and heavy mortar firing on East Pakistan from Indian territory is an almost daily occurrence. India has also been training and sending infiltrators and its own armed personnel into East Pakistan for committing acts of sabotage, violence and destruction. Further, its leaders have openly threatened Pakistan with war and have demanded and insisted on a solution of Pakistan's internal problems in accordance with their own wishes. Moreover, India refuses to resolve the humanitarian problem of the displaced persons with the help and assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as suggested by you, and is using this humanitarian issue as a political weapon to bring about the dismemberment of Pakistan. Besides magnifying their number out of proportion, it discourages their return to their homes by every pronouncement and deed.
4. In contrast to India, my country has done its utmost to prevent and curb the mounting threat to peace in the subcontinent. The President of Pakistan has publicly declared our aversion to war, unless it is forced upon us, as wars solve no problems and are repugnant to the very concept of the Charter. The Government of Pakistan promptly and without any hesitation, accepted your proposal of 19 July that the UNHCR personnel should be stationed on both sides of the India-East Pakistan border to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of the refugees in a secure and orderly manner which takes due account of their welfare. Further, the President of Pakistan has expressed and reiterated his Government's keen and sincere anxiety for the early return of displaced persons from India. A general amnesty has been declared for our nationals in India. The President of Pakistan has in particular appealed to the members of the minority community to return to their hearths and homes. As regards the necessity to curb the threat to international peace in the subcontinent, Pakistan has welcomed the initiative taken by you in your memorandum to the President of the Security Council of 20 July. In particular, Pakistan has favoured the idea of the formation of a good offices committee of the Security Council for India and Pakistan.

5. However, the situation in the subcontinent remains tense because of Indian intransigence and non-co-operation. In these circumstances, it is the view of the Government of Pakistan that it is incumbent upon the United Nations and its Members to take cognizance of the seriousness of the situation and to exercise their individual and collective influence in reducing and eliminating the threat to peace in the subcontinent.

6. As regards measures to strengthen international peace and security in general, it is the view of the Government of Pakistan that the United Nations should not be content only with preventing conflicts and wars and with dampening and limiting armed conflagrations. It should, simultaneously, fulfil its central purpose of promoting just and peaceful solutions of disputes and situations which constitute a danger, actual or potential, to international peace and security. Such disputes and situations continue to exist and threaten to erupt from time to time into armed conflicts.

7. Another cause of danger to international peace is the possibility of the proliferation of nuclear weapons despite the entry into force of the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as some of the non-nuclear-weapon States, which are capable of manufacturing nuclear explosive devices, have not adhered to it. Further, some of these States insist on their right to produce the so-called peaceful nuclear explosive devices. As there is no difference between such devices and nuclear weapons, it is certain that, if such devices are produced by non-nuclear-weapon States, proliferation of nuclear weapons would in effect take place, thus upsetting the regional balance of forces and causing general insecurity. This threat is all the more serious since no viable security assurances against nuclear blackmail are available to the non-nuclear-weapon States which renounce nuclear weapons.

8. It is evident that the primary responsibility in this regard rests on the nuclear-weapon Powers, which are also permanent members of the Security Council. They should ensure that international peace and security is not endangered by the nuclear ambitions of some non-nuclear-weapon States.

9. Hitherto, one of the main reasons for the ineffectiveness of the Security Council in particular and the General Assembly in general has been the denial of its legitimate rights to the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. To continue to deny its legitimate place in the United Nations to a great Asian and world Power is to impose a serious disability on the United Nations, preventing it from effectively discharging its basic duty: the strengthening of international security by co-operative effort. It also undermines the concept of peace with justice since one fourth of mankind is denied its rightful role in constructing and preserving a peaceful world order.

10. Another factor which undermines international peace and security is the continued arms race. It is a matter for satisfaction that a limited agreement has been reached between the United States and the Soviet Union, in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, to the effect that the two Governments will concentrate this year on working out an agreement for the limitation of the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems and, together with concluding an agreement to limit the ABM's, the two sides will agree on certain measures with respect to the limitation of offensive strategic weapons. However, the agreement, welcome as it is, is limited in scope and is between only two of the nuclear-weapon-Powers. It is the hope of the Government of Pakistan that the above agreement will be enlarged in scope and
will be followed by efforts to have further agreements among all nuclear-weapon Powers and non-nuclear-weapon States on measures of nuclear as well as general and complete disarmament.

11. Measures of disarmament and a halt in the arms race would result in the release of precious resources which should be utilized for raising the standard of living of peoples everywhere, in particular of the populations of the less-developed countries and areas of the world.

12. The continued existence and increase in the economic and social disparities among nations constitute one of the gravest potential dangers to world peace. International security cannot be convincingly strengthened unless concerted and effective international action is taken to remove such disparities.

13. Finally, it is the view of the Government of Pakistan that a sincere rededication to the purposes and principles of the Charter by all States and respect for and implementation of the decisions and recommendations of United Nations organs are essential for strengthening international peace and security. In particular, scrupulous observance of the provisions of the Charter prohibiting the threat or use of force in relations among States and against interference in each other's internal affairs would remove major causes of international tension. It is obvious that disregard and non-observance of the purposes and principles of the Charter, the threat or use of force in international relations and interference in the internal affairs of States would continue to create tensions and lead to wars and conflicts, thus endangering international peace and security.

14. For its part the Government of Pakistan will continue to abide by the purposes and principles of the Charter and reaffirms its resolve to join in all efforts which are aimed at strengthening international peace and security on the basis of sovereign equality and justice among States.