



## ***EC View on World Issues Outlined to General Assembly***

### ***O'Kennedy Refers to P.L.O.***

In a major speech on behalf of the nine member states of the European Community, the Foreign Minister of the Irish Republic, Mr. Michael O'Kennedy, outlined to the General Assembly of the United Nations EC positions on a series of important world issues.

Mr. O'Kennedy gave detailed statements of EC policy on

- \* the Mid East
- southern Africa
- Salt 2
- Cambodia.

He was speaking as President of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Nine.

On the Mid East, and a possible role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Mr. O'Kennedy said.

"The Nine continue to hope that it will be possible to achieve in the Middle East the just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to which this Assembly is overwhelmingly committed. They believe that such a settlement must be based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, applied in all their parts and on all fronts. It must also be based on the principles set out by the Nine in their statements on 29th June 1977 and on several occasions subsequently.

"These principles are as follows:

1. the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;
2. the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967;
3. respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries;
4. recognition that in the establishment of a just and lasting peace account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

### ***Palestinian Rights***

"The Nine emphasise that it is essential that all parties to the negotiation of a settlement accept the right of all states in the area to live within secure and recognised boundaries with adequate guarantees. Equally, of course, it is essential that there be respect for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. These include the right to a homeland and the right, through its representatives, to play its full part in the negotiation of a comprehensive settlement.



*Michael O'Kennedy, President of the EC Council of Foreign Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Irish Republic: a major speech at the U.N.*

"Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, together with the principles I have mentioned, taken as a whole, set the essential framework for a peace settlement. In the view of the Nine it is necessary that they be accepted by all those involved—including the Palestine Liberation Organisation—as the basis for negotiation of a comprehensive settlement in which all the parties will play their full part.

"Such a settlement would win the endorsement and support of the international community; and it would meet the legitimate rights and interests of all parties. This includes Israel, which is entitled to exist at peace within secure boundaries, accepted and adequately guaranteed, and the Palestinian people, who are entitled, within the framework set by a peace settlement, to exercise their right to determine their own future as a people.

"The Nine recognise of course that such a settlement is not easy to achieve. But they believe it must be the continuing aim of the international community to promote it. They are convinced that such a comprehensive settlement would bring peace at last to the region; and they recall that they have already expressed their readiness to consider participating in guarantees in the framework of the United Nations.

"The past year has seen some major developments to which the Nine, in view of their close connections with the region, are particularly sensitive. One of these was the signature last March of agreements between Egypt and Israel. In their declaration of 26th March last, the Nine stated their position on these agreements.

"Since the signature of these agreements, which the Nine see as a correct application of the principles of Resolution 242 as far as Egyptian-Israeli relations are concerned, there has been progress towards improved relations between Egypt and Israel, and there have been withdrawals of Israeli forces in the Sinai.

"The Nine note these recent developments and recall that one of the basic requirements of a comprehensive settlement is an end to the territorial occupation which Israel has maintained since the conflict of 1967. The Nine will continue to follow the situation closely and will seek in every way they can to advance the aim of a comprehensive and lasting peace settlement involving all parties and meeting all of the fundamental issues I have mentioned," said Mr. O'Kennedy.

**Settlements Closed**

He went on. "It follows that the Nine must view with the greatest regret any action or statement which aggravates the present situation or places an obstacle in the way of a peace settlement. Accordingly, they strongly deplore continued acts of violence by any of those involved.

"The Nine are opposed to the Israeli Government's policy of establishing settlements in occupied territories in contravention of international law; and they cannot accept claims by Israel to sovereignty over occupied territories, since this would be incompatible with Resolution 242.

"The security of Israel, which the Nine consider essential, can be guaranteed, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians given effect, within the framework of a comprehensive settlement.

"The Nine are fully aware, too, of the importance of the question of Jerusalem to all parties. They know that an acceptable solution to this problem will be vital to an overall settlement on the basis I have indicated.

"They consider, in particular, that any agreement on the future status of Jerusalem should guarantee free access by all to the Holy Places; and they do not

accept any unilateral moves which claim to change the status of the city.

**Lebanon Problem**

"The problem of the Lebanon is clearly related to the larger problem of the Middle East as a whole. The Nine have frequently reaffirmed their support for its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. They did so most recently in a statement issued by the Nine Foreign Ministers at their meeting in Dublin on 11 September. This statement also recognised the courageous efforts made by the Lebanese Government to promote the security of its people and the restoration of its authority over the whole of its territory.

"Violence has nevertheless continued in several parts of Lebanon. The Nine recognise that there has been some improvement in the situation particularly in the south of the country since the recent meeting of the Security Council requested by the Government of the Lebanon.

"They are concerned however about the constant harassment of UNIFIL -- which certain members of the Nine for part, and about the difficulties which have been placed in its way as it attempts to fulfill its mandate. They are particularly disturbed about the military and financial aid provided from outside Lebanon to those who have made it difficult for the United Nations force to carry out its mandate. They call on all parties to give full support to UNIFIL and to respect the decisions of the Security Council," he said.

**Concern on Africa**

Dealing with Africa, Mr. O'Kennedy said that the EC was concerned about the situation there.

"The oppressive apartheid system in South Africa is of particular concern," he said.

"The Nine condemn and reject this system of institutionalised racism, which is an insult to human dignity and which denies to the majority of the people the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. They reaffirm that the purported independence of "homelands" such as Transkei, Bophutatswana and Venda is a false solution to the problems of apartheid.

"The Nine have repeatedly stated their belief that a peaceful future South Africa necessitates the creation of a society which permits the full participation of all the inhabitants of South Africa in the political, social and economic life of their country.

"They believe that change in South Africa is as inevitable as it is essential.

"The Nine note and welcome the internal debate on this subject within South Africa, and they hope that this debate may lead to concrete and positive results. The Nine have sought to encourage this process of change in a number of ways, including the adoption of a Code of Conduct for subsidiaries of companies doing business in South Africa.

"They will continue their efforts to promote the process of peaceful change in order to bring about the ending of the system of apartheid and the establishment of a society with freedom and justice for all. They reaffirm their commitment to use the collective weight of the European Community to influence South Africa to this end.

"On Namibia, one cannot help but feel disappointed at the very slow progress in resolving the remaining difficulties in the way of a peaceful settlement. The Nine have supported the efforts made by the Secretary General, the Five Western States and the Front Line States to implement the plan adopted by the United Nations and they have rejected unreservedly all efforts to impose an 'internal settlement' in Namibia. Such a settlement would not gain international recognition and would merely delay the day when the people of Namibia achieve genuine self-determination.

"The Nine in their statement on Rhodesia of 11 September welcomed the understanding reached by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Lusaka and the action of the UK Government in inviting the parties to attend the Constitutional Conference in London. They trust that this will make possible a solution to the conflict on the basis of genuine majority rule."

### **Urgency on Cambodia**

Turning to South East Asia, Mr. O'Kennedy said that the Nine were gravely concerned about the situation in Cambodia. It was a matter of the utmost urgency that effective humanitarian relief be given to the people of that country.

"We are ready," he said "to support in appropriate ways relief efforts which are already under way, or which may be launched in the future. If such relief efforts are to be effective and to benefit the Cambodian population, they should be properly supervised, independently administered, and directed to help all those in need.

"A resolution of the political problem of Cambodia is essential to the peace

and stability of South-East Asia as a whole. Any such solution must in our view be based on an independent Cambodia with a genuinely representative Government, free from any foreign military presence, maintaining friendly relations with all the countries of the region, and having the benefit of international assistance for reconstruction."

### **SALT 2**

Also in his speech, Mr. O'Kennedy expressed the support of the European Community for the process of disarmament.

He said: "We welcome the signature at Vienna by President Carter and President Brezhnev of the recent agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on the limitation of strategic arms. We strongly hope that this will give a new impetus to the detente process and make a positive contribution to the atmosphere in which international disarmament negotiations are pursued.

"We look forward to the early entry into force of the agreement and the prospects for further reductions of nuclear weapons afforded by the continuation of the SALT process between these countries."

## **Emergency Aid Granted by EC**

### **Hurricane David**

The EC has decided to provide emergency aid to countries devastated by the hurricane "David" in the West Indies. Distinct provision has been made for three different categories of countries: the French territories overseas, the ACP states, and thirdly, countries which belong to neither of these groups, such as the Dominican Republic, or some of the British overseas territories.

To the French territories overseas, one million units of account is being allocated. Because it applies to an EC country, other Community instruments will be able to be utilised for necessary investments to restore damage. Commissioner Gundelach has been placed in charge of co-ordination to see that Community instruments can be used accordingly.

To the ACP states, under the provisions of the Lomé convention in regard to emergency aid, 300,000 units of account are being allocated to Dominica. Other surrounding countries may benefit from aids of the same type. Furthermore, other aspects of the Lomé Convention

may be applied, such as Stabex, to compensate for the loss of exportation of bananas.

Finally to other countries, a total of one million units of account is being provided for relief.

**Indochina**

The European Community has given extensive commitments of emergency aid to refugees in Indochina.

Among its undertakings are:

to provide 20,000 tonnes of rice (besides the 8,000 tonnes approved earlier by the EC in July), and covering up to 50% of the needs to February 1980 of the refugees in South East Asia;

to provide 1,500 tonnes of vitaminised milk powder (besides the 1,500 tonnes approved in July);

to provide \$16 million for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees general programme for refugees in the area;

to allocate 2,700 tonnes of rice to Cambodian refugees in Vietnam through the UNHCR;

to provide provisional credit of some \$6 million for Cambodian refugees which will be channeled through international organisations.

The EC is the second biggest contributor to the United Nations refugee programme, after the United States.

Speaking for the Community, Michael O'Kennedy, Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs, and President-in-Office of the EC Council of Ministers said that the EC and its Member States had given practical evidence of their concern about the refugee problem in South East Asia.

He said he hoped that other countries which had not yet responded to appeals for help would do so, so the burden could be more fairly shared. Minister O'Kennedy particularly appealed to the countries from which the exodus was taking place to meet "their particular responsibilities", so as to help avoid great human suffering.

**Nicaragua**

An emergency aid programme for Nicaragua after its civil war has also been approved by the EC

This will provide the Nicaraguan government with 5,000 tonnes of cereals and 500 tonnes of skimmed powder milk, including air and sea transport costs for 70 tonnes of powder milk.

Also, two million units of account will be provided for the purchase of food on

the local market (beans, baby food, and vegetable fat).

The total of this food aid is worth \$4 million—or three million units of account.

The Commission also decided to send a trade mission to Nicaragua during September, together with a planning mission, with a view to providing two to three million units of account in technical and financial assistance for the work of building up the country's economy again.

In addition, in July the Commission decided to provide 1,650 tonnes of cereal and 100 tonnes of powder milk, as well as 200,000 units of account for provisions and medical supplies, in order to meet Nicaragua's immediate needs. With the latest additions to this, the EC's aid amounts to \$9 million since July.

**EC Report  
Considers Energy  
Saving**

A report recently published by the European Commission examines the critical question of how to achieve rapid growth while using less energy; in other words, how to break the chain linking growth, with energy.

The report is called: "In favour of an Energy-Efficient Society". It has been prepared by a group of experts led by a Frenchman, Jean Saint-Geours, and it was requested by the European Commission in the winter of 1977-78 when it became clear a long term policy for the more efficient use of energy was urgently required.

The report warns that unless more research and development is begun into energy-saving technologies, Europe will fall behind the United States and Japan. The development of less petrol-hungry cars is one concern; the experts also suggest that minimum technical standards be agreed on for heaters and household electrical goods.

Various technical measures, it is asserted, could cut energy consumption by one third. These measures could include replacing petrol with diesel engines, lighter and more stream-lined vehicles, and electronic fuel and engine control systems.

In the longer term, by the year 2010, fuel consumption could be cut by half through the development of new types of  
(continued on back panel)



*The 34th session of the UN General Assembly opens in New York. It is to be asked to approve preparations for a new series of negotiations on world development issues.*

## **Proposal for Negotiations on Development Issues**

### **Key EC Role Likely**

The Committee of the Whole, representing all 151 countries at the United Nations, has decided to ask the General Assembly's approval for preparations to begin for a series of global international negotiations on world development issues.

This resulted from the meeting of the Committee in early September in New York.

It is thought these negotiations could get under way by the end of next year or early 1981. The European Community is likely to be the chief interlocutor with the Group of 77 developing countries.

It was the Group of 77 which proposed the negotiations, to cover issues involving raw materials, energy, trade development, money, and finance.

At the Committee of the Whole meeting (COW), the European Community's general position on international development and the North/South dialogue was put by the Irish Ambassador to the U.N., Mr Paul Keating, representing the Presidency.

Mr. Keating said that the EC's view was that urgent and substantial help should be provided by developed countries to others struggling directly with problems of poverty and underdevelopment. If it was to be successful, this help should be regardless of economic and social systems.

He said: "While the Community unhesitatingly accepts the need to assist the developing countries in all appropriate ways, it also believes that such assistance can prove to be most effective in an expanding world economy.

"We believe therefore that not only the provision of assistance, but the crea-

tion of the conditions necessary for the fostering of global growth should be among the principal objectives of the continuing North/South dialogue".

As outlined at the Committee of the Whole by Ambassador Keating, the European Community's view is that industrialisation will be a key factor in the advancement of the economies of the developing world as it has been in the economies of the developed world.

"Responsibility for the industrial development of the developing countries", he said, "must rest primarily with these countries themselves. It is for them exercising their sovereign rights and in accordance with their national aims and objectives, to decide on the policy measures they wish to adopt for the achievement of rapid industrialisation, as well as on the balance to be established internally between industrial and agricultural development.

"At the same time, it is recognised that to achieve rapid industrial growth the efforts of the developing countries will need to be strongly supported and supplemented by the whole international community. The developed countries have a major role to play in this regard.

"The European Community and its member states fully accept this role, and are, we believe, acting accordingly. The Community has pursued a policy of industrial co-operation with developing countries through the Lomé Convention and other co-operation agreements, by the provision of both financial and technical assistance", Ambassador Keating told the conference.

### **Problems of Underdeveloped Nations**

He said that nowhere had the problems currently besetting the world economy been felt so acutely as in the developing countries, and particularly in the least developed among them.

"Slower global economic growth has seriously reduced their development

possibilities, limited their export markets and thus reduced their foreign earnings potential, precisely at a time when they are most in need of an increase in such earnings. The net result has been that many developing countries are now faced with serious external payments problems and mounting debt burdens.

"Although the problems facing all developing countries are severe, the difficulties facing the least developed among them are the most serious of all and their fragile economies are particularly vulnerable to adverse changes in the world economy. Such changes can seriously hinder their growth potential and result in their stagnating in poverty. Their plight, therefore, calls for urgent attention. For this reason, the European Community and its Member States were happy to participate in the adoption at UNCTAD V in Manila of a comprehensive new Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries," he said.

**EC Report Considers Energy Saving Cont.**

engines such as the gas turbine. Prospects for electrical vehicles are difficult to predict as they depend on major technical breakthroughs.

In general the report says that there is considerable room for improvement in the pattern of energy use within the nine member states of the European Community. Savings of between 15% and 50% are possible, it says, depending on the sector involved.

It points out that the EC is in a vulnerable position, given its high dependence on oil imports. While it must save energy, and cut back, it must also, paradoxically, grow economically at about 4% a year. The only way to ensure that such a high growth rate could lead to accelerated energy savings is for a far more vigorous policy for energy efficiency to be implemented than has been considered so far



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