

European Community

News Release

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND THE CRISIS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Statement of April 14, 1986,
of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs
of the Twelve Member States of the European Community

1. The Twelve are gravely concerned by the increased tension in the Mediterranean created by the recent acts of terrorism. They met today to concert common action against this scourge.
2. They consider that states clearly implicated in supporting terrorism should be induced to renounce such support and to respect the rules of international law. They call upon Libya to act accordingly.
3. The Twelve are convinced that terrorist attacks do not serve whatever political cause the perpetrators claim to be furthering. Outrages like the ones recently perpetrated on the TWA aircraft and in a discotheque in Berlin can never be justified. The Twelve vigorously condemn these outrages, deeply deplore the loss of innocent life involved and express their sympathy with the victims and their families.
4. They also reject the unacceptable threats made by Libyan leaders against Member States which deliberately encourage recourse to acts of violence and directly threaten Europe. Any action of this sort will meet with a vigorous and appropriate response on the part of the Twelve.
5. The Twelve have decided to act according to the following lines regarding Libya and, where necessary, regarding other states clearly implicated in supporting terrorism.

- Restrictions on the freedom of movement of diplomatic and consular personnel
 - Reduction of the staff of diplomatic and consular missions
 - Stricter visa requirement and procedures.
6. In conformity with their declaration of 27 January, 1986* they reaffirm that no arms or other military equipment will be exported to Libya. They will continue to do everything within their power in order to ensure that their nationals and industry do not seek any commercial advantage from measures in reaction to terrorist attacks and other terrorist activities. They reserve the right to consider whether further measures may need to be taken. No country which lends support to terrorism can expect to maintain normal relations with them.
 7. They have instructed the experts concerned immediately to identify appropriate measures to be taken by the Twelve, in particular, security measures, the application of international conventions on diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities and the safety of civil aviation. The experts' report will be considered at the ministerial meeting to be held next week.
 8. The Twelve are increasing their cooperation with other states in the field of intelligence, the improvement of security measures and generally, to prevent acts of terrorism.
 9. In order to contribute to eliminating international terrorism, the Twelve will use their joint influence in contacts with Libya and, where necessary, with other states concerned.
 10. They have decided to inform the Arab states and the League of Arab states about their conclusions and to invite them to analyse jointly and urgently the issue of international terrorism.
 11. Finally and in order to enable the achievement of a political solution, avoiding further escalation of military tension in the region with all the inherent dangers, the Twelve underline the need for restraint on all sides.

* See European Community News Release February 5, 1986

For additional information, please contact Mr. Finn Olesen, Head, Press and Information Service, at (613) 238-6464