



GROUP OF FIFTEEN
The Summit Level of Developing Countries

**FIFTH MEETING OF THE
MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GROUP OF FIFTEEN**

Dakar, 19 November 1992

SUMMARY RECORDS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Meeting was Chaired by H. E. Mr. Djibo Laïty Ka, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Senegal. A list of delegates to the Meeting appears as **Annex A**.

The Chairman welcomed his colleagues and all other delegates to the Meeting and thanked them, on behalf of H. E. President Abdou Diouf and the Government of Senegal, for their attendance at the Third Summit Meeting of the Group of Fifteen in Dakar.

Re-iterating the objectives and purposes of the G-15, the Chairman pointed out that the Group was committed to the resolution of the socio-economic problems affecting all developing countries and, in this regard, emphasized the successful implementation of on-going projects and the proposals for new ones. The full text of the Chairman's statement appears as **Annex B**.

H. E. the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of India, responding to the Chairman's opening statement, thanked the Government of Senegal for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Summit Meeting and agreed that the number of member countries present in Dakar was encouraging. H. E. the Minister noted that the backlog of initial contributions had now been reduced although it was important for all member countries to pay their dues regularly, and it was suggested that a special fund should be established for expenses related to G-15 activities.

Re-iterating the deep commitment attached by India to the Group, H. E. the Minister assured those present that his country as the next Chairman would continue the commendable work done by Senegal as present Chairman of G-15.

The Draft Provisional Agenda for this Meeting was adopted as presented and appears as **Annex C**.

- Item 1. Review of progress of on-going re-Summit Meetings, including:**
- **Logistical arrangements.**
 - **Summit Agenda.**
 - **Draft Joint Communiqué**

The Chairman presented a brief review of the logistical arrangements made for all aspects of the Summit, referring to a detailed programme which was to be made available to delegations of all member countries following the Meeting. At the request of some of those present it

was agreed that the closed Summit sessions, apart from those during the Retreat, would be attended by the Heads of State/Government and four others.

A Foreign Ministers Meeting could be scheduled for the morning of 22 November should there be a necessity for further negotiations on the Draft Joint Communiqué.

Summit Agenda

The Provisional Draft Summit Agenda, as formulated by the Personal Representatives of Heads of State/Government at their Meeting in New York, was reviewed and adopted with amendments. This document appears as **Annex D**.

The Chairman informed the Meeting of Senegal's suggestion for the publishing of a Dakar Declaration—a short and focused document which was considered by the Personal Representatives at their earlier meeting—stating the philosophy of the Group in light of present changes taking place in the world.

The Meeting, while appreciating the work that had been carried out in the preparation of this document, agreed that it may be more prudent to produce a single Joint Communiqué at the end of the Summit Meeting and that Senegal would have the option of producing a short, concise summary of the Communiqué itself and the outcome of the Third Summit Meeting.

Draft Joint Communiqué

The Meeting commended the excellent preparatory work carried out to produce the document as it appeared in its present form and, after having made a few amendments to the draft, agreed that they could meet once again to review the document if necessary.

Other matters

Request for Observer Status

The Chairman informed the Meeting that three countries namely Italy, the United States of America and Switzerland had requested observer status at G-15 Summits. Recognizing that the Group is still in the process of consolidating its position, the Meeting agreed that, all things considered, the admission of observers would create more problems than not. The Chairman agreed to inform the three countries concerned of the G-15 decision on this matter and explaining to them the reasons underlying it.

Referring to the decision taken at Guri, Venezuela, during the last Summit, the Meeting noted that observers at Head of State level could be invited, on specified occasions, to G-15 Summits.

Expansion of the Group

H. E. Ambassador Horacio Arteaga of Venezuela made a brief presentation on the steps taken by H. E. President Perez in keeping with the mandate given him at the last Summit Meeting to approach China and Iran with a view to ascertaining their interest in joining the Group of Fifteen. H. E. Ambassador Arteaga referred to the positive reply received from Iran and to a letter received from China requesting more time for a deeper appraisal of this offer.

While appreciating the efforts made by Venezuela, the Meeting expressed the view that in light of the evolving international situation and the objective of enhancing the role and stability of the Group, it would be more prudent not to adopt a piece-meal approach to this issue.

H. E. the Foreign Minister of Malaysia informed the Meeting that contact had been made with the Government of Chile which had also expressed an interest in joining the Group.

It was pointed out that the original idea of enlargement of the Group was based on the need to correct the imbalance in terms of regional representation, Asia being at present under-represented in the Group.

The Meeting agreed that this issue would be discussed by the Summit.

Item 2. Contribution and Financial Status of the TSF as of 1 November 1992

The Chairman provided a comprehensive briefing on the outcome of the Streetin gCommittee Meeting held earlier and highlighted the conclusions reached.

Contributions

The status of the contributions as of 19 November 1992 was detailed, a document pertaining to which appears as **Annex E**. It was agreed that the initial sum of US\$ 200,000 should be paid by all member countries and that a sum of US\$ 75,000 each would be paid toward the operational expenditures of the TSF for 1993. Additional voluntary contributions from member countries were welcome. In this regard, the Meeting noted with appreciation the second payment by Malaysia of US\$ 200,000. A pledge by Indonesia to pay the shared contribution of US\$ 75,000 for 1993 and a voluntary contribution of US\$ 125,000 was also welcomed.

Technical Support Facility

The Meeting was informed that the TSF, from the beginning of 1993, would have to establish an independent status vis-à-vis the Swiss Government and that the status of the South Center would be determined along the lines of a non-governmental organization. It was agreed that, recognizing the advantages of doing so, the TSF should continue to be located in Geneva for at least the next two years. India, as the next coordinator for the Group, was requested to make contacts with the Swiss Government for this purpose and to regularize the continued status of the TSF as an intergovernmental organization. Senegal informed the Meeting that the requirements of the G-15 in this regard had been conveyed to the relevant Swiss authorities. It was decided that the issue of re-location of the TSF could be taken up at a future date.

It was agreed that while it would not be possible to employ a Coordinator for the TSF at present, a junior level officer could be contracted on a flexible basis when and if required. It was also agreed that longer term contracts of two years duration should be issued to the present staff members of the TSF.

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the Prime minister of Yugoslavia had, by way of a letter dated 16 November 1992, expressed that, due to the present political situation in his country, Yugoslavia regretted not being able to be represented at the Dakar Summit.
