

in South Africa with particular concern. We agreed that a peaceful and lasting solution can only be found to the present crisis if the apartheid regime is dismantled and replaced by a new form of democratic, non-racial government. There is an urgent need, therefore, to begin a genuine dialogue with the representatives of all the components of South African society. At the same time we noted the importance of humanitarian assistance initiatives for the victims of Apartheid and of supporting the efforts by SADCC (Southern African Development Coordination Conference) member states to develop and strengthen their own economies.

Serious concern was expressed at the continuing dangerous tensions and conflicts in the Near and Middle East and at the absence of concrete progress toward a solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute. The need for action to create conditions for a just, global and lasting peace was reaffirmed.

Preoccupation was also expressed about the situation in the occupied territories.

Lebanon, with its serious internal antagonisms and the persisting problem of the Palestinian camps, continues to give cause for apprehension. In this connection we reaffirmed our hope that genuine efforts be made towards national reconciliation.

With regard to Latin America, the discussion highlighted the need to promote appropriate initiatives aimed at supporting democratic governments and encouraging the return to democracy and its consolidation throughout the continent. There was also agreement that efforts toward regional integration will help open up a fruitful and constructive dialogue with the West: they therefore deserve support.

With regard to developments in Central America, it is hoped that the forthcoming Summit to be held in Guatemala can play a positive role in paving the way to peace and stability.

Finally, we turned to the problems of the United Nations Organizations and, in particular to its current financial difficulties and considered possible ways of overcoming them.