

the advantages and gains that have been accumulated, is equivalent to assuming the great responsibility of relegating millions of human beings who live in subhuman conditions to a situation that leaves them no alternatives. Such obstinacy and short-sightedness are nothing new, but are rather a part of the same panorama that has in the past preceded all social upheavals and all wars.

The new international economic order is based on the assumption that the powerful are essentially willing to renounce excess and surfeit for the sake of peace.

Together, as protagonists and spectators of history, we have all reached the moment for far-reaching decisions. It is absurd for immense financial resources to be lost in rearmament, destroyed by the waste of the consumer society, and eroded by inappropriate use of the patrimony of humanity.

The time has come to develop a rational project that defines the use of energy and natural resources as elements of social change that serve man, and sees the use of technological innovations and economic resources not as power serving the interests of the strongest, but as the result of the collective creation of all human beings.

This program can be carried out. Its historical viability cannot be impugned. Nevertheless, its implementation implies abandoning rhetoric and moralizing attitudes in order to find practical approaches and take definite steps.

Despite the delay tactics and obstinacy of the power centers, today we reiterate our willingness to aid in keeping the dialogue alive.

We have always believed in negotiation as a means of finding areas of understanding between different ideologies and conflicting interests, as well as in the possibility of devising mechanisms of cooperation that offer legitimate advantages to all peoples.

In Nairobi, the Third World once again proved, in spite of obstacles and a lack of comprehension, that it has a civilizing project based on moderation, strict historical objectivity, and an authentic spirit of conciliation.

We Third World countries must accompany our determined pursuit of joint and harmonious world efforts with immediate progress in our own coordinated and unified relations. Our political organization must be carried a step further, to a new stage of economic organization.

Next September, a meeting of the member nations of the Group of 77 will be held in Mexico, for the purpose of developing a program of cooperation among our countries. The fundamental obligation of all Third World governments today is to begin the task of organizational, analytical, and creative transformation.

Unless we establish solid, efficient, and modern states, we will not be able to combat internal distortions in our own societies. Unless we are willing to establish, among ourselves and for ourselves, definite instruments, devices, and mechanisms for achieving solidarity in technological, financial, industrial, and commercial matters we will make no progress toward our more ambitious goals of reforming the world order. . . .

The United Nations continues to be the best forum for bringing about the understanding among peoples that the changing conditions of international coexistence demand. . . .

There are two basic choices open to our organization: to see its role as that of a mere administrator of an antiquated system that has been outstripped by events and by the new composition of the majority of its members, or to recognize its obligation to change its ways. Only the second alternative can lead to peace. . . .

Exclusive

Wills' Speech at Algiers Meeting of Non-Aligned Steering Committee

June 4 (NSIPS) — The following speech by Fred Wills, Foreign Minister of Guyana, was delivered as the keynote to the meeting of the Steering Committee of the Group of 77 Non-Aligned Nations in Algiers on May 30, 1976. The Group of 77's Steering Committee may be considered the officially constituted leadership of the entire Third World.

I take it as a great honor to speak here in the magnificent city of Algiers, a city of historic and strategic significance dominating the communication systems that link the two greatest expanses of water on the globe. Above all, the city of Algiers has become symbolic in respect of the recent struggles of the disadvantaged majority of the globe for freedom and self-determination. We in the developing world are conscious of the debt we owe to your illustrious President

(Boumediene — ed.) for his leadership of our Movement and for the added vitality he has injected into the contemporary international system. It was on the initiative of President Boumediene that our Movement took the steps which led to the adoption by the international community of a blueprint for a new international economic order — a blueprint which we are confident will survive the temporary setback at Nairobi. When the long view of history settles on this period during which your great President led our Movement, it will immediately be seen as that which increased the solidarity and the effectiveness of the Movement.

This development is closely reflected in the ever-increasing threat to Non-alignment in Latin America. I am pleased at the great honor which has been bestowed on my

country and my people in asking me to respond to your address on behalf of the states of Latin America. We are the western part of the developing world, we are the test of the sincerity of the North American great power in its dealings with the developing world. It is in our area that the modern independence struggle was first waged. It is in our area that the crippling constraints of the Monroe Doctrine with its imperative of alignment has for over a century and a half thwarted the desire of our peoples to forge an effective instrument of solidarity with the disadvantaged majority of the world. This is why our Movement has suffered reverses in Chile and elsewhere. But Salvador Allende — long live his name — did not make the final sacrifice in vain. Among the peoples of Latin America there is a growing irreversible consensus for Non-alignment, for the pursuit of strategies of development under freely chosen systems consistent with their right of sovereignty. For it is to Non-alignment that these peoples must turn if they are to eradicate relationships of dependency and structures of imperial dominance which still characterizes their economies for such a long time after the struggles of the great Liberator, Simon Bolivar.

Mr. President, those of us in Latin America who have opted for Non-alignment have been exposed to dire consequences because of the exercise of that free option. *There is a concerted attempt to destabilize the Governments in non-aligned countries in Latin America (emphasis his)*. More particularly, in the Caribbean — Guyana, Jamaica and Barbados — have been subjected to the full fury of insidious techniques aimed at procuring their alignment. Deliberate and well orchestrated attacks in the media, the selective sale of arms and so-called defense services, the promotion of intra-regional conflicts, the fomenting of internal unrest, the manipulation of pliant surrogates — all these and more have threatened the uneasy peace in our hemisphere and retarded the economic development of its peoples. But the dogs of war have not yet been set loose, though some are straining at the leash. Still, Mr. President, we are resolved; we are determined; we will not be deflected from our chosen course; we will not surrender our Non-alignment, from whose solidarity we seek strength and commitment.

This meeting and the Summit at Colombo are taking place at a time when strategic superpower defense perceptions and the global military and political out-reach have combined to imperil the objectives of the Movement. The intransigence of those in privileged positions and the economic determinism based on dependency relations, have halted the arrival of the new international economic order. It is in our interest to

mark the progress of detente and the new relationships implicit in the results of the Helsinki conference. There is need to further strengthen our solidarity, reassert our aims in order that we might ward off attempts to dissuade and discourage us.

Here, Mr. President, in Algiers in 1973 it was determined that the Non-aligned Movement should, on economic issues, act as a catalytic force within the Group of 77. That function, I venture to state, we have discharged admirably and well. But on these economic issues we have had to contend with the divisive and obstructionist tactics by those short-sighted persons who see not that the development of the developing world is of vital interest to the developed world. The failure of the negotiations of UNCTAD IV in Nairobi, the inconclusive attempt at dialogue in Paris, the sustained effort to reimpose the vertical arrangements of imperialism, the conceptualization of new forms of *pactes coloniales* — all these are expressions of the same fundamental conflict situation, a conflict which exists between the institutional apparatus of the developed marketing economies and our own efforts to develop our societies free from the penetration of structures of dominance. Let us be on our guard to ensure that degrading classifications based on levels of poverty are not used to further divide us.

Mr. President, the central concern of our Movement has always been the preservation of independence and the right to unimpeded pursuit of political and economic policies of our own choice. We have sought in terms of the changing international system to secure this objective through avoidance of bloc entanglements and more positively through active support for political self-determination, the vigorous assertion of permanent sovereignty over natural resources, and individual and collective self-reliance.

In this context, we hail the victory of the heroic masses of Angola and re-dedicate ourselves to the continuing struggle of the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania against colonialism, racism and apartheid. Let us at the same time, Mr. President, keep steadily in mind the plight of our Palestinian brothers and those in Egypt, Jordan and Syria whose lands continue to be illegally occupied by Israel. Our commitment to their struggle remains unyielding, unrelenting and inexorable. Elsewhere — in Cyprus, in Belize — the principles we in this Movement hold so dear are under attack. We must stand firm. Mr. President, Latin America lies on the exposed flank of the developing world but this inherent danger does not diminish our resolve, does not inhibit our determination.