

No:22/1981

June 30, 1981

## MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN LUXEMBOURG

The European heads of state and government gathered in Luxembourg on June 29-30, 1981 as a European Council discussed the overall political situation and paid attention in particular to Afghanistan, the Middle East, Lebanon, Cambodia and Namibia. They issued a separate formal declaration on Afghanistan.

### EUROPEAN COUNCIL DECLARATION ON AFGHANISTAN

-----

1. The European Council notes with deep concern that the situation in Afghanistan remains an important cause of international tension, that Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan and that the sufferings of the Afghan people continue to increase.
2. The European Council recalls its earlier statements, notably those issued at Venice on June 13, 1980, and Maastricht on March 24, 1981, which stressed the urgent need to bring about a solution which would enable Afghanistan to return to its traditional independent and non-aligned status free from external interference and with the Afghan people having the full capacity to exercise their right to self-determination. In keeping with the resolutions voted by the United Nations, the Islamic Conference and the New Delhi Conference of the non-aligned movement, the European Council has made it clear on several occasions that it will support any initiative which could lead to the desired result.
3. The European Council considers that the time has come for a fresh attempt to open the way to a political solution to the problem of Afghanistan. They therefore propose that an international conference should be convened as soon as possible, for example in October or November 1981, and that the conference should consist of two stages, each stage being an integral part of the conference.

4. The purpose of stage one would be to work out international arrangements designed to bring about the cessation of external intervention and the establishment of safeguards to prevent such intervention in the future and thus to create conditions in which Afghanistan's independence and non-alignment can be assured.
5. The European Council proposes that in due course the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, Pakistan, Iran and India and the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference, or their representatives, be invited to participate in stage one of the conference.
6. The purpose of stage two would be to reach agreement on the implementation of the international arrangements worked out in stage one and on all other matters designed to assure Afghanistan's future as an independent and non-aligned state.
7. Stage two would be attended by the participants in stage one together with representatives of the Afghan people.
8. The member states of the European Community will be ready at a later stage to make further proposals on the detailed arrangements for the proposed conference.
9. The European Council firmly believes that the situation in Afghanistan continues to demand the attention of the international community. It is convinced that this proposal offers a constructive way forward and therefore calls on the international community to support it fully with the aim of reducing international tension and ending human suffering in Afghanistan.

#### Lebanon

-----

Recalling its earlier statements concerning Lebanon, the European Council noted with interest the results of the work of the Arab Quadripartite Committee. The Council earnestly hoped that positive results would be obtained at the committee's next meeting in Beit-Ed-Dine, so as to achieve a genuine national reconciliation, which can give Lebanon internal security and foster its stability in peace with its neighbors.

#### Middle East

-----

The European Council noted the report of the presidency as well as Mr. Van Der Klaauw's oral comments on his contacts with the parties concerned with the Middle East conflict.

It concluded that the efforts undertaken by the ten to promote the conclusion of a peaceful settlement should be continued energetically and without respite, taking account of the results of the missions decided upon in Venice.

Accordingly, the European Council decided on the basis of the results of the mission just completed by the president-in-office, to instruct ministers to elaborate further the practical possibilities available to Europe to make an effective contribution towards a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East, through internal reflection, appropriate contacts being maintained with all parties concerned, including the United States.

As regards the attack by the Israeli Air Force on the Iraqi nuclear plant on June 7, 1981 the European Council can only endorse the resolution adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council.

#### Cambodia

-----

The European Council recalls the position it has adopted in favor of an independent and neutral Cambodia with a genuinely representative government, free from any foreign military presence and maintaining friendly relations with all the countries of the region.

Convinced that a genuine solution to the problem of Cambodia will be possible only on the basis of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/6, the ten declare their readiness to contribute to the success of the international conference on Cambodia called by the UN Secretary-General. The European Council noted the future presidency's intention to be represented there by its foreign minister.

#### Namibia

-----

The European Council discussed the question of Namibia. It reaffirmed its resolve to do what lies in its power to promote an early peaceful settlement through negotiations on the basis of resolution 435 of the UN Security Council. In this context, it continues to encourage the efforts of the group of 5 Western powers.

---

