

The two Ministers had a useful and informative exchange of views concerning the current international situation. They shared a deep concern at the increase in global tensions resulting from recent international developments and agreed that their respective governments should increase their efforts to co-operate bilaterally and in the appropriate multilateral fora to achieve peace and prosperity for all countries.

The two Ministers noted with concern the current hostilities between Iran and Iraq, and their implications for the political situation in the Middle East and for world oil supplies. They expressed their support for the unanimous Security Council Resolution 497 of September 28, 1980 which calls on Iraq and Iran to refrain immediately from any further use of force and to settle their dispute by peaceful means and in conformity with principles of justice and international law. They also affirmed their interest in continuing to exchange views with each other on this subject.

In regard to the situation in Afghanistan, they recalled their Governments' participation in the Sixth Emergency Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and confirmed their support for the Assembly's resolution on this question.

The Ministers had a useful exchange of views on the Middle East question and agreed that it continues to be a serious threat to world peace, and that efforts must be continued and intensified to reach a negotiated peace settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions.

The Ministers discussed developments in Africa and agreed on the urgent need for an internationally acceptable solution to problem of Namibia on the basis of the right of the Namibian people to self-determination, independence, and territorial integrity. They condemned apartheid in South Africa as an affront to human dignity and agreed that the South African Government should repeal its repressive racial laws and ensure equal rights for South Africans of all races.

The two Ministers exchanged views about the current situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. In that respect they noted that the region is undergoing a process of political and economic change. They expressed the hope that the countries concerned would be able to overcome their difficulties without foreign interference and in accordance with the wishes of their peoples.

The two Ministers expressed their profound preoccupation with the current world economic situation which has deteriorated for all nations and in particular in the case