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96th Congress
2d Session } COMMITTEE PRINT

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INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION CONFERENCE

REPORT

OF THE

UNITED STATES DELEGATION

TO THE

66TH CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION

HELD AT

CARACAS, VENEZUELA

SEPTEMBER 13–21, 1979

MARCH 1980

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U.S. Delegation

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M. CALDWELL BUTLER, Virginia	
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Officers of the U.S. Group for the 96th Congress

Representative Richardson Preyer, North Carolina, *President*
Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr., New Jersey, *Vice President*
Senator Robert T. Stafford, Vermont, *Vice President*
Representative Claude Pepper, Florida, *Vice President*
Representative J. J. Pickle, Texas, *Secretary*
Representative Edward J. Derwinski, Illinois, *Treasurer*
At Large Members of Executive Committee:
- Senator Birch Bayh, Indiana
- Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Indiana
- Representative Robert McClory, Illinois

U.S. Representatives on the Interparliamentary Union Council:
- Senator Robert T. Stafford, Vermont
- Representative Edward J. Derwinski, Illinois

Members, Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments:
- Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., *Clerk of the House of Representatives*
- J. Stanley Kimmitt, *Secretary of the Senate*
- William A. Ridgely, *Assistant Secretary of the Senate*

Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., *Executive Secretary, U.S. Group*
J. Stanley Kimmitt, *Administrative Secretary, U.S. Group*

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Hon. WALTER MONDALE,
President of the Senate,
Hon. THOMAS P. O'NEILL, JR.,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GENTLEMEN: In accordance with the provisions of 22 U.S.C. 276, as amended, I submit a report to Congress of the members of the U.S. delegation to the 66th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union held at Caracas, Venezuela, from September 13 to 21, 1979.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARDSON PREYER,
President, United States Group
of the Interparliamentary Union.

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SUMMARY

The 66th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union was held in Caracas, Venezuela, between September 13 and 21, 1979. Attending were Members of Parliament from 82 countries, as well as international observers from United Nations organizations and other international bodies (see Annex A). A total of 758 delegates participated.

The established agenda for Caracas included followup consideration of issues debated during the spring meeting held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and the adoption of final resolutions. At issue were the 10th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly on Disarmament, the legislative aspects of space law, the role of Parliaments in the protection of the family and the general care of children and youth in connection with the International Year of the Child, ways and means of promoting understanding, cooperation and peace in the areas of education, information and communication, and implementation of U.N. recommendations on decolonization. Additionally, issues concerning the Middle East question and the Palestinian problem were debated, and a resolution on the subject was adopted.

Members of the U.S. delegation spoke on six occasions before the plenary sessions of the Conference and participated in the five established committees to compose final resolutions on the agenda issues. U.S. delegates made statements and took positions:

—supporting authorized United States assistance for Nicaragua;
—critical of some positions of the nonalined conference held in Havana;
—concerning refugees in Indochina;
—in support of the goals of the Special Session on Disarmament and of enhancement of realistic arms control measures that are consistent with the charter of the United Nations;
—in favor of the peace process started in the Mideast with the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty;
—encouraging IPU efforts to promote parliamentary institutions;
—in favor of a full and free flow of information;
—in favor of the preservation and protection of the family;
—encouraging peaceful transition to majority rule in southern Africa and the end of apartheid; and
—in opposition to restriction on the peaceful use of outer space.

The U.S. delegation was also active in a 2-day drafting process to formulate a final resolution on the Middle East question and the Palestinian problem, an issue for which no draft resolution was presented prior to the meeting in Caracas.

Finally, the United States participated in activities of the executive committee along with parliamentarians from nine other nations. Officers of the U.S. Congress, who traveled with the U.S. delegation, participated in meetings of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments.

U.S. DELEGATION

The U.S. delegation that attended the 66th Conference in Caracas was composed of Representatives Richardson Preyer, Edward J. Derwinski, Claude Pepper, J. J. Pickle, E (Kika) de la Garza, Robert Duncan, Guy Vander Jagt, Antonio B. Won Pat, Robert McClory, M. Caldwell Butler, William F. Goodling, and Senator Robert T. Stafford. Representative Preyer, the president of the U.S. Group, also served as delegation chairman. Representative Derwinski and Senator Stafford served as delegation vice chairmen. The U.S. delegation was represented on the Interparliamentary Council by Representative Derwinski and Senator Stafford, with Representatives Preyer and Pickle serving as substitutes. Representative Derwinski and Senator Stafford participated in meetings of the IPU Executive Committee.

Meetings of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments, held simultaneously with the 66th Conference, were attended by Edmund L. Henshaw, Clerk of the House, J. Stanley Kimmitt, Secretary of the Senate, and William A. Ridgely, Assistant Secretary of the Senate.

Staff support for the delegation was provided by Vance Hyndman. Patrick Shea, Michael Glennon, Ellen Rayner, Diane Stoner, Gail Martin, Joanne Novins, Ann Bolton, Jean Auldridge, and John Ward. Department of Defense assistance was provided to the delegation by personnel of the U.S. Navy under the direction of Capt. Eugene B. McDaniel and Comdr. Theodore Grabowsky.

BACKGROUND

The IPU is the oldest and most broadly representative interparliamentary association in the world. It dates its existence from 1889; its official membership now includes 88 national groups.

Outstanding achievements of the IPU in the past have included the following: It was key in promoting international arbitration and initiated the creation of the Permanent Court of International Justice, it has had an important role in European integration, and it began discussion on security and cooperation in Europe and facilitated the Helsinki Agreement. Special IPU investigations have been conducted on the human rights situation in certain countries, and particular attention has been given to the situation concerning parliamentarians. The IPU has also served as a forum for debate and resolution on strategic and conventional arms issues, on the Mideast conflict, on international terrorism, and on southern Africa.

In addition, the IPU provides modest technical assistance and facilitates informational exchange to improve parliamentary institutions throughout the world.

Six leaders in the IPU, including the two cofounders, have been awarded Nobel Peace Prizes.

The purpose of the IPU, according to its statutes, is to promote personal contacts between members of all Parliaments and to unite them in common action to secure and maintain the full participation of their respective states in the firm establishment and development of representative institutions and in the advancement of the work of international peace and cooperation, particularly by supporting the objectives of the United Nations. It pursues these objectives by convening regular meetings each spring and fall, usually in the capital of one of its members. Other special sessions are also occasionally convened for deliberation on issues of special regional or topical concern.

Through these various sessions, the Union brings together parliamentarians representing different ideologies and countries for the objective study of political, economic, social, juridical, and cultural problems of international significance.

The spring meeting is primarily devoted to the work of the five standing study committees, currently constituted as follows: (1) Committee on Political Questions, International Security and Disarmament; (2) Committee on Parliamentary, Juridical and Human Rights Questions; (3) Economic and Social Committee; (4) Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Environmental Committee; and (5) Committee on Non-Self-Governing Territories and Ethnic Questions. The study committees, on which each national group is represented by one member and one substitute, prepare draft resolutions which are submitted to the fall Conference.

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The fall Conference meets in plenary session for debate on issues presented by the study committees and occasionally on supplementary items presented according to the IPU statutes. At the fall conference, study committees are reconvened for several sessions to reconsider resolutions and any amendments and to make final recommendations for adoption by the fall Conference. These then become the official IPU positions for the year.

The IPU Council meets during both the spring and fall sessions, to determine and guide activities of the Union and control implementation. Each national group is represented on the Council by two delegates.

The IPU Executive Committee consists of 10 members. In addition, the president of the Council serves as president and ex officio member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee usually meets before and after each spring and fall session acting primarily as a steering committee and overseeing the work of the IPU Secretary General and his Secretariat staff.

U.S. participation in the IPU and delegations sent to meetings and conferences are in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 276, as amended by Public Law 95–45. In accordance with these provisions, delegations are appointed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

PROCEEDINGS

Opening Ceremony

The 66th Interparliamentary Conference was inaugurated at a ceremony in the Circulo Militar in Caracas on September 13 by Dr. Luis Herrera Campins, President of the Republic of Venezuela. Other speakers at the ceremony were Dr. Godofredo Gonzalez, President of the Congress and Interparliamentary Group of Venezuela, Sir Thomas Williams, President of the Interparliamentary Council, and Dr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations, representing the Secretary-General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim.

In his welcoming statement, Dr. Godofredo Gonzalez emphasized the importance of the IPU, not only for bringing together more than 80 Parliaments of different countries in all five continents, but also because among its objectives are the development of the parliamentary institution to improve its function and raise its prestige. He took particular note of important issues before the Conference such as on disarmament, decolonization and human rights. Because Venezuela has throughout its history been subject to regimes based not on respect for internationally accepted human rights principles, but rather on so-called national security doctrine, he felt Venezuelans understand the sufferings and auguish of sister countries. "Our hearts weep at the mention of Chile, Argentina and Uruguay," he said.

Sir Thomas Williams, in his address, pointed out that at the time of the founding of the IPU less than 100 years ago, it would not have been possible for 80 or more sovereign nations to have met together as was the case in Caracas. He added further that most of them would have been in the bondage of foreign overlords. "History also reminds us," he stated, "that our freedoms remain a tender plant and we must ever be vigilant against the perpetual threats of tyranny if they are to be preserved."

Dr. Javier Perez de Cuellar took note of the international uncertainty, tension and conflict during the past year. He stated that if "ever there was a time for serious reflection and stocktaking on the state and future of the community of nations, it is now."

Dr. Luis Herrera Campins highlighted deep concern for enforcement of human rights. He pointed out that the "struggle for human rights demands persistence, courage and solidary decision."

The President also discussed requirements for a new international economic order. While discussing energy, he stated that petroleum producing countries are striving for an organic understanding to supply necessary energy so that production will not be interrupted and to adopt formulas for financing acquisitions by consumers.

Plenary Debate and Committee Activity

The Conference began its work in the afternoon of September 13 at the Parque Central Conference Hall in Caracas by unanimously electing Mr. Godofredo Gonzalez, President of the Congress and Interparliamentary Group of Venezuela, as its President. It then considered a request from the United Kingdom Group for the inclusion in the agenda of a supplementary item entitled "Refugees from Viet Nam." After hearing short statements for and against, the Conference rejected the request by 382 votes in favor, 262 against, with 298 abstentions, the required two-thirds majority of 429 not having been obtained.

During the remainder of that sitting and throughout the next day, as well as during a night sitting on Friday evening and part of the Saturday morning sitting, the Conference held the statutory general debate on the "Political, Economic and Social Situation of the World and Activities of the Union," which was combined with the debate on the following two items: "Implementation of the Final Document of the 10th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament" and "The Middle East Question and the Palestinian Problem." After the Rapporteur of the Political Committee, Mr. B. Foretia (United Republic of Cameroon), 104 speakers from 66 delegations took the floor.

Representatives de la Garza and McClory spoke during debate on behalf of the U.S. delegation (see annex B). In his remarks, Representative de la Garza informed other delegates of U.S. congressional action to provide aid for the people of Nicaragua. He also took note of the meeting of the Non-Aligned Nations that had just ended in Havana and indicated his view that some of the participants in that meeting sought to press their own ideological positions on all members and some sought to polarize.

Representative de la Garza also commented upon the plight of refugees and noted that exodus is only the last desperate act of human beings fleeing intolerable conditions. He also highlighted actions by the United States in support of the goals of the U.N. Special Session on Disarmament. In this context, he emphasized the importance of reductions in conventional arms throughout the world and took particular note of what Latin American States have done, specifically with the Treaty of Tlatelolco, in attempting to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

On the Middle East, Representative de la Garza stated that the "peace process which has already started between Egypt and Israel is a realistic step toward the goal sought by all. For the first time in 30 years negotiations are underway which directly address the Palestinian question, and Palestinians are invited to take part in these negotiations. It is our deepest hope that just and lasting solutions to the problem of the Middle East can be reached through the continuation of the peace process. We, as parliamentarians, should understand and stand behind such efforts to seek peace and justice through understanding and conciliation."

Representative de la Garza spoke to the assembly in both English and Spanish. Many of the delegates from around the world appreciated this direct effort at better communications. The force and artic-

ulateness with which he made his comments received wide attention and support.

Representative McClory took note of activities of the IPU Secretariat to promote parliamentary institutions, particularly through the establishment of the International Center for Parliamentary Documentation. He spoke of the emergency conference of the United Nations concerning refugees in Southeast Asia, noting the assistance provided these refugees by several nations.

Finally Congressman McClory reaffirmed U.S. support for UNESCO principles and expressed his hope that the IPU in its resolution promote the parliamentary system and "enhance the knowledge which the people of our respective nations receive—unadulterated by propaganda or official self-serving news releases which serve more often to stifle and to conceal information instead of promoting it." He stated, "When people are freely and fully informed we need not worry about the wisdom of the decisions which they make. It is only when we strive by means of communication to control their thinking that we witness a suppression of human freedom and the denial of the educational, cultural, spiritual and, yes, the economic advances to which all people of the world aspire."

Following plenary debate, the two items concerning the 10th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly on Disarmament and the Mideast were referred to the Committee on Political Questions, International Security and Disarmament which met under its Chairman, Mr. S. Ericson (Sweden) on the afternoons of September 18 and 20. Amendments to the draft resolution on disarmament had been tabled by the groups of Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), India, Romania, Spain, United States, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia and jointly by the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden). The committee considered the amendments numbering about 50, and a revised version of the text was approved by 51 votes to 0, with 1 abstention. That text was subsequently adopted unanimously by the Conference at its last plenary sitting on September 21 (see annex D). Senator Stafford participated on behalf of the U.S. delegation during the committee consideration of amendments on this issue.

Senator Stafford proposed several amendments from the U.S. delegation that would increase clarity and realism of the IPU statement and strengthen some of its provisions. All major perfecting amendments offered by the United States were adopted. In one instance, the U.S. amendment strengthened a call for the conclusion of a convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and regulating their destruction, by including a call for the destruction of their production facilities as well. In another instance, a U.S. amendment to a provision on reduction of military expenditures would make such reduction based on verified U.N. data.

As a whole, the U.S. delegation felt that, while the resolution contained some imperfections, it could be supported both in the committee and in the final session of the Conference.

The item "The Middle East Question and the Palestinian Problem" had been put on the Conference agenda by the Council in Prague without having been the subject of consideration by a study committee

at the spring session. Five draft resolutions were presented at the Caracas Conference on the subject: One by the groups of Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic, Lebanon, and Tunisia; one by the groups of European Mediterranean countries (France, Spain, Italy, and Portugal) to which the Egyptian group had submitted amendments; and one each by the groups of Israel, Netherlands, and the United States (see annex C). The political committee, wishing to respect as much as possible a geographical and political balance, set up a drafting committee of representatives of the following 15 groups: Egypt, France, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Netherlands, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, United States, U.S.S.R., Venezuela, and Yugoslavia. The drafting committee met under the chairmanship of Mr. M. Javorski (Yugoslavia) during the whole of September 19 and in the morning of the following day; it took as the basis for its work the draft of the European Mediterranean countries. Senator Stafford participated in the drafting process for the United States.

In its draft resolution submitted on the Mideast issue, the U.S. group hoped to encourage the IPU to adopt a position consistent with United Nations resolutions 242 and 338, that would acknowledge endeavors to promote a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Middle East such as those represented by the Egypt-Israel Treaty. The U.S. resolution supported a solution to the dispute which enables the Palestinian people to participate in the determination of their own future. It called for an end to the cycle of violence in Lebanon and Israel and for the reestablishment of authority of the Lebanese State. Such a resolution if adopted would, it was felt, be a balanced reflection of the realities of the Middle East with violence committed by not just one side, would give appropriate, if modest, recognition of the peace process begun with the Camp David discussions and would highlight the need for a solution enabling participation of the Palestinian people.

The drafting committee rejected the U.S. draft as a basis for discussion when it chose to work on the basis of the draft proposed by the European Mediterranean countries. During the drafting process, Senator Stafford was able to promote some balance, for example, by making the resolution condemn attacks against the civilian populaltion in Israel as well as attacks on Lebanon. U.S. proposed acknowledgement of the Egypt-Israel Treaty was narrowly defeated in the drafting committee. At the conclusion of its work, the drafting committee adopted the resolution by a vote of 10 in favor and 1 against, with three abstentions. Israel voted against the draft resolution; the United States, along with Venezuela and Lebanon abstained.

The text agreed to by the drafting committee was next presented to the Political Committee by Mr. A. Chandernagor (France). While the resolution was being considered, Mr. Chandernagor stated that, since certain amendments were tabled—one by the chairman of the drafting committee—which sought to introduce ideas not previously raised in the drafting committee, he felt obliged to relinquish his role as rapporteur. The text, as amended in three paragraphs, was adopted by the Political Committee by 37 votes to 4, with 10 abstentions, and was presented to the Conference on September 21 by the committee chairman. Senator Stafford explained to the committee that because amendments adopted had changed the draft text to such an extent he could no longer

approve it. Similar expressions of disapproval or abstention came from such groups as Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Australia, Belgium, Canada, New Zealand, and Luxembourg.

Despite disapproval with procedures and substance, the Mideast resolution was adopted by the Conference by 494 votes to 110, with 288 abstentions (see annex D). The U.S. delegation voted 12 against with 10 abstentions.

On September 15 the Conference debated the item concerning "the protection of the family and general care of children and youth in connection with the International Year of the Child." After hearing the Rapporteur of the Economic and Social Committee, Mr. T. Larue (France), the Conference was briefed by Mr. C. Egger, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF, on the activities of that organization in connection with the International Year of the Child. He was followed by 52 speakers representing 47 delegations.

Representative Claude Pepper spoke during the September 15 debate on behalf of the U.S. delegation (see annex B). In his remarks, Representative Pepper emphasized the importance of implementing the IPU resolution and noted the increases in the numbers of children in the world and the increase in infant mortality. He pointed out that every year one-half of all the deaths in the world are of children under 5 years of age. He also spoke of the importance of greater effort on the part of all Parliaments to protect parents as well as children, to protect their right to earn a decent living as well as to protect the environment and health. In this regard, Congressman Pepper paid particular attention to the need to devote special attention to cancer, as a great killer of the parent. Congressman Pepper urged the IPU to explore the problem of aging. He stated that in the Year of the Child it was only appropriate that the IPU consider the possibility of having the Year of the Aged.

When the Economic and Social Committee met on September 20 under its Chairman, Mr. Moussa Yaya (United Republic of Cameroon), it considered in turn the various amendments to the draft resolution which had been presented by the national groups of Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Germany (Federal Republic of), India, Luxembourg, Morocco, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom, and U.S.S.R., and jointly by the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden). It unanimously adopted the text of the draft, as amended (see annex D). Representative Robert Duncan participated during the committee session.

Through the amendment process, the draft resolution presented to the committee was expanded to include, among other things, expressions calling for solution of the grave problems concerning refugee children and for protection against discrimination of children whose parents are dissidents.

Mr. Urdea (Romania) introduced the text, as revised by the committee, at the final plenary sitting of the Conference, where it was adopted unanimously.

During the two sittings on September 17, the Conference considered the draft resolution on "implementation of the U.N. recommendations on decolonization," which was presented by Mr. Kabimbi Ngoy (Zaire), Rapporteur of the Committee on Non-Self-Governing Terri-

tories and Ethnic Questions. Fifty-five speakers representing 45 delegations took part in the plenary debate. Delegate Antonio B. Won Pat spoke before the Conference on September 17, on behalf of the U.S. delegation (see annex B).

In his remarks, Delegate Won Pat discussed U.S. action concerning the non-self-governing trust territory of the Pacific and pointed out that the United States has lived up to its trusteeship responsibilities in accordance with U.N. principles. In discussing the situation concerning southern Africa, he expressed difficulty understanding how there could be support for a disarmament resolution which calls for peaceful settlement of disputes while passages in the resolution on decolonization advocate non-peaceful means to settle problems. He opposed the system of apartheid as an affront to human dignity. Turning to the question of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, Delegate Won Pat hoped for successful results of the London talks which were then underway.

When the committee met on September 19 under its chairman, Mr. M. Oulate (Ivory Coast), it had before it a total of some 50 amendments submitted by the groups of Algeria and Cyprus, Algeria and Mozambique, Australia, Bulgaria, Finland, India, Kenya and Zambia, Morocco, Senegal, United States, U.S.S.R., and Vietnam to the draft prepared at the spring session in Prague. The text as amended in committee was adopted by 39 votes to 0, with 6 abstentions. Representative Robert Duncan and Delegate Won Pat participated in the Committee's consideration of the draft resolution. During consideration of amendments to the draft resolution, considerable debate concerned proposed amendments on the western Sahara. U.S. amendments introduced were not adopted.

At the final plenary session of the Conference, the resolution on decolonization was adopted by 564 votes to 25, with 245 abstentions (see annex D). The U.S. delegation cast 22 votes in abstention.

The item concerning "ways and means of promoting international understanding, cooperation, and peace in the areas of education, information, and communication" was debated on the morning of September 18 and at an extra plenary sitting on the following morning. Fifty speakers from forty-six delegations followed the Rapporteur. Mr. A. Ghalanos (Cyprus), in the debate. Delegate Won Pat delivered his statement before the plenary session on September 18 (see annex B). In his remarks, he emphasized the need for the free flow of ideas and how important the guarantee of a free flow of ideas has been to Americans. He pointed out that the United States has strongly supported the free flow of information in the international marketplace of ideas. Delegate Won Pat emphasized that the flow of information cannot be one sided. He stressed as follows: "Information to developing countries must be brought into balance with information from the developed countries. The industrialized countries have no corner on the market of good ideas; we need the developing countries' thoughts, for our benefit as well as theirs." While he supported a New World Information Order, he suggested that it means a greater flow of information not a lesser flow inhibited by greater restraints.

Amendments to the draft resolution had been tabled by the Groups of Bulgaria, Canada, Egypt, Germany (Federal Republic of), India, Morocco, Spain. Sudan, United Kingdom, United States, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, and by Mr. McLean (New Zealand) and by Mr. Moutahir

(Morocco). When the Committee on Education, Science, Culture, and Environment met on the afternoon of September 19, it first had to appoint a chairman for the session, in the absence of any of the officers elected at the Prague session; Mrs. F. Hassan (Egypt) was unanimously designated to preside over the committee's work in Caracas. After voting on each of the amendments, the committee adopted the revised text of the draft by 31 votes to 1, with 0 abstentions. Representatives Butler and Pickle participated in committee sessions on behalf of the U.S. delegation.

When the text was submitted to the final plenary sitting of the Conference, it was adopted unanimously (see annex D).

On the afternoon of September 18, the Conference met to debate "the legislative aspects of space law." Twenty-seven delegates from twenty-four national Groups took the floor, after hearing the Rapporteur of the Juridical Committee, Mrs. J. Neiman (Canada).

In his remarks during the plenary debate, Delegate Won Pat spoke of the need to develop mutually acceptable arrangements for the use of the province of space. He noted U.S. difficulty with the resolution as originally drafted because it seemed to place restrictions on the peaceful use of outer space (see annex B).

The committee met on September 20 under its chairman, Mr. L. Jozeau-Marigne (France), and considered a total of 38 amendments submitted by the national groups of Bulgaria, Canada, France, India, Mexico, Morocco, Romania, Spain, United States, and U.S.S.R. The revised draft was approved by the committee by 27 votes to 0, with 1 abstention. Representatives Butler and Pickle participated in the committee deliberations. When the text came before the final plenary sitting of the Conference, the delegation of the United States requested that it be put to a rollcall vote; it was adopted by 682 votes to 39, with 65 abstentions (see annex D). The U.S. delegation voted 22 against.

At its final sitting on September 21, the Conference had before it a request from the Groups of Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, and Venezuela for the inclusion in the agenda of a supplementary item entitled "Appeal for Solidarity With the Caribbean Countries Affected by the Recent Hurricanes." After unanimously agreeing to place the item on the agenda, the Conference approved the text of the resolution unanimously.

With regard to the elections to the executive committee, the Conference by acclamation approved the Council's proposal that Mr. E. Cuvelier (Belgium), Mr. S. Ericson (Sweden), and Mr. V. Navaratnam (Sri Lanka) be elected for a 4-year term to replace Mr. F. Alvarez de Miranda (Spain), Mr. I. Topaloski (Yugoslavia), and Mr. M. Ziai (Iran), whose mandates expired at the 66th Conference. It likewise elected, on the proposal of the Council, Mr. C. Molgat (Canada) to fill, until 1980, the seat ocupied by Mr. C. L. Francis, who lost his parliamentary mandate at the last general election in Canada.

125TH SESSION OF THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL

The Interparliamentary Council held its 125th session in Caracas, meeting on September 12, 16, and 21, with its President, Sir Thomas Williams (United Kingdom), presiding. Senator Robert T. Stafford and Representative Edward J. Derwinski, the two U.S. Council mem-

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bers, participated in these meetings, as did Representatives Richardson Preyer and J. J. Pickle, as substitutes.

In his report on the activities of the Union for the period 1978–79, the Secretary General took note of several developments. He pointed out that particular effort had been made to secure new affiliations; five new members joined the organization in Prague and additional memberships were being considered in Caracas by the executive committee. In his view, the Union was thus approaching universality, which was a necessary objective for an organization dedicated to the promotion of world peace.

The Secretary General also reported on concern expressed regarding the fate of a number of Iranian parliamentarians who have been imprisoned, including Iranian parliamentarians active in the IPU. He reported that most of these had now been released.

Activities concerning Europe included close contacts with the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe and preparations for the 14th Interparliamentary Conference on European Cooperation and Security scheduled for 1980.

Technical assistance provided by the Union, in conjunction with UNDP, to promote parliamentary institutions was continuing with the Indian Parliament. A program similar to that with the Indian Parliament is being negotiated with the Moroccan group.

The Secretary General reported that the U.N. had increasingly recognized the role of Parliaments in promoting the implementation of its resolutions and noted that the Secretary General of the U.N. Kurt Waldheim had expressed the wish that the Union assist the U.N. in preparation of the Third Development Decade and the Special Session of the General Assembly to launch that decade, as well as the implementation of the sessions' recommendations.

At a subsequent sitting of the Council, a report of the Executive Committee was offered, certain groups were affiliated, reaffiliated, or suspended, and the 1980 program and budget were discussed. One issue considered by the Executive Committee and discussed in the Council was the question of participation in IPU meetings by nonmembers. A chief point of contention concerned the Executive Committee view that representatives of the Polisario Front be granted access to the Conference when matters of direct interest to them were discussed, following a precedent established by the Union at its Lisbon meeting in 1978. While they could view the Union's proceedings, these representatives would not have the right to take the floor.

Upon votes by the Council, the following groups were admitted to the Union: Comoros, Surinam, Upper Volta (readmitted), Guatemala (readmitted), Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Colombia (readmitted). The affiliation of the Nicaraguan group was suspended. The Union's official membership now stands at 88 national groups.

In discussing future programs and budgets, it was pointed out that total estimated expenditures for 1980 would be 5.21 percent higher than the 1979 budget, mainly due to the increases in cost of living.

After discussion of the results of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, held in Colombo,

Sri Lanka from August 28 to September 1, and cosponsored by the Union and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the Council unanimously adopted a resolution on the subject proposed by the groups of France, Ivory Coast, and Zaire (see annex E).

The Council then heard the report of the Special Committee on Violations of the Human Rights of Parliamentarians on 26 cases in 8 different countries, Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Indonesia, Uruguay, and Singapore.

The Council heard and approved the report of the Special Committee on the human rights situation in Latin America, particularly in Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua, and Uruguay, and unanimously adopted a resolution on the subject (see annex E).

The Council then turned to the Union's activities in the field of European cooperation and security, and approved the convocation of the 14th Interparliamentary Conference on European Cooperation and Security to be held at Brussels from May 12 to 18, 1980.

Executive Committee

At its 182d session in Caracas on September 22, the Executive Committee decided on the following program for the study committees in 1980:

Committee on Political Questions, International Security and Disarmament.—The strengthening of the process of détente; the urgent need to arrive at international agreements in the field of arms control and disarmament and in particular the comprehensive strengthening of the nuclear weapon non-proliferation regime.

Committee on Parliamentary, Juridical, and Human Rights Questions.—The problem of refugees; its juridical and humanitarian aspects.

Economic and Social Committee and Committee on Education, Science, Culture, and Environment.—The third U.N. Development Decade: its economic, social, educational, scientific, cultural and environmental aspects.

Committee on Non-Self-Governing Territories and Ethnic Questions.—Progress toward the achievement of decolonization, including the full implementation of the peoples' right to self-determination.

Two committees, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee on Education, Science, Culture, and Environment will make a joint study of the various aspects of the strategy for the Third Development Decade, including population questions. The two committees will accordingly meet together at the Oslo spring meeting and prepare a single comprehensive draft resolution for debate at the 67th Conference. In view of the limited amount of space available in committee rooms at the Oslo spring meeting, the Executive Committee recommended that the groups appoint, as far as possible, no more than two delegates to represent them at the joint meeting of the two committees.

Moreover, the Executive Committee strongly urged that the Committee on Parliamentary, Juridical and Human Rights Questions strictly limit itself to consideration of the juridical and humanitarian aspects of the item on the agenda.

Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments

The Plenary Session of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments was convened on September 13, 1979 under the chairmanship of Mr. Helge Hjortdal (Denmark), President of the Association. The meetings were attended by 49 members from 36 countries and 1 international assembly.

At the first session, the following nine new members were elected to membership in the Association: Jose Rafael Garcia, Venezuela; Kenneth Bradshaw, United Kingdom; Edgardo E. Tumangan, Philippines; Herbert Kelle, German Democratic Republic; Abdelouahab el Gradechi, Algeria; Juan Jose Perez Dobon, Spain; Abdalla Nasir, Yemen Arab Republic; Mohmed el Fadli, Yemen Arab Republic; and Qazi Jalaluddin Ahman, Bangladesh.

This is the first time that the Parliaments of Venezuela, the German Democratic Republic, Algeria, Bangladesh, and the Yemen Arab Republic, have been represented in the Association. The Association now has representation from 58 countries and 4 international assemblies.

During five of the next seven meetings of the Association, four questionnaires and one report were considered as follows:

—A draft report on the subject of "Relations Between National Parliaments and International Parliamentary Assemblies" was introduced by John Priestman, Clerk of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. After consideration of the draft report, which included suggested additional areas relative to the subject matter, a second draft will be introduced for consideration at the 1980 spring meeting in Oslo, Norway.

—A revised questionnaire on "Procedure for Passing Legislation" prepared by John Grey, Clerk Assistant of the United Kingdom House of Lords, was adopted after minor amendments. The questionnaire will be circulated to all members and the responses will form the basis of a report for consideration of the Association.

—A new questionnaire on the subject of "Methods of Voting" prepared by Kenneth Bradshaw, Clerk Assistant of the United Kingdom House of Lords, was considered and met with general approval. The second consideration of this questionnaire will be included on the agenda for either the Oslo or Berlin meeting.

—The second part of the questionnaire entitled "The Role of the Speaker" prepared by Guillaume Wagener, Secretary General of the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies, was considered and authorization was granted for the circulation of the questionnaire to the members.

—The questionnaire on the subject of "Security in Parliaments" prepared by Sune Johansson, Secretary General of the Swedish Ridsdag, was, in effect, tabled indefinitely after discussion. The decision of the Association not to circulate the questionnaire and not have a report on this subject was based on (1) the security risks of such a detailed study were too great on such a delicate and sensitive matter, and (2) recognition that possible leaks of information from such a report could provide useful material for any potential terrorist. Members of the As-

sociation agreed that bilateral contact between national security authorities was the most suitable way to exchange such information. The rapporteur was congratulated by the members on the excellence of his questionnaire.

During the fourth and eighth meetings, the members were addressed by Senor Eloy Torres, Second Vice President of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies and Senor Ceferino Medina Castillo, Venezuelan Minister of State for Parliamentary Relations.

Senor Torres gave a comprehensive survey of the historical development of Venezuelan political institutions from March 2, 1811, the date of the creation of the first Congress of independent Venezuela. Senor Castillo addressed his duties of acting as the link between the Government and the Congress of Venezuela. He also stated that, beginning January 1, 1980, his responsibilities would be extended to the coverage of relations between the legislative assemblies and the Governors of the 20 Venezuelan states.

During its final meeting on September 19, 1979, the Association approved its budget estimates for 1980 and considered various administrative matters and plans for future programs of work. Topical reports for future meetings are:

—"Parliamentary Control of Caretaker Governments" (Oslo).
—"Public Access to Committee Meetings" (Oslo or Berlin).
—"Interjections"—The rules and practice covering intervention by one member in another member's speech (Berlin).
—"The Provision of Specialist Advice for Parliaments" (Rapporteur to be appointed at Oslo).

Elections to the Executive Committee to fill two vacancies added the following new members:

—Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., Clerk, United States House of Representatives, for a 3-year term.
—Fridjon Sigurdsson, Secretary General of the Althing of Iceland, for a 1-year term.

During the morning of September 19th, members of the Association had the pleasure of visiting the Venezuelan National Congress and were given a guided tour of the building, including both Chambers. The visit and tour was hosted by Senor Eloy Torres, Second Vice President of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies; Senor Jose Rafael Garcia, Secretary General of the Venezuelan Congress, and Senor Hector Carpio Castillo, Secretary General of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies.

The Association will next meet in Oslo, Norway, from April 8 to April 12, 1980, during the Spring Meeting of the Interparliamentary Union.

The President of the Association has announced the following agenda for the 1980 Spring Session:

(1) Presentation on Norwegian Parliamentary System by Mr. Eric Mo, Norway, and on Nordic Parliamentary Cooperation by Mr. Gudvin Laader Ve, Secretary General of the Norwegian Delegation to the Nordic Council.

(2) Parliamentary Control of Caretaker Governments. Topical debate introduced by Mr. P. Deneulin (Belgium).

(3) Questionnaire on Methods of Voting. Rapporteur: Mr. Kenneth Bradshaw (United Kingdom). Second consideration.

(4) Report on Relations between National Parliaments and International Parliamentary Assemblies. Rapporteur: Mr. John Priestman (Council of Europe). Second consideration.

(5) Report on Public Relations of Parliament. Rapporteur: Mr. Pierre Lious (France). First consideration.

(6) Questionnaire on Status and Role of Political Parties in Parliament. Rapporteur: Mr. Perez Serrano (Spain). First consideration.

(7) Administrative and financial matters.

(8) Accounts for 1979.

(9) New subjects for inquiry and topical debate.

(10) Any other business.

(11) Agenda for the Plenary Session of 1980.

ANNEX A

Countries Participating in the 66th Conference

Algeria
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium*
Bolivia
Brazil*
Bulgaria
Canada*
Colombia
Costa Rica
Comoros
Cuba
Cyprus
Czechoslovakia*
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Yemen
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
Finland
France
German Democratic Republic
Germany (Federal Republic of)
Greece
Guatemala
Haiti
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Ivory Coast
Japan
Jordan
Kenya
Lebanon
Liberia
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Mexico
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Panama
Paraguay
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Romania
Senegal*
Singapore
Spain
Sri Lanka*
Sudan
Surinam
Sweden*
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Thailand
Tunisia*
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United Republic of Cameroon
United States of America*
USSR*
Venezuela
Vietnam
Yemen Arab Republic
Yugoslavia
Zaire
Zambia

Observers

United Nations
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
World Health Organization (WHO)
Latin American Parliament
Organization of American States
Asian Parliamentarians' Union
Council of Europe
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians
Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union
Palestine National Council

*Executive Committee.

ANNEX B

Statements by Members of the U.S. Delegation

Statement Delivered by Representative E de la Garza, September 13, 1979

Senor Presidente y muy distinguidos colegas Parlamentarios, Damas y Caballeros. En nombre de mi delegacion y el mio propio, me permito extender nuestro mas sincero agradecimiento a nuestros anfitriones, los parlamentarios y el gobierno de Venezuela, y tras ellos, brindar homenage extendiendo nuestro mas profundo carino, admiracion y respeto, a el noblepueblo Venezolano.

Mr. President and fellow Parliamentarians, it is an honor for me to address you today in the land of the great liberator—Simon Bolivar—whose commitment to freedom and independence is honored throughout the world.

Let our commitment to these ideals here today as parliamentarians reflect that of the great Bolivar and in addition let us try to find common ground to ease the many problems facing the world. In this spirit I would like to touch upon some of these problems.

Let me first inform you of recent U.S. actions affecting this hemisphere that may be of particular interest given the location of this conference.

The country of Nicaragua faces an extremely difficult situation. Its citizens are hungry and its industries have stopped. But it has the spirit engendered from recently won freedom and what appears to be the genuine aspirations of the people of Nicaragua. The United States House of Representatives on Tuesday of this week approved the first aid from the United States for the people of Nicaragua. President Carter has directed this emergency assistance be sped to Nicaragua and the OAS has through its membership been seeking to provide assistance to Nicaragua.

As parliamentarians we must recognize the importance of providing assistance. such as this, to our fellow nations experiencing need.

Emergency aid, food, housing, medical care—should not—cannot, be used to further political or economic aims of the donors. A parliamentarian's creed should be, that through assistance will come understanding and unity. Unity is not homogenity or conformity. Unity is the spirit of cooperation that will provide mutual respect and well being among all nations of the world. To quote the great Mexican leader Benito Juarez whose statue is not far from here: "Entre los hombres, como entre las naciones, el respeto al derecho ajeno, es la paz."

As a member of the United States Congress and the United States delegation of this conference, I am proud of the first steps we have taken to provide assistance to Nicaragua. We must start with a first step. This we have done.

Last week the Non-Aligned Nations conference ended in Havana. The world press, as it should, covered the conference. Many participants sought to further the genuine goals of the Conference. Others however, sought to press their own ideological positions on all members. International Conferences should not become forums for ideological rancor or reprisal. Instead, they should be unique opportunities to gather, to share, to assist and most importantly to learn, which is my fervent wish for this Conference.

Some at the Conference sought to polarize. South against North, East against West, Underdeveloped against Developed. This polarization is not the way to success. Polarization generates only heat, never any light. Each of us, as human beings, and as nations, have something that the other one needs. For our own mutual survival in a world fraught with problems, we cannot afford, our children cannot afford . . . to have the world divided into opposing camps.

Just as the U.S. and others have sought to assist Nicaragua, nations of the world must seek means of assisting each other on a truly international scale. This is the key to true development of all nations.

At this moment, much of the world's attention is focused on the plight of refugees. In August of this year an International Conference was held in Geneva. Many nations of the world offered their immediate assistance in relocating refugees in their countries.

But, let us be frank, refugees are only the tip of the iceberg. Exodus is only the last desperate act of human beings fleeing intolerable conditions. When governments, and by that I mean people in government, choose to repress freedom, to punish someone because of his or her heritage or place of birth, this choice guarantees continuing exodus in the future.

Many of us here will remember World War II. It was a concerted world effort to resist aggressioin. Today I say with deep regret, we still have leaders who practice repression, and preach hatred. Recent events show that peoples will rise up against such "leaders", at times unfortunately with great spilling of blood.

Today, nations, governments, parliaments cannot afford the luxury of war. Technology has created means of destruction so great that they threaten the very survival of the human race. True negotiations between nations must be the only acceptable alternative to war.

The UN Special Session on Disarmament was an historic milestone in the international community's efforts to cope with the most important issue confronting mankind—to enhance the security of all from the threat of war, through disarmament and arms control measures. This session was the largest ever held in history and its results were generally approved by all participants. That is a significant and most welcome step.

The United States supports the goals of the Special Session on Disarmament and believes that the security of all states can be enhanced through realistic arms control measures. These will not be achieved overnight, but they are obtainable.

As a major military power, the United States is aware of its responsibilities and obligations in seeing to the successful implementation of the results of the Special Session and we think our record clearly indicates this.

Since the Special Session, we have concluded negotiations on a second Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement with the Soviet Union and are looking towards further negotiations in this area. We have also reached agreement with the Soviet Union on the elements of an agreement banning the use of radiological warfare.

Additionally, we are engaged in ongoing negotiations on banning the use of chemical weapons, mutual and balanced force reductions in Europe and a comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons. We are also holding negotiations with the Soviet Union on prohibiting antisatellite weapons.

These are important negotiations and, if successful, will contribute greatly to international security.

Turning specifically to the SALT Agreement, which is before the United States Senate for ratification, I would like to stress the significance of this agreement as another step in our efforts to sustain the process of placing increasingly more effective restraints on the growth of nuclear arsenals. It is we hope, to be followed by further successful negotiations aimed not only at limiting nuclear weapons, but at reducing their number. Those who say that SALT II does little to assuage international concern over the spectre of nuclear war should recognize that the road towards a world free of nuclear weapons must be travelled carefully and deliberately in order that the end will be reached. In reaching agreement on SALT II, the U.S. and the USSR have responded to the calls at the SSOD and here in the IPU for a successful conclusion of these negotiations.

The threat of war cannot be eliminated by a few states alone. Valuable as it is, the SALT agreement must be accompanied by reductions in conventional arms throughout the world. Of the approximately 400 billion dollars spent annually by the world community on military commodities, around 300 billion is expended on conventional weapons. This is a staggering sum, most of which is desperately needed for peaceful development. The US has placed limitations on the sale and transfer of such weapons, and we call on those who should seek to strengthen their security to work with their neighbors to find mutually acceptable ways to do this through decreased spending on arms. In addressing the issue of arms control, I think it is especially important to note that the Latin American States have taken the lead in trying to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. By this I refer to the Treaty of TLATELOLCO which, when ratified by all Latin American and Caribbean states, will turn this region into the world's first nuclear-weapons-free zone.

The United States firmly supports this bold undertaking, and I anticipate that the U.S. Senate will ratify Protocol One of the Treaty this year. Those

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Latin American states which have ratified this Treaty are serving as an example to the rest of the world in attempting to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and Mexico which was the leader in this effort will be owed a debt of gratitude by the world and its future generations.

I would like to turn briefly to the situation in the Middle East where death and distrust have ruled for over a generation. The time has come for an end to bloodshed in this area so dear to those who dwell there. It is time for peace. It is time to seek another way than violence to resolve the disputes there.

The United States is totally dedicated to the achievement of a peace in the Middle East which will take into the fullest account the interests of all parties in the region. We believe then, in order to bring about lasting peace in the Middle East, all acts of violence and threats of violence must stop now and forever. The basis for this peace should be United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 in their entirety. The right of Israel and its neighbours to live in peace within secure and recognized borders is essential for peace. The United States also recognizes that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to participate in determining their future, must be realized.

The peace process which has already started between Egypt and Israel is a realistic step towards the goal sought by all. For the first time in thirty years negotiations are underway which directly address the Palestinian question, and Palestinians are invited to take part in these negotiations. It is our deepest hope that just and lasting solutions to the problem of the Middle East can be reached through the continuation of the peace process. We, as parliamentarians, should understand and stand behind such efforts to seek peace and justice through understanding and conciliation.

In conclusion I want to emhasize that our goal, at this conference and afterwards, when we are in our respective parliaments, should be to address the issues I have touched upon today, not in an adversarial spirit but as representatives of our peoples who desire and deserve to live in peace, freedom and dignity, and if you would kindly permit me one more moment. Once a visitor from abroad was with the Speaker of our House of Representatives and when visiting the House Chamber, the visitor asked what was done there, to which the Speaker replied "Here Sir, the people govern."

Sr. Presidente, nuestro deseo es que todos lo pueblos en un futuro no muy lejano tengan cada uno a su vez un parlamento para que verdaderamente se pueda decir "Aqui, mi querido Senor gobierna el pubelo."

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT MCCLORY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1979

Mr. President, I take this occasion to comment briefly on the Secretary General's Report which delineates a broad spectrum of international activities and events with which the parliaments of the world are deeply concerned.

It may be regretted that so many of the Secretary General's comments must be directed to international conflicts, military confrontations and threats of armed attacks which jeopardize the safety and peaceful interests of peoples throughout the world who aspire to greater human development and enjoyment.

As former Chairman of the Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Environmental Committee of the Union, I nourish the thought that our activities might center on subjects with which that committee has concerned itself. Promoting educational and cultural exchanges, improving lines of communication, developing a healthier environment, sharing technological and scientific skills and information, and advancing other humanitarian, cultural and spiritual values would—in my view—help us to achieve the lofty goals which the IPU has set for itself.

Although not specifically assigned as a topic of general debate—the description "And the Activities of the Union" under Item 2 is followed in the Report by a continuing reference by the Secretary General to a discussion bearing the Title "Promotion of Parliamentary Institutions." This is a key subject for general debate at any conference of the IPU.

The establishment of the International Center for Parliamentary Documentation (CIDP) with which one of my predecessors and former Chairman of the United States Group, Mrs. Katharine St. George, was closely associated, is again a focal point of activity by a committee of the IPU as well as by the Association of Secretaries General.

I note the enlargement of the Parliamentary Library and plans to update the recent and now depleted supply of the volume "Parliaments of the World."

Information seminars in both French and English which have been convened at the Union's headquarters in Geneva are consistent with my hope that the values of the Parliamentary system of government may be promoted to the benefit of all mankind.

A subject which is virtually neglected in the Secretary General's report relates to refugees.

Without describing the problems which refugees pose in many other parts of the world—and the responsibilities of parliamentarians to respond to those problems—let me refer only to the refugees of Southeast Asia.

It might have served the cause of humanity and human rights to discuss that subject fully here—as our British colleague proposed to do.

The hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese nationals literally expelled from their own land as well as many ethnic refugees from Vietnam and from several other countries of SouthEast Asia prompted the Secretary General of the United Nations to convene the recent emergency conference in Geneva.

I was proud to attend that conference with our United States delegation led by Vice President Mondale.

The participation of more than 50 nations offering to respond with funds and succor for the 'boat people' and refugees from land camps represented a world-wide response which has seldom, if ever, been equalled in terms of humanity and compassion for one's fellow man.

It was most helpful for delegates from the Government of Vietnam to be in attendance at the Geneva conference, and to enter into understandings which have helped ease the flow of refugees—and to aid in the reunification of family members.

The generosity of the nation of the Philippines in offering a large area of land as a place of first asylum, the generous offer of the Canadian Government to receive a total of 50,000 refugees, the many other offers to receive refugees and to contribute funds and transportation, medical assistance and other help for these unfortunate people constitute a landmark event of international cooperation of which the United Nations as an institution and which we as parliamentarians must be and are justifiably proud.

My own country which has received more than 200,000 refugees in the last two years is increasing its annual commitment to 168,000 during this year and is making financial contribution of more than $200 millions.

Let us only remind ourselves that our commitments made in Geneva in terms of monetary contributions and in terms of our willingness to receive refugees for resettlement must be fulfilled. Therein lies our obligations as parliamentarians of the respective countries which are here represented.

Finally, since I will not be able to remain for the final action on the resolution emanating from the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Environment, I hope that this vital resolution may be adopted and that the message which it carries can serve to promote the parliamentary system and to enhance the knowledge which the people of our respective nations receive—unadulterated by propaganda or official self-serving news releases which serve more often to stifle and to conceal information instead of promoting it. In this respect, I would like to reaffirm my Government's support of the principles incorporated in the 1978 UNESCO Declaration on the Mass Media which was endorsed by the UN General Assembly at its 33rd Session. When people are freely and fully informed we need not worry about the wisdom of the decisions which they make. It is only when we strive by means of communication to control their thinking that we witness a suppression of human freedom and the denial of the educational, cultural, spiritual and, yes, the economic advances to which all people of the world aspire.

Mr. President, I commend the Secretary General's Report but more importantly I commend the purpose and ultimate goal of this organization to promote the parliamentary system of government—representative government—I mean representatives of the people selected in free elections under universal suffrage based upon a full and free flow of information from all sources.

If we in this conference can through our exchanges make some progress in this direction we will have served our respective nations honorably and well—and we will have brought the people of the world a step closer toward human understanding—and peace.

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDE PEPPER, SEPTEMBER 15, 1979

Mr. President and my fellow delegates and friends. Coming from Florida, I find myself delightfully at home in Caracas, the land of the 'eternal spring'. I feel also very much at home here because of the warm friendship and close relationship in travel, education and commerce which Florida and Venezuela share.

All of us, Mr. President, have the warmest appreciation for the most gracious hospitality which your city and your country have extended to us attending this conference.

This resolution seeks to save the lives of millions of children all over the world.

Each of us, as individuals, has experienced the joy of birth, and, I should add, the pain of death. With the high level of activity at this conference, it is difficult to remember these fundamental—universal—parts of the human experience.

Please, may I have everyone's attention!

I have asked for your attention because I want everyone for one moment to think of the birth of your children. Recall for a moment the joy, the happiness, the anticipation of their future.

Now, for a moment, turn to that time of sadness which each of us has experienced when someone close—a wife, a father, a mother, or child has died. The grief, the sorrow, that feeling of emptiness is something of reality that we all painfully know and understand. I lost my beloved wife of 43 years to cancer in March.

The draft resolution before us was unanimously adopted by the Economic and Social Committee of which I was a member at Prague in April. This draft resolution may well become one of the most meaningful acts taken by this Union or any public body. (If implemented, that resolution may become one of the most important acts of any public body in our time).

I ask that we adopt this draft resolution and do all we can in our respective parliaments to implement it.

What is the need which demands this of us all?

There are about one and one-half billion children under fifteen years of age in the world—an increase of fifty percent since 1955. The infant mortality in the developing nations of the world is five times greater than in the developed nations.

To all of you who are fathers or mothers, every year one-half of all the deaths in the world are of children under five years of age. One-half of all the deaths in the world are of children under five years of age.

Imagine the rivers of tears shed by the mothers of those children when they died.

Imagine what those children, if permitted to live and grow up might have meant to the economy of the nations of the world. Imagine what they might have meant to the leadership of mankind. One of those children lost in that mass of deaths, and to many only a statistic, might have been able to solve the energy problem of the world. One might have found the formula for world peace, and the reduction of armaments. One might have been able to bring about the new world economic order which so many hope to see. One might have lifted the scourge of disease from mankind and found the cause and cure of cancer—the great killer. But let's not just talk of statistics. We are talking about the deaths of dear, beautiful children and parents snatched away from the protection and assistance of children. We are talking about the preservation of the family and its protection. That is the high purpose of this resolution.

The draft resolution covers every aspect of the well being of the child and the family.

But remember the resolution you are considering today also calls for a greater effort on the part of all parliaments to protect the family, as well as to care for children. Let us think about the protection of parents as well as children. To me this means to protect the right of parents to earn a decent living so that they can adequately support their families, to protect the environment of the children so they may grow up healthy and strong, and to protect the health of the parent and the children against disease which snatches them away from their loved ones. One disease, in particular, I hope will receive the special consideration of all parliamentarians. That is the terrible killer, cancer. In my country, as I believe in your countries, cancer is a great killer of people, surpassed only by heart disease. One-half of those who die from cancer are over fifty-five years of age. Hence, cancer is a great killer of the parent.

As you and I know, we each follow a universal law—that is, we get older. I have become more aware of this aging in my capacity as Chairman of the Select Committee on Aging in the United States House of Representatives. Consistent with the pending resolution, my Committee recently convened a meeting of twenty-four outstanding experts in the field of cancer in my country. The meeting considered whether the United States should convene in the United States next year a world conference on cancer. Among those attending were Nobel Prize winners and others of distinction. The meeting concluded by recommending that the United States convene a conference on cancer. I anticipate that my Government will extend an invitation for a world conference on cancer to convene in the United States next year.

I earnestly hope that if an invitation is extended, that all of you will do all you can to induce your Governments or the appropriate institutions or parties to accept the invitation and to join the fight against our common enemy—cancer.

I am recommending that this conference also examine the problem of the aging. As the statistics indicate, the two are closely related. In cancer the cells of the body multiply in an uncontrolled manner. In aging, the cells of the body do not multiply adequately to protect the body against infection and against disease. Finding the secret of the one may answer the problem of the other.

In conclusion, there is much common work for us all to do. To preserve our precious children, to protect our beloved parents, to work for men, women and children all over the world to live healthy, productive and happy lives.

Isn't this a challenge worthy of the responses of us all? Can't we anticipate the satisfaction of being able to say at some future date "I was present in Prague and Caracas in 1979 where we began a process that helped millions of children as well as parents of the world to lead longer, healthier, and happier lives".

I know this dedicated assembly will not fail either now or when we return home to respond with pride and satisfaction to this challenge that transcends nationalities and ideologies and moves the heart of mankind.

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DELEGATE ANTONIO B. WON PAT,
SEPTEMBER 17, 1979

Mr. Chairman, distinguished fellow parliamentarians, this week we will consider a resolution on the most fundamental issue of mankind—the right of individuals and peoples to be free to determine their own destinies.

I am proud to say that the United States of America, as an administering nation of the non-self-governing trust territory of the Pacific, has lived up to its trusteeship responsibilities in accordance with United Nations principles of decolonization by offering these island territories freedom of choice in self-determination. These emerging self-governing territories are pursuing their own destinies through the peaceful and democratic exercise of their basic human rights. As a result, the Northern Marianas becomes a Commonwealth. The Marshalls become an independent state. Ponape, Truk, Yap, and Kosrae opted to become Federated States of Micronesia. Palau is in the process of determining its future status.

The specific issue which we will address here is the situation in South Africa and what we, as representatives of our respective governments, can do to make possible the peaceful transition to majority rule in those areas where peoples are denied the basic freedom of ruling themselves.

There is, I know, much impatience regarding this situation and we all hear calls for the use of violence to overthrow those who rule in certain areas. I ask you, however, is violence the correct way to solve problems?

Frankly, I find it difficult to understand how we here could support a disarmament resolution which calls for peaceful settlement of disputes rather than resorting to war, on the one hand, and those passages in the resolution on decolonization which advocate non-peaceful means to settle problems.

The system of Apartheid is an affront to human dignity, and those who practice it are choosing to ignore reality and morality.

The tragedy of apartheid must end, and it must end now.

With regard to Namibia, the United States is committed to the speediest transition to complete independence under the aegis of the United Nations. We urge all parties involved in the Namibia question to refrain from any activities which would impede this process.

Turning briefly to the issue of the Western Sahara, we can but deplore the acts of violence committed by all sides in this dispute and we urge a peaceful settlement based on negotiations between the parties.

My remarks have been brief, but this does not reflect any lack of interest or concern on the part of the United States about the situation in various parts of Africa. The United States is deeply concerned about the deprivation of freedom which exists in South Africa and, I might add, elsewhere in the world. We call for an immediate end to Apartheid in all of its ugly manifestations. It is an evil that should not be permitted to endure, however, we are committed to the belief that peaceful solutions to the problems of Southern Africa and elsewhere are possible and we cannot accept the concept that through the force of arms life will be improved for anyone whether in Africa, or on any part of this planet.

As we meet today, negotiations among the parties involved in the fate of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia are taking place in London. Let us hope that the results will be good and let us salute the efforts of the United Kingdom and those participants of the Lusaka Conference for their role in making these talks possible.

Turning again to the draft resolution, on decolonization, I regret that it calls for an end to "any kind of assistance" to those states at whom the resolution is directed. As you know the United States provides no military assistance to South Africa and Zimbabwe-Rhodesia in any form whatsoever, however, we must stop short of countenancing a total economic embargo, which in our view would do more harm to a disenfranchised peoples in South Africa than good. At the same time, however, we urge the Government of South Africa to take immediate steps to bring about true majority rule and an end to apartheid. If we do not see a sincere effort by the South African Government to end its oppressive practices, I believe that the U.S. will have little choice but to consider seriously the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa. This is a step we would take with reluctance, but South Africa may give us no other choice.

Statements Delivered by Delegate Antonio B. Won Pat, September 18, 1979

STATEMENT NO. 1

Mr. President, I am pleased to begin the discussion today of a subject that has been of fundamental importance to my country since the year of the adoption of its Constitution, 1789.

That subject is the free flow of ideas. So important was the guarantee of a free flow of ideas to the United States Founding Fathers that they accorded it primacy over all other freedoms contained in the Bill of Rights: The First Amendment to our Constitution provides that the Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press.

The philosophy underlying the action of our Founding Fathers is simple. It derives from the belief that there exists a "marketplace of ideas"; that in that marketplace, good ideas compete with bad ideas for popular acceptance; that the people, if confronted with both, will choose good ideas; that the remedy for misinformation is not less information but more information; and that from this competition of ideas and information will come intellectual, political, and economic progress. It was for reasons such as these, Mr. President, that Thomas Jefferson said that, had he to choose between free press without government or government without free press, he would invariably choose the former.

The United States has thus strongly supported the free flow of information in the international marketplace of ideas. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts the right of everyone "to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers". This principle is central to the United States commitment to human rights. But the United States recognizes that if Article 19 is to have real meaning, the flow of information cannot be one-sided. Information to developing countries must be brought into balance with information from the developing countries. The industrialized countries have no corner on the market of good ideas; we need the developing countries' thoughts, for our benefit as well as theirs. But we need to know the thoughts of all elements of developing societies—the rich and the poor, the weak and the powerful, the governments and their opponents. A "New World Information Order" is long overdue—but a New World Information Order that means a greater flow of information generated by greater capabilities, not a lesser flow of information inhibited by greater restraints. This conference should therefore welcome UNESCO's recent demand for both a free flow and a wider and better-

balanced dissemination of information, and my delegation has sponsored an amendment to that effect.

For we are talking, in the end, Mr. President, about sharing power. Information is knowledge, and knowledge is power. Those of us who wish power to be shared responsibly and peacefully can translate that wish into reality only by sharing information fully and unstintingly.

STATEMENT NO. 2

Outer space is the newest and vastest frontier of mankind. We are just starting to realize the benefits and the challenges involved in our first steps away from this tiny planet.

Already we are beginning to reap some of the benefits from the application of space technology in such areas as communication and remote sensing and there will be many more. The United States, which has the world's leading space program, is firmly dedicated to the premise that these benefits should be shared by all and that they can be of particular use to the developing countries of the world in their efforts to improve the lives of their citizens.

As parliamentarians, we must all be concerned with the international community's efforts to develop mutually acceptable arrangements for the use of this province. The Outer Space Treaty represents a major accomplishment in this direction and we should work together to see to it that the interests of all states are given fair and just consideration in this undertaking.

When we meet this week to address the draft resolution on space law, the United States delegation will describe in detail the amendments we have put forward and which we believe will make the final resolution more balanced and realistic. Quite frankly, the United States delegation is troubled by some parts of the resolution as it is now written because we perceive in these the intention to place restrictions on the peaceful use of outer space.

As I noted before, we have a unique opportunity to establish guidelines for the sharing of the multifold benefits which will be derived from these activities. The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has now agreed on a draft text of a treaty on the Moon and other Celestial Bodies. This was the result of careful and studied consideration by all members of the Committee and, if accepted by the international community, will represent another important move toward ensuring that space can be utilized by all on an equal basis.

The United States will continue to cooperate to the fullest possible extent with all states in making available the results gained from our space activities. However, we will resist efforts to place restrictions on our own activities and those of other present and future space users through extension of claims of national sovereignty over areas of space and attempts to govern and restrict the free flow of information via space technology.

We look forward to serious and reasoned debate on the legislative aspects of space law because we are confident that we all share a common desire to make it possible that the vast frontier of space can be made to serve the pressing needs of all of us.

ANNEX C

Draft Resolutions on the Middle East Question and the Palestinian Problem

Draft Resolution Presented by the Jordanian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Tunisian Groups

The 66th Parliamentary Conference:

Recalling the previous resolutions of both the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations on the Middle East, particularly those of the 64th and 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences in Sofia and Bonn, and of the 122nd session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council in Lisbon, that refer to the appropriate resolutions of the U.N. on the Middle East and particularly on Lebanon and the Palestine problem,

Considering that peace in the Middle East is indivisible and that all concerned parties in the area must abide by and implement UN resolutions concerning the need for a comprehensive settlement based on justice and equity.

Considering that all partial agreements and treaties which constitute a flagrant violation of UN principles and resolutions, and which ignore the national rights of the Arab peoples, particularly the national rights of the Palestinians to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their independent state in Palestine do not serve the basic principles of a legitimate and durable peace but lead to more tension and conflict in the area,

Deeply concerned at the continuous deterioration of the situation in southern Lebanon due to the repeated Israeli attacks, and also at the refusal of Israel to implement Security Council resolutions 425, 426, 427, 434, 444 and 450, thereby paralysing the mission of the UN peacekeeping force determined by those resolutions to reestablish security and stability and to help the Government of Lebanon restore its authority and sovereignty over the entire Lebanese territory,

Denouncing the so-called "preventive war" waged by Israel against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, and convinced that this war can only lead to increasing tension in the Middle East and to the risk of armed confrontation exposing the whole area to destruction,

1. Affirms that the Palestine problem is the core of the Middle East conflict and that the establishment of a just and durable peace in the region can not be achieved without the exercise by the Palestinian people of their national rights, including their right to return to their homeland, self-determination and the establishment of their own independent State in Palestine in accordance with the Charter of the UN and its relevant resolutions, and consequently considers null and void every agreement that does not fulfill these principles;

2. Demands total and immediate Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem;

3. Condemns the brutal Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon, the killing of innocent civilians, the destruction of cities, villages, houses, schools, and clinics and the displacement of thousands of inhabitants, and calls on Israel to stop these attacks immediately;

4. Condemns Israeli violation of the human rights of the Arab population in the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands, and demands that Israel cease to establish settlements in the occupied territories and dismantle all such settlements that have been illegally established in violation of the fourth Geneva Convention;

5. Urges the parliaments represented in the Inter-Parliamentary Union to exercise pressure on their Governments to ensure the execution of the Security Council resolutions concerning Lebanon, particularly Resolution 450 (1979) which—in case of continued obstruction of the mandate of the UN Forces—reaffirms the determination of the Council to examine practical means of ensuring the application of Resolution 425 (1978) in conformity with the provisions of the United Nations Charter.

Draft Resolution Presented by the French, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese Delegations

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly those of the 64th and 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences;

Considering that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is indispensable for the peace and security of the world,

Reaffirming the inadmissibility of the occupation of territories by force,

Deeply concerned at the numerous losses of human lives and large-scale destruction suffered by the peoples of Lebanon,

Recognizing the importance of the efforts made to re-establish peace in the Middle East,

Deploring the interruption of the discussions that had been initiated with a view to the establishment of a negotiating procedure among all the parties concerned, and the worsening of tension in the region.

1. Reaffirms that any settlement of the conflict in the Mdidle East must respect the principles set out in resolutions 242 and 338 of the United Nations Security Council;

2. Considers that there can only be a comprehensive settlement negotiated by all the parties concerned, that this settlement must sanction the withdrawal by Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and guarantee the security and territorial integrity of all States in the region within secure, recognized and internationally guaranteed boundaries;

3. Denounces, as factors delaying the achievement of a peaceful solution, actions such as the establishment of new settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and condemns the repeated attacks on Lebanon and the continued acts of terrorism against the civilian populations;

4. Calls on the members of the Union to use their best endeavours for the re-establishment of the authority and sovereignty of the State of Lebanon over the whole of its territory;

5. Calls on all parties to the conflict to refrain from any action likely to render more difficult the implementation of negotiating procedures for the achievement of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict, and to ensure a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Amendment Submitted by the Egyptian Group to the Draft Resolution Presented by the French, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese Delegations

Modify operative paragraph 2 to read as follows:

"2. Considers that there can only be a comprehensive settlement negotiated by all the parties concerned and that this settlement must sanction the withdrawal by Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to self-determination, and guarantee the security and territorial integrity of all States in the region within secure, recognized and internationally guaranteed boundaries;".

Draft Resolution Presented by the Israeli Delegation

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Noting that intensive preoccupation with the Middle East at the level of multinational diplomacy has brought no visible progress towards the solution of the Israel-Arab conflict for many years and that time after time, the Middle East has been plunged into war after war, costly in terms of lives and of material goods to all concerned,

Noting with satisfaction that the visit of President Sadat to Jerusalem has opened a new era and that the first open and direct negotiations between Israel and one of its Arab neighbours have resulted in the first Peace Treaty in the region, which is now in the process of implementation,

1. Considers the Peace Treaty between Egypt and Israel as an important first step towards a just, comprehensive and durable settlement of the Middle East

conflict, which should be followed by further similar treaties between Israel and all its neighbours;

2. Calls upon other States in the region to join the peacemaking process started by the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty;

3. Urges the Palestinian Arab population of Samaria, Judea (West Bank) and Gaza to participate actively in the determination of its own future;

4. Strongly condemns terrorist activities directed against civilians as an outrage against the international community, and totally rejects it as a means for the achievement of political aims;

5. Calls upon the members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to exercise their influence to the utmost to encourage the negotiating process at present under way in the Middle East.

Draft Resolution Presented by the Netherlands Delegation

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Considering that the establishment of peace in the Middle East is essential for all States of that area, the security of the Mediterranean basin and the maintenance of world peace.

1. Welcomes the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty as being a significant first step towards a just, comprehensive and durable settlement of the Middle East conflict;

2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in implementing that Treaty, and calls upon other States in the region to join the peace-making process started by the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty;

3. Stresses the need for balancing active participation by the Palestinians in the determination of their own future, including their rights to a homeland, with recognition by the Palestinians of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Israel.

Draft Resolution Presented by the United States Group

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Considering that the establishment of peace in the Middle East is essential for all the peoples in that area, the security of the Mediterranean basin and the maintenance of world peace.

Believing that the path to peace in the Middle East should be pursued through negotiations among the parties involved in the dispute,

1. Reaffirms that the effective implementation of United Nations resolutions 242 and 338 in their entirety remains the fundamental condition for the settlement of the conflict in the Middle East and that all acts contravening the spirit and letter of these resolutions must therefore be reproved;

2. Declares itself in favour of a peaceful solution of the conflict in the Middle East realizing the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories, guaranteeing the security and territorial integrity of all States in the area within secure, stable and recognized boundaries, free from threats or acts of force, and enabling the establishment of normal relations between those States;

3 Welcomes all endeavours to promote a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Middle East, such as those represented by the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty;

4. Urges the parties to the Middle East dispute to enter into further negotiations for the purpose of establishing a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the area;

5. Also declares its support for a solution to the dispute which enables the Palestinian people to participate in the determination of their own future;

Profoundly moved by the victims among the Lebanese and Israeli civilian populations and by the widescale destruction of property,

Recalling the provisions of UN Security Council resolution 425 and the need for its full application in all its parts,

1. Calls for urgent measures to put an end to the cycle of violence in Lebanon and Israel which has led to needless death and destruction;

2. Reaffirms the urgent need for measures capable of putting an end to the present situation by fully re-establishing the authority of the Lebanese State against all external interference and guaranteeing its sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and the unity of its people with respect for the rights of all communities, whatever the political choice or religion of their members.

Draft Resolution Presented by the Drafting Committee

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Considering that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is essential for all the peoples in that area, the security of the Mediterranean basin and the maintenance of world peace,

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly those of the 64th and 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences in Sofia and Bonn, and of the 122nd session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council in Lisbon, that refer to the appropriate resolutions of the UN on the Middle East,

Reaffirming the inadmissibility of the occupation of territories by force,

Deeply concerned about the numerous losses of human lives and large-scale destruction suffered by the civilian population, particularly in Lebanon, about the continuous deterioration of the situation in southern Lebanon, due especially to the repeated Israeli attacks, about the non-implementation of the resolutions of the UN Security Council and about the obstacles that the UN "Security" Force encounters in carrying out its mission,

Recognizing the importance of the efforts made to re-establish peace in the Middle East,

Deploring the interruption of the discussions that had been initiated with a view to the establishment of a negotiating procedure among all the parties concerned, and the persistence of tensions in this region,

1. Reaffirms that any settlement of the conflict in the Middle East must respect the principles set out in resolutions 242 and 338 of the United Nations Security Council and resolution 3236 (XXIX) of the UN General Assembly;

2. Considers that there can only be a comprehensive settlement negotiated by all the parties concerned and that this settlement must sanction the withdrawal by Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jersusalem, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to self-determination, including the creation of an independent State, and guarantee the security and territorial integrity of all States in the region, including Israel, within secure, recognized and internationally guaranteed boundaries;

3. Denounces, as factors delaying the achievement of a peaceful solution, actions such as the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and condemns the repeated attacks on Lebanon and the continued acts of terrorism against the civilian populations in Lebanon as well as in Israel;

4. Calls on the members of the Union to use their best endeavours in conformity with the recommendations of resolution 450 (1979) of the UN Security Council for the re-establishment of the authority and sovereignty of the State of Lebanon over the whole of its territory;

5. Calls on all parties to the conflict to facilitate the implementation of negotiating procedures for the achievement of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict, and to ensure a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

ANNEX D

Adopted Resolutions of the Conference

Implementation of the Final Document of the 10th Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Bearing in mind the contribution of the 10th Special Session of the UN General Assembly, which was initiated by non-aligned countries, toward highlighting the gravity of the problems facing the international community in the field of disarmament and identifying the steps conducive to their solution,

Stressing the role of Parliaments and parliamentarians in encouraging the taking of urgent measures in order to secure the implementation of the recommendations in the Final Document of the 10th Special Session of the UN General Assembly,

Pointing to the significance of the resolution unanimously adopted at the spring session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union entitled "The Special Session of the UN General Assembly—the Role of Parliaments and Parliamentarians in Building a World Free from Weapons and War", as well as of the other documents on disarmament adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in particular, in Madrid, Sofia and Bonn,

Reaffirming that nuclear weapons pose the most serious threat to mankind and that all nuclear-weapon States, in particular those which possess the largest nuclear arsenals or those which have adequate technology to produce them in the near future, bear a special responsibility for achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament,

Aware of the fact that an effective disarmament strategy must be accompanied by continuing measures to eliminate tensions and injustice in the world,

Taking into account that immense quantities of arms and the greatest military troop strength are accumulated and concentrated in Europe, and considering that the building of a system of lasting security and cooperation in Europe would constitute a contribution to the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of security in the entire world,

Convinced that concrete steps towards disarmament will be facilitated by confidence-building measures contributing to prediction and assessment of political military behaviour,

Considering the link between disarmament and the economic and social progress of the developing countries,

1. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to contribute to the implementation of the decision reached by the Special Session of the UN General Assembly regarding the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action;

2. Welcomes the decision to convene a second Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to Disarmament at New York in 1982 and calls upon all member States of the UN to start, at an appropriate time, the preparation and establishment of the agenda of this session, taking into account the existing priorities of disarmament negotiations in the nuclear and conventional spheres and the search for possible ways leading to an effective solution of disarmament problems at the earliest possible time;

3. Appeals to all countries, in particular nuclear-weapon States, to conduct disarmament negotiations on all priority subjects in the nuclear and conventional fields by taking into consideration the link between stability, security and peace emphasized in the Final Document of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly;

4. Calls upon the nuclear-weapon States involved in the negotiations on the conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of all nuclear-weapon tests to submit

the draft of such a treaty to the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva as soon as possible;

5. Urges all States, in particular all nuclear-weapon States, pending the conclusion of a treaty on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, to refrain from conducting any tests of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices;

6. Urges the United States of America and the USSR to ratify without undue delay the SALT II agreements;

7. Calls upon the United States of America and the USSR to start negotiations on a SALT III agreement aimed at an effective and gradual reduction of nuclear weapons;

8. Calls upon all the nuclear powers to cease the qualitative and quantitative escalation of the race in nuclear armaments;

9. Recalls that, through the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1 July 1968, these States undertook to reduce the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons, parallel to the undertaking of other States to halt the horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons; since that time, approximately one hundred of the latter have carried out their promises, and bitterly regrets that, on the other hand, the undertakings given by the nuclear States have not been followed up and that those States have continued to accentuate intensely the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons;

10. Urges all nuclear weapon States to proceed with negotiations towards agreements at appropriate stages and with adequate and effective measures of international verification and control for:

(*a*) The cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and means of their delivery.

(*b*) The cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and of the production of fissionable material for purposes of weaponry;

(*c*) A comprehensive, phased programme with agreed time frames for a progressive and balanced reduction of stockpiles of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery leading to the ultimate and complete prohibition of their use and to their elimination;

11. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to prevent horizontal and vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons and guarantee the non-discriminatory use under effective international safeguards administered by the International Atomic Energy Agency of nuclear energy by all countries for peaceful purposes, taking into account the need to prevent the diversion of nuclear technology, equipment and materials to non-peaceful purposes and the special needs of the developing countries, and to consider the following steps:

(*a*) The taking of further measures to develop an international consensus on the strengthening and consolidation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, based primarily on the adherence of all States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and urgent application of the measures outlined in the relevant paragraphs of that Treaty, as well as on the system of safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency, while ensuring access by all States on a non-discriminatory basis to the use of atomic energy and nuclear technology for peaceful purposes;

(*b*) The establishment, where appropriate, of additional nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely agreed upon by the States of the regions concerned, with the cooperation of all nuclear-weapon States, guaranteeing that the latter will respect the status of such regions and renounce the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against the States of such regions;

(*c*) The giving of legally binding guarantees by those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet provided them to refrain from using or threatening to use nuclear weapons in any form, under any circumstances or on any pretext whatsoever against non-nuclear-weapon States which have adhered to the Non-Proliferation Treaty or undertaken to refrain from producing and acquiring nuclear weapons and have not associated themselves with a nuclear-weapon State in carrying out or sustaining an attack on another State;

12. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments:

(*a*) To contribute to the conclusion of a convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and regulating their destruction and the destruction of their production facilities and a convention

prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons;

(*b*) To contribute to the negotiations in the Committee on Disarmament aimed at elaborating the text of an agreement on the prohibition of the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction based on new scientific principles and achievements as they are identified and new systems of such weapons and at facilitating the preparation of special agreements on individual types of these weapons;

(*c*) To promote UN efforts to conclude agreements on limiting and/or prohibiting the use of certain conventional weapons through the achievement of positive results at the Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects which will be held this year;

(*d*) To multiply endeavours for the deepening of political and military détente on the European continent, in particular by the efficient preparation of the Madrid Conference, and to work out effective measures for the reduction of the existing levels of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. with strict respect for the principles of ensuring equal security for all participating States;

(*e*) To emphasize the need to convene a European disarmament conference and, as soon as the international situation permits, a conference on disarmament and security in the Mediterranean;

(*f*) To work consistently for increasing mutual confidence among States and to promote actively measures aimed at preventing the increase of military tension on a European and world-wide scale and at lessening and averting the risk of war;

(*g*) To contribute to the propagation of universal détente in the military sphere by seeking in particular to achieve, in the European context, objectives such as the conclusion of an agreement among the parties concerned within the framework of the negotiations on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe and the limitation of nuclear missiles or other weapons on the basis of real parity;

(*h*) To apply the same sort of initiatives to areas of America, Africa and Asia and, as a general rule, to all zones of conflict in the world;

(*i*) To support consultations which should be carried out among major arms supplier and recipient countries on the limitation of all types of international transfer of conventional weapons, based in particular on the principle of undiminished security of the parties with a view to promoting or enhancing stability at a lower military level, taking into account the need of all States to protect their security, as well as the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of peoples under colonial or foreign domination and the obligations of States to respect that right, in accordance with the UN Charter;

(*j*) To contribute to the initiation of negotiations leading to measures of cessation of the conventional arms race among States with the largest military arsenals and among military alliances, the prohibition of the development, production and deployment of conventional weapons of great destructive power and for exclusively offensive purposes, the limitation and gradual reduction of armaments of all States to the agreed levels, taking into account the need of States to protect their security and provide agreed manpower for the United Nations peace forces, and the dismantling of military bases on foreign territories and prohibition of building new ones or extension of those already in existence;

13. Calls upon all Parliaments and Governments to contribute to efforts for priority to be given during the debates at the UN Disarmament Commission, apart from consideration of a comprehensive programme on disarmament, to the following questions:

(*a*) Consideration of various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament in order to expedite negotiations aimed at an effective elimination of the danger of nuclear war;

(*b*) Harmonization of views on concrete steps to be undertaken by States regarding a gradual, agreed reduction of military budget, troop levels and armaments including the adoption of an appropriate percentage of reduction of military expenditure based on verified UN data, and reallocation of resources released as a result of the implementation of disarmament measures

to the economic and social development of all nations contributing to the bridging of the economic gap between developed and developing countries;

14. Emphasizes that the main prerequisite in disarmament negotiations is the good political will of participating parties and their determination to achieve real progress in the field of disarmament, leading to enhanced security of States, and the objective and detailed study required by the subject of arms limitations;

15. Emphasizes at the same time the need to use fully and effectively the existing mechanisms of disarmament negotiations, and particularly the forum of the Geneva Committee on Disarmament, with a view to the rapid elaboration of new disarmament agreements;

16. Stresses that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation;

17. Urges Parliaments and Governments:

(*a*) To declare themselves most resolutely against any form of aggression and for the exclusively peaceful and negotiated settlement of all international disputes and the elimination of hotbeds of tension and conflict, and to support the inclusion in legally binding international agreements of the pledge by all States to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States without exception and not to resort to armed actions against other States, contrary to the Charter of the United Nations;

(*b*) To make a sustained contribution to the success of the work of the Committee on Disarmament in its search for viable solutions;

18. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to guarantee that test-ban, disarmament and arms control agreements provide for appropriate national and international instruments for verification and control aimed at ensuring the implementation of such agreements by all parties concerned;

19. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to publish detailed information on the total volume of their arms production and their arms supplies to other countries;

20. Welcomes the decision taken by the UN General Assembly at its 10th Special Session to hold Disarmament Week starting 24 October, the day of the foundation of the United Nations, and *recommends* that the National Groups actively promote the implementation of this decision in order to foster the objectives of disarmament;

21. Urges all Parliaments and National Groups:

(*a*) To conduct a large-scale campaign to mobilize public opinion all over the world with a view to halting the arms race as soon as possible;

(*b*) To promote broad parliamentary contacts on a regional and sub-regional level in order to contribute to the consolidation of a climate of universal détente and confidence, and to support the steps taken in the field of disarmament;

(*c*) To inform world public opinion about the true situation in the field of disarmament negotiations and the serious consequences of the arms race.

The Middle East Question and the Palestinian Problem

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Considering that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is essential for all the peoples in that area, the security of the Mediterranean basin and the maintenance of world peace,

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly those of the 64th and 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences in Sofia and Bonn, and of the 122nd session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council in Lisbon, that refer to the appropriate resolutions of the UN on the Middle East,

Reaffirming the inadmissibility of the occupation of territories by force,

Deeply concerned about the numerous losses of human lives and large-scale destruction suffered by the civilian population, particularly in Lebanon, about the continuous deterioration of the situation in southern Lebanon, due especially to the repeated Israeli attacks, about the nonimplementation of the resolutions of the UN Security Council and about the obstacles that the UN Security Force encounters in carrying out its mission,

Recognizing the importance of the efforts made to re-establish peace in the Middle East,

Deploring the interruption of the discussions that had been initiated with a view to the establishment of a negotiating procedure among all the parties concerned, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the persistence of tensions in this region,

1. Reaffirms that any settlement of the conflict in the Middle East must respect the principles set out in resolutions 242 and 338 of the United Nations Security Council and resolution 3236 (XXIX) of the UN General Assembly ;

2. Considers that there can only be a comprehensive settlement negotiated by all the parties concerned, including the PLO, and that this settlement must sanction the withdrawal by Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to self-determination, including the creation of an independent State, and guarantee the security and territorial integrity of all States in the region, including Israel, within secure, recognized and internationally guaranteed boundaries ;

3. Denounces, as factors delaying the achievement of a peaceful solution, actions such as the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories, *condemns* the repeated attacks on Lebanon, *requests* Israel to stop immediately those attacks, and *condemns* the continued acts of terrorism against the civilian populations in Lebanon as well as in Israel ;

4. Calls on the members of the Union to use their best endeavours in conformity with the recommendations of resolution 450 (1979) of the UN Security Council for the re-establishment of the authority and sovereignty of the State of Lebanon over the whole of its territory ;

5. Calls on all parties to the conflict to facilitate the implementation of negotiating procedures for the achievement of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict, and to ensure a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Protection of the Family and General Care of Children and Youth in Connection With the International Year of the Child

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference :

Welcoming the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 1979 the International Year of the Child,

Recalling the resolution unanimously adopted by the 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Bonn on the International Year of the Child, in order to support that initiative at the international parliamentary level,

Expressing its agreement with the contents of the Declaration adopted by the 33rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,

Convinced that the family is the natural unit, within a favourable legal and social order, for the creation, protection, upbringing and harmonious development of the child,

Stressing that in the interest of the harmonious development of the child, society and the public authorities have the duty, however, to compensate for the deficiencies of the family and to take particular care of children with no families,

Recognizing that in satisfying the needs of the child, we are contributing to ensuring a better future for all mankind,

Deeply concerned at the precarious conditions of existence of millions of children in the world due to malnutrition, undernourishment, illness, use of drugs, insufficient schooling, maltreatment, lack of education, racial and other discrimination, and colonial and foreign domination,

Noting the impact of the level of development and the socioeconomic and financial situation, quality of life and population policy of a country or region on the health and well-being of its children,

Aware of the special care and aid merited by certain categories of families and a very large number of children disadvantaged due to war, kidnappings, expulsions, family separation, abandonment for whatever reason, poverty, handicaps and refugee status,

Considering that, beyond the satisfaction of their basic needs, children should benefit from particlular care and attention whereby their personalities may develop and evolve with a view to their harmonious entry into adult life,

Emphasizing that the younger generation can only grow and develop in safety, dignity, freedom, self-realization, solidarity and peace,

Bearing in mind that the exploitation of children, especially for pornographic purposes, constitutes a particularly vile way of profit-making,

Convinced that the violence, criminality and terrorism which the mass media display excessively constitute a permanent danger for youth,

Considering that the acceleration of the arms race seriously jeopardizes the raising of the material and spiritual standard of living of the young people and children of the whole world,

Convinced of the need to contribute to the training and preparation of parents in their educational tasks and to assist them, as well as families, in fulfilling this role and satisfying the needs of children,

1. Affirms its commitment to all the principles contained in the Declaration on the Rights of the Child of 1959 ;

2. Hopes that international organizations, within and outside the United Nations system both at regional and universal levels, will take action in accordance with the above Declaration of 1959 ;

3. Declares that the struggle for the feeding, health and education of the most disadvantaged children, including abandoned, handicapped and refugee children, must be a priority for international action, particularly by the competent international organizations ;

4. Emphasizes the importance of the activities of the non-governmental organizations, as well as of individuals in this field ;

5. Calls more especially on all countries to contribute to the solution of the grave problems concerning refugee children ;

6. Reaffirms the absolute need for the earliest implementation of the essential elements of a new international economic order, which is capable of overcoming in a lasting manner the economic and social difficulties of the developing countries ;

7. Requests the Parliament of the countries represented in the Union to take initiatives to emphasize the need for strengthening family ties, to improve the living conditions of families and to ensure care for children and adolescents, as well as their protection, including children victimized following marriage breakdown and other similar developments, in particular :

(*a*) Preparation for marriage and voluntary participation in the training of parents in their educational role ;

(*b*) Provision of the necessary funds and services to ensure adequate nutrition and health care for all children, including research into ways of promoting the healthy birth and growth of children and their protection against disease ;

(*c*) Increased protection of pregnant women and mothers, particularly against diseases and malnutrition ;

(*d*) Reunification of families, especially those separated by war or military occupation ;

(*e*) Improvement of the social, economic and cultural situation of families and the financial assistance granted to them ;

(*f*) Development of centres for young children ;

(*g*) Protection of children, whose parents are dissidents, against discrimination ;

(*h*) Increased efforts for the education, vocational guidance and preparation of young people for working life ;

(*i*) Civic and social education of young people to enable them to participate in a responsible manner in the public life of their countries ;

(*j*) Increased prevention of handicaps at birth and development of establishments and methods for the education and training of handicapped children and adolescents, with a view to their integration into the family and society ;

(*k*) Training of personnel specialized in the care and education of children, including socially and physically handicapped children ;

(*l*) Reduction of military expenditures which would enable the funds thus released to be used for social and economic development thereby improving the situation of the family and children the world over and, in particular, of those in the developing countries, taking into account the conclusions of the in-depth study presently being undertaken by the United Nations on the relationship between disarmament and development ;

(*m*) Elaboration of a programme of action to combat drug addiction ;

(*n*) Enhancement of the physical and emotional security of the children of separated or divorced parents, by recognizing as binding the custody arrangements established in the courts of the country where they are residing at the time of the separation;

8. Calls on parliamentarians to initiate and encourage all forms of action to ensure that Governments enunciate a national policy for children for each country, covering all aspects of growth and development of children, and implement the policy;

9. Also calls on parliamentarians to initiate or encourage all forms of action to achieve the national and international objectives of the International Year of the Child:

(*a*) By supporting the efforts of the national commissions established in their countries for the International Year of the Child;

(*b*) By mobilizing public opinion in favour of the most disadvantaged or vulnerable children;

(*c*) By increasing research and information in the spheres of the family, childhood and youth;

(*d*) By acting with a view to the education of young people in the spirit of the great ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples;

(*e*) By including in principle a family perspective in all governmental policy;

10. Calls on Governments and development assistance bodies to ensure that all measures and projects implemented within the context of development assistance take constant and more careful account than before of their implications for children and their environment;

11. Expresses the hope that the international community will rapidly succeed in the ratification of the International Labour Organisation Convention, of 1973, concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, and adopt as soon as possible the convention on the rights of the child which is in the process of preparation;

12. Requests parliamentarians to urge their Governments that the International Year of the Child be an occasion to adopt as an objective the permanent promotion, in all aspects, of childhood and youth, and to increase continuously their contributions to the international organizations for child assistance.

Implementation of the U.N. Recommendations on Decolonization

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Recalling the commendable efforts of the United Nations which has adopted several resolutions on decolonization, particularly resolution 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Reaffirming its support for the peoples under colonial domination or under racial oppression to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Considering the serious threat to international peace caused by the policies and aggressive practices of the racist domination régimes in southern Africa,

Aware of the secret support given to those racist régimes, which enables them to resist international pressure.

Firmly convinced that only the complete elimination of the remaining vestiges of colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid—a condition for international peace and détente—can ensure the advent of a humane, just and truly prosperous world,

Reaffirming the legitimate right of all the peoples under colonial domination and all the peoples under racial oppression, in particular those in southern Africa, to fight by all the necessary means at their disposal to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and their right to choose a path of development in accordance with their interests,

Deeply concerned at the increase in acts of aggression committed by the racist and apartheid régimes in southern Africa and at the massive preparations for war against sovereign African States, particularly Mozambique, Zambia, Botsawana and Angola, which constitute a danger to peace and security,

Considering the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations on Western Sahara, particularly resolution 33/31 of 13 December 1978 which reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and independence,

Considering the resolutions adopted by the XVIth summit of the Organization of African Unity held at Monrovia in July 1979 and by the VIth summit of the non-aligned countries held at Havana in September 1979,

Considering the resolution adopted by the United Nations on East Timor, that is, resolution 33/39 of 13 December 1978, which reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and independence,

Recalling all the resolutions relating to the achievement of independence by all peoples still under colonial domination or racial oppression adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly the resolution adopted by the 65th Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the complete elimination of colonialism in the world,

Stressing the danger for peace and understanding posed by the existence of areas of tension which are caused and maintained by colonialism racists and their agents, and also by their actions in forcing puppet régimes on Southern Rhodesia and Namibia or by any other form of domination and hegemony directed against the independence and sovereignty of the African and Asian peoples and peoples in other parts of the world, as well as their territorial integrity,

Reaffirming the urgent need to increase the struggle against the vestings of colonialism in Africa, to refrain from any interference in the internal affairs of States, to abolish any use of force in inter-African relations and to make every effort to settle the conflicts between States by peaceful means and within the framework of the Organization of African Unity (OAU),

Reaffirming the need to call on all Governments and Parliaments to ensure scrupulous respect for the principles of the non-violation of States' borders, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and the cessation of any threat of the use of force and the use of military force to prejudice the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States,

Deeply concerned at the escalation of violence in the world and more especially in those areas where the elementary rights of the majority of the population are denied for the benefit of the interests of a racist minority,

1. Urges Governments. Parliaments, international organizations, business circles, as well as persons in an individual capacity, to contribute to the elimination of colonialism and its byproducts ;

2. Calls upon all Governments and Parliaments to withhold assistance of any kind from the apartheid regime in South Africa and from the illegal puppet regimes in Southern Rhodesia and Namibia ; and to take legislative and other measures in order to prevent new investments in, the transfer of capital to and trade with South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia ;

3. Denounces and considers null and void the unilateral elections organized by the Pretoria regime in Namibia, and reaffirms the role of the United Nations Council for Namibia as the political and administrative organ of Namibia as the political and administrative organ of Namibia until independence ;

4. Stresses that the problem of the independence of Zimbabwe cannot be resolved by internal settlements or elections organized by the racist regime in Salisbury and without the participation of the Patriotic Front ;

5. Takes note of the conversations which are taking place in London following the decisions of the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of State recently held in Lusaka (Zambia) regarding the independence of Zimbabwe ;

6. Calls on the liberation movements in those countries under foreign domination to present a united front, transcending internal quarrels which weaken them and enable the colonizing powers easily to strengthen their positions ;

7. Calls on Parliaments to take action directed towards their Governments for the full and rapid implementation of the United Nations resolutions on decolonization and the combatting of apartheid ;

8. Recalls the responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the decolonization of Western Sahara, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and calls upon all parties concerned in the Western Sahara problem on the one hand to refrain from using force and on the other hand to co-operate with the OAU, the United Nations and the League of Arab States in reaching an acceptable political and peaceful solution ;

9. Takes note of the Algiers Agreement signed on 5 August 1979 and invites all the parties concerned to enter into a fraternal dialogue to achieve peace in that region;

10. Recalls the responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the decolonization of East Timor, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and calls upon all parties concerned in the East Timor problem to refrain from using force and to co-operate in reaching acceptable solutions;

11. Urges all Governments and Parliaments to take legislative and other measures in order to prohibit in their territories the recruiting, financing and training of mercenaries, as well as the transit of mercenaries through their territories, and to prevent their nationals from serving as mercenaries;

12. Reaffirms the responsibility of the international community for the speediest possible elimination of the few remaining vestiges of colonialism and of the policy of neo-colonialist exploitation, and for the eradication of national and racial oppression;

13. Invites Governments, Parliaments and international organizations to provide increased assistance to the peoples under colonial and racist oppression, in particular in southern Africa, and to give multiform support and material assistance to the liberation movements of South Africa, SWAPO and the Patriotic Front which are recognized by the OAU as the authentic representatives of their peoples;

14. Expresses its appreciation to the front-line countries for the responsibilities they have assumed as supporters of the liberation movements, and appeals to Governments, Parliaments and national and international organizations to give them all moral and material support designed to strengthen their defence capacity;

15. Calls on all Governments and Parliaments to ensure scrupulous respect for the principle of the non-violation of States' borders, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and the cessation of any threat of the use of force and the use of military or other force to prejudice the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, and to take action on the one hand to prevent acts likely to modify the demographic component of occupied territories through the expulsion of indigenous populations and the establishment of settlements, and on the other hand to put an end to foreign occupation;

16. Notes with deep concern that recourse is had to violence, kidnapping of civilians, the taking of hostages and torture and, in particular, that interference by foreign forces on the African continent is increasing and spreading, thus threatening its stability and economic and social development.

Ways and Means of Promoting International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace in the Areas of Education, Information and Communication

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Constituent Act of UNESCO of 1946, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, the European Agreement on Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of 1950, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (United Nations resolution 1386/8), the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966, the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe of 1975, the Recommendation concerning education for international understanding, co-operation and peace and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1974, the Declaration on fundamental principles concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international understanding, the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war (adopted by the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO on 28 November 1978) and the Declaration on the preparation of societies for life in peace (adopted by the 33d session of the UN General Assembly on 15 December 1978),

Recalling the natural vocation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to promote international understanding, co-operation and peace, and consequently to ensure the application of the above-mentioned agreements and declarations,

Convinced that détente and the improvement of the political climate in the world create further favourable conditions for expanding co-operation among States and peoples,

Convinced that the fundamental exercise of the freedoms of opinion, expression and information—an integral part of human rights—must enable a profound improvement in mutual relations among States, with respect for their sovereignty and national legislation and without interference in their internal affairs,

Expressing the belief that, while respecting the diversity of the cultural heritage of peoples and the need for maintaining the specific features of the cultural life of States, it is possible and necessary to develop still further among them cultural exchanges which should serve peaceful coexistence, the improvement of the well-being of peoples and the strengthening of friendship among them without impeding the implementation of the fundamental options which those peoples have chosen for their socio-economic development,

Aware that, in their efforts to ensure wider mutual understanding and co-operation, States can usefully adopt bilateral and multilateral measures to organize in an even better manner mutually advantageous exchanges and collaboration concerning the processing, dissemination and transfer from one country to another of cultural, technical and scientific information in the spheres of education and communication, bearing in mind the individual and specific needs of the developing countries,

Taking into account that, in a world undergoing technical, social and economic change, the role and scope of international cultural links are growing considerably, and confirming that the role of education and information is linked to the emergence of new goals and, in particular, the search for an improved international situation embracing the economic, social and cultural aspects of life,

Noting with concern the existence of a great gap between the developed and the developing countries regarding their possibilities for communication, as well as the continuing imbalance in the contents and flow of information and the possibility that circumstances may arise in which developing nations can become "passive recipients of biased, inadequate and distorted information" from abroad as stated by the Non-Aligned Summit Conference in 1976,

Stressing the need for States to avoid using their national information systems to propagate hatred between their peoples and the peoples of neighbouring countries, thus inciting them to war.

Aware of the necessity of mobilizing all the available forces and of undertaking all possible efforts for the development of information and communication systems in developing countries, according to their needs and requests, bearing always in mind that the systems which result should be used to promote human rights,

Welcoming the fact that the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO recognized the merits of the conclusions of the Fifth Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries in Colombo for a better balance of information by acknowledging the urgent need for the creation of a new balanced international order in this field,

Hoping that such a balanced international order should not involve any increase in State control over journalists or what is written, broadcast or otherwise put out over the media in any country of the world,

1. Recommends to all parliamentarians that they encourage efforts to improve the quality and objectivity of news and media programming available within their own countries and particularly that which is disseminated to other countries so that the media achieve their fullest potential in enhancing mutual understanding and promoting peace;

2. Recommends to Parliaments and Governments:

(*a*) To support the efforts made by the United Nations, UNESCO and other international organizations dealing with problems of education, information and communication;

(*b*) To initiate and encourage all forms of action to ensure that educational institutions in their countries give more attention to comparative studies on social sciences as a key for better communication and understanding;

(*c*) To promote bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the field of education and training, bearing in mind the individual and specific needs of developing countries;

(*d*) To make special efforts in the struggle against illiteracy which in many countries in the world still represents a special problem of priority significance and one of the major obstacles to national development;

(*e*) To promote the improvement and expansion of education for international understanding and peace, and the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly through the improvement of school curricula and text books, in the light of the recommendation adopted by the XVIIIth session of UNESCO's General Conference in November 1974;

(*f*) To initiate and support incentives at the national and international levels to improve the quality and objectivity of information and to achieve a more balanced flow thereof;

(*g*) To provide assistance to the non-aligned and developing countries, at their request, for the creation of material conditions and training facilities for the development of their national information systems, in conformity with the needs of each individual country under conditions which will contribute to the overcoming of existing differences between developed and developing countries in this field;

(*h*) To utilize the achievements of technological progress effected in this sphere, with the goal of encouraging in every possible way the mass media to contribute to the promotion of peaceful co-operation, democratic development and general progress of the international community, in conformity with the 1978 UNESCO Declaration on the mass media;

(*i*) To support special efforts at the national and international levels to lower the cost of operation of information and communication technologies;

3. Calls upon Parliaments and Governments to make continuous and active efforts to give practical substance to the letter and spirit of the various recommendations, resolutions, Covenants and Declarations mentioned in the preamble for the good of the present and future generations;

4. Stresses the importance of the Declaration on fundamental principles concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international understanding, the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war, endorsed by the XXth session of the General Conference of UNESCO (October-November 1978), and recommends to Parliaments and Governments to work for the implementation of and respect for the fundamental elements of this document within the framework of national legislation;

5. Invites Parliaments and Governments to make available to less developed countries technology at low cost and the means for the training of staff so as to enable them to acquire an adequate communication infrastructure;

6. Urges National Groups to undertake measures, with their respective Parliaments and Governments, so as to guarantee to journalists, communicators and others involved in the information process such protection as will ensure the best possible conditions for the performance of their work in a responsible, objective and lawful manner;

7. Views with concern any efforts to protect journalists and other agents of the information media by Governments and Parliaments that would involve any restrictive or discriminatory practices against those to be protected;

8. Calls on Parliaments and National Groups to promote freedom of speech and of the media, both within States and across international frontiers.

The Legislative Aspects of Space Law

The 66th Inter-Parliamentary Conference:

Recalling the resolution on space law unanimously adopted by the 52nd Inter-Parliamentary Conference at Belgrade in 1963,

Confirming that the exploration and use of outer space and its celestial bodies are the common province of all mankind and its nations, and that the peaceful exploration, exploitation and use of the resources of outer space will improve the quality of life of all peoples and all nations of the world,

Noting with satisfaction the orderly development of space law through the achievements of the United Nations, and the work of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Recalling its commitment to the legal principles established by the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies, the 1968

Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the 1972 Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, and the 1975 Convention on Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Expressing satisfaction with the elaboration, in 1979, of a draft Agreement on the activities of States on the moon and other celestial bodies by the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Considering that the spectacular progress of space technology and the increased use of outer space require the elaboration, by means of agreement, of equitable, rational and clearly established legal regulations and of procedures which effectively ensure respect for them,

Convinced that it is the common interest of mankind to promote the peaceful use of outer space and to advance international co-operation in the space field for the benefit of all and with due respect for the security, integrity and sovereignty of all States,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the principles of space law and calls upon all States to respect these principles in the exploration, exploitation and use of space;

2. Invites the National Groups to take action within their respective parliaments so that the latter continue their efforts to study and elaborate legal standards permitting the peaceful use of space, in harmony with the aims and principles contained in the treaties negotiated within the framework of the United Nations, for the benefit of all peoples of the world;

3. Welcomes the adoption in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space of a draft Agreement governing the activities of States on the moon and other celestial bodies, and expresses the wish that this draft be considered and adopted by the UN General Assembly at its next session, so that Parliaments and Governments may be in a position to expedite the signing and ratification of this Agreement;

4. Calls on Parliaments to use their influence with their respective Governments so that they participate actively in the work of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to enable it, with a view to elaborating norms and principles leading to the conclusion of international agreements, to:

(*a*) Complete its efforts to elaborate draft principles governing the use by States of artificial earth satellites for direct television broadcasting, based upon appropriate agreements and/or arrangements between the broadcasting and receiving States (or broadcasting entities duly authorized by the respective States);

(*b*) Complete its efforts to elaborate draft principles relating to the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space, taking account of the principle of permanent sovereignty of each country over its natural resources, so that all States have non-discriminatory access to data acquired by remote sensing satellites, without adversely affecting the interests of the countries observed—interests that should be considered preferential—and ensuring the necessary support to the developing countries which do not possess the required means in the processing of such data;

(*c*) Contribute to the eventual elaboration of necessary legal measures relating to the use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(*d*) Seek to delimit precisely the point at which outer space begins;

(*e*) Regulate the use of the geostationary orbit, taking into account the interests of all countries, particularly the equatorial countries;

5. Supports the efforts made by the entire international community to promote international co-operation in the peaceful use of outer space, and urges Parliaments and Governments to expedite the negotiations now under way at the United Nations on outer space questions with a view to elaborating norms in conformity with the fundamental principles of inter-State relations, and procedures which effectively ensure respect for them;

6. Urges Parliaments and Governments to devote the necessary attention to the need for the widest possible application of the present international treaties adopted within the framework of the United Nations in the field of space law, and calls on all States which have not yet become parties to those treaties to ratify them or accede to them.

ANNEX E

Adopted Resolutions of the Council

International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development

The Inter-Parliamentary Council:

Having studied the report of the Secretary General on the results of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, co-sponsored by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), which was held in Colombo from 28 August to 1 September 1979,

Considering that, in its Final Declaration, the Conference requested the Inter-Parliamentary Union to give particular attention to the problems of population and development, and to undertake and support all appropriate action in this field,

Considering that the action contemplated includes, in particular, the organization of regional and sub-regional inter-parliamentary meetings,

1. Thanks the National Group of Sri Lanka for its generous hospitality;
2. Takes note with satisfaction of the results of the Conference;
3. Considers that the Inter-Parliamentary Union should give active assistance to the implementation of the objectives defined by the Conference;
4. Recommends to the National Groups:

(*a*) To support, in the context of their Parliaments and Governments, the recommendations of the Final Declaration;

(*b*) To support the national and regional programmes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;

(*c*) To follow all population problems with particular attention;

(*d*) To encourage all initiatives for the study of population problems in the appropriate bodies of their Parliaments;

5. Requests the Economic and Social Committee to consider the inclusion in its agenda of the topic "Population and development" for debate at a future Inter-Parliamentary Conference;
6. Requests the Secretary General to study with the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities the ways and means of continuing the co-operation undertaken in this field and to report to the Counicl at its next session.

The Human Rights Situation in Latin America, Particularly in Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua and Uruguay

The Inter-Parliamentary Council:

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the situation of human rights in Latin America, particularly in Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua and Uruguay, established by the Council at its 124th session in April 1979 and which met at Geneva from 10 to 13 July 1979,

1. Takes note of Chapter I of the report, entitled "The human rights situation in Latin America", in which the general situation with regard to human rights is examined;
2. Approves Chapters II, III and V of the report on the situation in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, and *endorses* the recomendations contained in those chapters;

3. Expresses particular concern about the fate of missing persons in Argentina in the light of the promulgation of Law No. 22088 of 12 September 1979, which enables the authorities to declare that such persons are presumed dead;

4. Takes note of Chapter IV of the report on the situation in Nicaragua, as well as of the changes which have occurred in that country since the report was prepared; views with profound satisfaction the end of the dictatorial regime, salutes the people of Nicaragua at the beginning of their process of democratization and hopes to be able to count on the presence in its midst, at an early date, of parliamentarians elected at free elections expressing the will of the people of Nicaragua;

5. Recommends to the National Groups:

(*a*) To ensure the widest possible distribution of the report of the Special Committee and in particular to bring this document to the attention of their respective Parliaments and Governments so that they may take appropriate action and make its contents known to public opinion;

(*b*) To request their Governments to refrain from granting military or financial assistance to the Governments of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, without prejudice to the humanitarian assistance given to the people of those countries;

(*c*) To do all in their power to ensure that their respective States accede, if they have not already done so, as soon as possible and without reservations to the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol; to ensure that possible reservations are removed; and to promote, as soon as possible, domestic legislation permitting the implementation of these instruments;

(*d*) To sponsor exiled Latin American parliamentarians in order to ensure their return to their countries;

(*e*) To inform the Secretary General regularly of the measures taken and the results achieved;

6. Requests the Secretary General to transmit the report of the Special Committee and this resolution of the Council to the authorities of the countries concerned and to all competent organizations;

7. Requests the Special Committee to continue its work and to report on the human rights situation in Chile, Argentina and Uruguay to the forthcoming session of the Council to be held at Oslo in April 1980.

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