



**SEVENTH MEETING
of
CONSULTATION
of
MINISTERS
of
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA . AUGUST 22 - 29, 1960

F I N A L A C T

1960

The closing session of the Meeting took place on Monday, August 29, 1960. At that session this Final Act was signed.^{1/} The speakers at that session were His Excellency Alfredo Vargas Fernández, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and President of the Meeting of Consultation, who thanked the Foreign Ministers for their presence, and His Excellency Neptalí Ponce Miranda, Special Delegate of Ecuador, who responded on their behalf.

As a result of its deliberations, the Seventh Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs approved the following resolutions:

I

THE DECLARATION OF SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

The Seventh Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs

1. Condemns energetically the intervention or the threat of intervention, even when conditional, by an extracontinental power in the affairs of the American republics and declares that the acceptance of a threat of extracontinental intervention by any American state endangers American solidarity and security, and that this obliges the Organization of American States to disapprove it and reject it with equal vigor.

2. Rejects, also, the attempt of the Sino-Soviet powers to make use of the political, economic, or social situation of any American state, inasmuch as that attempt is capable of destroying hemispheric unity and endangering the peace and security of the hemisphere.

3. Reaffirms the principle of nonintervention by any American state in the internal or external affairs of the other American states, and reiterates that each state has the right to develop its cultural, political, and economic life freely and naturally, respecting the rights of the individual and the principles of universal morality, and as a consequence, no American state may intervene for the purpose of imposing upon another American state its ideologies or its political, economic, or social principles.

4. Reaffirms that the inter-American system is incompatible with any form of totalitarianism and that democracy will achieve the full scope of its objectives in the hemisphere only when all the American republics conduct themselves in accordance with the principles stated in the Declaration of Santiago, Chile, approved at the Fifth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the observance of which it recommends as soon as possible.

5. Proclaims that all member states of the regional organization are under obligation to submit to the discipline of the inter-American system, voluntarily and freely agreed upon, and that the soundest guarantee of their sovereignty and their political independence stems from compliance with the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States.

1. The Spanish text.

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6. Declares that all controversies between member states should be resolved by the measures for peaceful solution that are contemplated in the inter-American system.

7. Reaffirms its faith in the regional system and its confidence in the Organization of American States, created to achieve an order of peace and justice that excludes any possible aggression, to promote solidarity among its members, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their political independence, since it is in this Organization that its members find the best guarantee for their evolution and development.

8. Resolves that this declaration shall be known as "The Declaration of San José, Costa Rica."

II

AD HOC GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE

The Seventh Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Reiterating its faith in the effectiveness of the measures and procedures provided for in the inter-American system for the peaceful solution of controversies,

RESOLVES:

1. To create and ad hoc committee composed of representatives at the highest level of the Governments of Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, and Costa Rica.

a. This Committee, at the request of the governments directly interested, will facilitate, by clarifying the facts and extending its good offices, the settlement of controversies between American governments and will report to the Council of the Organization of American States.

b. The Secretary General of the Organization of American States shall furnish the Committee, in the American capital which serves as its site, with the services of a secretariat.

2. To authorize the Secretary General of the Organization of American States to transmit the text of this resolution to the Security Council of the United Nations.