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An open letter to the Heads of State or Government
of the Non-aligned Movement

Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization pays its compliments to your Excellencies and wishes to convey the seasonal greetings and a very happy new year 1993.

The year 1992 was full of despair and tribulations specially for the third world countries which comprise the Non-Aligned Movement. The 10th NAM summit held in Jakarta attempted to create great expectations and hopes towards which important decisions and mechanisms were agreed upon to arouse prospects for tangible results to the millions of people who are subject to deprivation and neglect. But to their utter disillusionment, the situation far from improving, is getting out of hand creating more misery and hardship with 1993 beginning under heavy clouds.

The republics which constituted former Yugoslavia, one of the founding pillars of NAM, continue to bleed, increasing the possibility of spilling over the conflict to the entire Balkan area involving major powers. The devastation and the annihilation of Bosnia - Herzegovina was in full swing even before the meeting of the 10th summit. The echoes of this tragedy reverberated at the Jakarta conference hall when delegate after delegate spoke in strong terms demanding firm action and the consensus of the summit was to move the United Nations in this direction. While the massacre in Bosnia still continues to the tune of ethnic cleansing yet neither the great powers nor the security council which is controlled by them has taken any effective measure so far to end the agony of genocide.

418 Palestinians expelled by the Israeli government are exposed to nature's torture in the freezing snow, without basic amenities, casting a gloomy shadow threatening the Middle East peace process. Up till now neither UN nor the five permanent members of the Security Council have been able to act against the intransigent

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behaviour of Israel which continue to defy the world body without any regard for elementary ethics of human civilization. This is nothing but banditry on the part of Israel to play down the peace process on their own terms.

Contrary to the expectation, Europe is far from becoming a "Common Home". German unity has brought to the surface of the tide of racism which had remained buried for years, spilling over to other countries of Europe in the form of resurrection of neo-nazism. On the other hand the continued exploitation of South by the North has added to the dimension of increase in migration providing fuel to fire. The South countries cannot turn a blind eye to these developments as they have become targets of this racist attacks.

The nationalist upsurge in the former Soviet Union has developed into an alarming proportions as a destabilising factor not only to the Commonwealth of Independent States, but also in the neighbouring countries. Despite these tendencies, the aspirations of the emerging republics, specially in Central Asia to join the Non-Aligned Movement is a positive trend and a source of inspiration for the movement's acceptance as relevant in the post cold war era. Taking the geopolitical and economic factors into consideration these republics could play an important role in the consolidation of the Non-aligned movement. Non-Aligned Movement need pay more attention to this region.

While NAM countries remain engulfed in their prejudices and petty quarrels, Somalia a member nation is in a grip of slow death stricken with famine by tribal strife which had necessitated the U.S. marines to be sent to restore order to effect humanitarian relief work.

The Khmer Rouges who accepted the U.N. mediated formula for a negotiated settlement to end the Cambodian crisis, has turned their guns against the accord taking even the U.N. personnel as hostages.

The "bleeding Wound" in Afghanistan is peering after the transfer of power from Najibulla government to the mujahidins. Kabul is turning into a ghost city as people flee in thousands to escape the rockets and missiles fired by the rival mujahidins groups who are involved in a power struggle than restoring peace to the much suffered nation.

UNITA leader Savimbi has spurned the U.N. supervised elections when he found that he had lost the presidency in Angola and gone back to the bush war defying world opinion.

Township violence in South Africa continue unabated covertly instigated by the white minority government causing impediments for unified struggle to end apartheid system.

Despite making pledges to follow democratic traditions and human rights, Aung San Su Kye, the democratically elected leader of Myanmar is still behind bars under arrest. Innumerable number of people languish in jails or continue to disappear mysteriously in many of the member countries of NAM, opening the "Pandoras' Box" for the donor countries to criticise human rights' violations.

In this context we note the continued human rights violation despite commitments made at the Jakarta summit. There is a wide range of difference between the governments and the N.G.O's on this issues and it needed to be rectified in keeping with the U.N. covenants in order to do way with the practice of double standard as it is pursued in many instances. This can be overcome only by recognising the important role played by the N.G.O's by respective states in the Non-Aligned Movement.

Obscurantist forces have emerged stronger resulting from the shortsighted policies pursued by many governments and are creating disunity among nations and people by disseminating pernicious and irrational doctrines of intolerance and hatred leading to destruction

of mosques, churches and temples of worship as was seen in India and other places recently.

In Latin America, the Republic of Cuba, which was once the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, still face an economic embargo imposed on her in 1959. After the end of cold war rather than lifting, it has been tightened creating enormous difficulties for Cuban people.

While economies of these countries are dwindling with rising unemployment, poverty and malnutrition, diseases such as aids are spreading fast. International trade is adversely affecting our nations, with recurring low prices for our commodities, whereas the only "lucrative trade" being the sale of arms which continue to play a priority in these regions.

The prolonged confabulations in the GATT and Uruguay Round have gone into bottle-necks adversely affecting the South countries creating a gloomy picture. These countries are vulnerable to the process of trickle down from the North and exposed to external trepidations. This will hinder any economic security for them creating no hope for any improvement in the near future.

The salient feature of the Jakarta message, the South-South co-operation is yet to take off the ground. The North-South dialogue continues to be a monology. Much spoken South Commission Report is gathering dust.

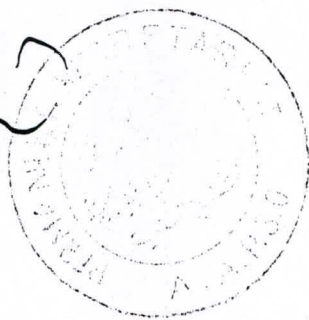
Therefore in keeping with the collective commitments pronounced at the 10th NAM summit, we appeal to your Excellencies, in the name of these suffering people to take effective measures to put an end to these tragedies, help to build confidence in the strength of our movement without depending on the outside powers to deal with the situation.

Afro-Asian Peoples solidarity Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to your Excellencies the assurances of its highest consideration.

Nouri Abdul Rezzak

N.A.R. Husan

Secretary General



Dr. Morad Ghaleb

Morad Ghaleb

President