

From the summit communique

The following are excerpts taken from the joint communiqué signed by President López Portillo and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi after their recent summit talks. It was translated by EIR from the Spanish original appearing in the Mexico City press on Jan. 30, 1981.

The President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of India examined the present international situation and exchanged points of view on bilateral relations between Mexico and India. Both rulers said that the similarity of the levels of economic development in the two countries placed them in a very favorable position to play a new and healthy moderating role in the context of today's turbulent international relations.

They expressed their deep concern over the deterioration of the world situation, over the failure of détente, and the growing signs of the resurgence of the Cold War with the intensification of global rivalry between the superpowers. . . .

On reviewing the Latin American situation, the leaders expressed their concern over the tensions in some parts of the Central American region, and their hopes that the agitated situation in certain countries be resolved by the peoples involved, without any foreign interference.

In regard to the Middle East, they reiterated that only a complete settlement of the conflict, with the participation of all the affected parties, would make possible a just and lasting peace. This settlement must include Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, according to United Nations resolutions, total recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to form their own state or territory, and the right of all countries in the region to live in peace within secure, recognized, and guaranteed borders. . . .

With respect to Afghanistan, they offered their total support to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and nonaligned status of that country. They demanded the parties involved together seek a political settlement that secures for the Afghani people the right to decide their own destiny without foreign interference or intervention.

Both leaders stated their conviction that protecting security and stability in the Persian Gulf is clearly

the responsibility of the states of that region which they must exercise free from all foreign interference. At the same time, they exhorted the interested parties to be careful not to provoke any increase in foreign influences and to seek peaceful solutions through negotiations.

The President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of India observed with deep concern the grave crisis facing the world economy. . . . The alarming recession of world economic activity and the persistence of high inflation rates highlight the urgent need to carry out structural changes in the present international economic system that would guarantee the effective implementation of the new international economic order. They also stressed the need for a massive transfer of resources toward developing countries, especially toward those whose needs and development problems are greatest. . . .

India received with satisfaction the initiative co-sponsored by Mexico and Austria with which a group of developing and advanced countries including India, have joined, to hold an international meeting of heads of state and government to contribute to a better understanding of the interdependence among nations and the interrelation of the problems of the world's economy.

The two rulers exchanged opinions on the present energy problem and agreed on the need for the international community to adopt a world energy plan that rationalizes production, distribution, and consumption of energy resources and gives highest priority to research and development of alternative renewable sources of energy. . . .

Both leaders expressed the firm political will of their governments to increase, diversify, and strengthen bilateral economic cooperation in the fields of trade; industrial and technological cooperation; agricultural development; the production, distribution, and technology of food products; long-term energy cooperation; scientific-technical cooperation; and financial relations. . . .

The President of Mexico invited the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Mexico. Both invitations were accepted with satisfaction, and the dates for the visits will be arranged.