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TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT ON THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA, DATO' SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TO THE STATE OF BAHRAIN, 27TH FEBRUARY - 1ST MARCH, 1982

At the invitation of His Excellency Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al-Khalifa, the Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain, The RT. Honourable Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, paid an official visit to the State of Bahrain from 27th February to 1st March 1982. The RT. Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia who was accompanied by an official delegation including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Tan Sri M. Ghazali Shafie, was warmly welcomed by H.E. Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain at an airport ceremony, expressive of the close and growing brotherly relations and cultural and spiritual ties binding the peoples of the two countries.

In the course of the visit, the RT. Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia was received in audience by His Highness Shaikh Isa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, The Amir of the State of Bahrain, to whom he conveyed warm greetings and sincere best wishes of His Majesty The Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia. The Prime Minister of Malaysia, on behalf of The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, extend a cordial invitation to His Highness The Amir to pay a State visit to Malaysia. His Highness in accepting the invitation expressed his appreciation and esteem to His Majesty The Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia and lauded the firm fraternal bonds and close relations between the two peoples. His Highness requested the RT. Honourable Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad to convey his sincere greetings and good wishes to His Majesty.

In an atmosphere of fraternity and understanding both Prime Ministers, together with Members of delegation, held discussion on a wide range of bilateral matters and exchange views of Regional and International issues of mutual concern. The two Prime Ministers of Malaysia and Bahrain identified several areas where existing cooperation could be strengthened in all practical ways, be it in Trade, Investments or in the fields of religion, culture and education. Both the Prime Ministers agreed to consolidate such cooperation by taking definite steps in that direction, including more frequent exchange of visits and contact at both the official and business levels.

They also expressed confidence that both Governments are keen to promote greater Economic cooperation including

investments in the manufacturing sector through joint-venture projects, either by direct equity participation or by identifying suitable joint-venture partners for such projects. Both sides also agreed on the need to further develop trade relations and in this regard, they welcomed more exchanged of Trade Missions between the two countries.

In the field of culture and education, both sides expressed the desire to see more frequent exchange of teachers and youths between the two countries and agreed to make necessary arrangements whereby training and educational facilities in areas of mutual interests are made available to their respective nationals. In this connection, they also agreed to take more vigorous steps to realise the objectives of the Scientific and Cultural Cooperation Agreement signed by the two countries in January 1975.

During the visit, expressive of their earnest desire to augment existing fraternal ties of friendship between the two countries, both the Prime Ministers agreed that a joint Committee be formed to intensify cooperation between the two countries in all fields. It was also agreed that the joint committee will meet at least once a year and will also immediately follow-up on the visit of the RT. Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia to the State of Bahrain.

In reviewing the situation in West Asia, both the Prime Ministers, in expressing their grave concern over the increasing dangerous situation in West Asia arising out of the growing acts of Israeli aggression and expansionism, reiterated that there cannot be a just and durable peace in the Region without the exercise of the right of self-determination and national independence by the People of Palestine under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative, The Palestinian Liberation Organisation the total withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories and the unconditional return of the policy return of the Holy City of Jerusalem to Arab and Islamic sovereignty. Both the Prime Ministers also strongly condemned the recent Israeli annexation of Syrian Golan Heights and described the actions as blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and International Law, and called for the implementation of General Assembly resolution adopted on 5th February, 1982, at its Ninth Emergency Special Session. They also condemned the continued Israeli aggression against the Palestinian People in the occupied Palestinian territories and against the people of Lebanon.

In examining the general situation in Southeast Asia, both the Prime Ministers expressed their grave concern over the developments that have taken place in Indochina. In particular, they noted with concern that the situation in Kampuchea threatens the conflict would invite the Southeast Asian region as a prolongation of the conflict would invite the intervention of major powers. In this context, the Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain expressed full understanding and support for the position adopted

by Malaysia and its ASEAN partners calling for comprehensive political solution of the Kampuchean problem based on the United Nations Resolution No. 35/6 and the Declaration and Resolution of the International Conference on Kampuchea.

Both the Prime Ministers were of the view that a political solution of the Kampuchean problem on the above basis is vital for the realisation of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia which ensure peace and stability in the region free from outside interference.

As regards the situation in Afghanistan, both the Prime Ministers reaffirmed the various resolutions of the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement on the Soviet Military armed intervention in Afghanistan. They declared the solidarity of the Islamic and non-aligned world with the People of Afghanistan in their struggle to defend the faith and independence as well as to restore their right to choose their own destiny. Also, while reiterating their firm stand that conditions of peace cannot be restored in Afghanistan until and unless the Soviet forces are withdrawn, both the Prime Ministers expressed support for all efforts to seek ways and means for a comprehensive political solution to the Afghan crisis consistent with the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their grave concern over the continuing fratricidal conflict between Iraq and Iran. They reiterated their full support to the peace efforts of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to reach an early, just and durable solution of the conflict.

In examining the current world economic situation, both the Prime Ministers expressed deep concern and disappointment at the fact that little or no progress has been made in important areas of economic activity in the North-South dialogue. They, therefore, stressed the need for Islamic and other Third World countries to consolidate their efforts and pool their resources so as to safeguard their legitimate interests.

The Prime Ministers of Malaysia in welcoming the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council as a positive action to strengthening Socio-Economic Cooperation among its members, also stressed that the maintenance of peace and stability of the Gulf Region should be the exclusive responsibility of the Gulf States without foreign interference.

Both the Prime Ministers expressed great satisfaction that the organisation of Islamic conference was increasingly becoming a forum where all aspects of the problems of muslims and islamic countries were being discussed and resolved and renewed their full support for the further strengthening of the organisation of Islamic conference as a voice of Muslim conscience and solidarity.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia was deeply impressed by the remarkable progress and development achieved by the state of Bahrain under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir and his able government.

Both the Prime Minister, in expressing complete satisfaction at the positive result of the visit, also agreed to continue consultations and meetings at all levels, there by enhancing the prospects for greater cooperation between Malaysia and Bahrain. In this connection, the Prime Minister of Malaysia extended an invitation to His Excellency Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, The Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain to pay an official visit to Malaysia which was accepted with pleasure.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia expressed his profound gratitude to His Highness the Amir, the government and brotherly people of the State of Bahrain for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and Members of Delegation during his stay in the State of Bahrain.

KUALA LUMPUR,
14b Mac, 1982 (dikeluarkan pada pukul 6.00 petang)
SBM/csl