

international disagreement by all the means within their power, while maintaining both the strength and the resolution to resist aggression from without or subversion from within. In this connection they assured the prime minister of Malaysia of their sympathy and support in his efforts to preserve the sovereign independence and integrity of his country and to promote a peaceful and honourable settlement of current differences between Malaysia and neighbouring countries.

They discussed the great significance of China for south and southeast Asia. They also discussed the question of relations with China and of her membership in the United Nations. They expressed anxiety about the continuing tension in southeast Asia and affirmed their support for all measures which might promote a just and peaceful settlement and help to re-establish stability in the area.

The prime ministers noted with satisfaction the friendly public statements by the president of Pakistan and the prime minister of India and expressed their hopes that the problems between their countries will be solved in the same friendly spirit.

While recognizing that it was not a function of the commonwealth to act as an arbiter in disputes between member nations, the prime ministers agreed that commonwealth countries could play a role of conciliation and, where possible, consider using their good offices to help toward the settlement of disputes between member nations provided the parties concerned accepted such mediation.

The prime ministers renewed their support for the United Nations in its efforts to resolve disputes in various parts of the world. They reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of the charter and emphasised the importance of reinforcing the strength and capacity of the United Nations to respond to the demands which it must meet if the charter is to be fulfilled.

The prime ministers expressed concern about the situation with regard to Cyprus. They reaffirmed their full support for the United Nations security council resolutions of 4th March, 13th March and 20th June, 1964. The prime ministers asserted that the Cyprus problem should be solved within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the principles of democracy and justice.

They appealed to all countries concerned to refrain from any action which might undermine the task of the United Nations

peace keeping force, to which a number of commonwealth countries are contributing, or might prejudice the endeavours of the United Nations to find a lasting solution in conformity with the charter of the United Nations.

The prime ministers undertook to consider practical measures to strengthen the peace keeping machinery of the United Nations and to reduce the degree of improvisation required in an emergency. They agreed that consultation and co-operation among interested governments in this matter could be of great value in contributing to the improvement of the peace keeping effectiveness of the United Nations.

The prime ministers expressed their concern at the possible effect on United Nations operations in all fields of a prolongation of the United Nations financial crisis. They expressed a common desire to work toward a long term equitable solution of the problem of financing large scale United Nations peace keeping operations and agreed that any such solution should be based on the principles of collective financial responsibility and relative capacity to pay.

Britain made the following statement to the meeting about the progress of British colonial dependencies toward independence.

Already more than 20 countries with a total population of some 700 millions had achieved sovereign independence under British guidance. This process was continuing all the time. Northern Rhodesia would be independent in October and the Gambia very soon after. Basutoland had been promised that she could have independence in about 18 months' time; Bechuanaland would be free to follow when she wished; and Swaziland's new constitution had now set her on the same course. In addition it had been agreed that the federation of South Arabia should become independent within the next three and a half years. British Guiana would become independent as soon as she was able to assure internal peace. Southern Rhodesia would attain full sovereignty as soon as her governmental institutions were sufficiently representative.

There were a number of other colonies which already enjoyed a wide measure of self government. These included the Bahamas, Barbados, British Honduras and Mauritius. In addition there were some 20 other colonies and protectorates with a combined population of about five million. Of these over three million were in Hong Kong where the circumstances were exceptional. Of the