

Ref. A084/1667

MR COLES

WR 5/6
h.a.London Economic Summit: Draft Declaration on Democratic Values

Thank you for your minute of 6 June.

2. I note the arrangements which the Prime Minister proposes for discussion of the Draft Declaration by Heads of State and Government and for issue to the press.
3. As to the drafts being prepared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on East-West Relations, Arms Control and The Gulf, I think it is envisaged that they should be given to the press by whoever is the official on the records spokesman for the Prime Minister after the afternoon session on Friday 8 June. They will have to be on the record, and therefore they could be prepared to be put out as a press release. I can see some advantage in that, in that that will make it more difficult for other countries to put different nuances; but it is likely to make it certain that other countries will wish to see the texts before they are cleared for issue.
4. I have amended the Draft Declaration as indicated at (a), (b), (d) and (e) of your minute. The phrase "our will to act with all countries in order to foster their prosperity" is a French draft, and the French may press for its reinsertion. Though it is fairly meaningless, I think it is also fairly harmless, and if other countries support the French Delegation on this, I do not think that it will be necessary to resist reinsertion.
5. I have for the time being left in the sentence "We respect genuine non-alignment" because it is a point to which I know the Japanese Prime Minister attaches the highest importance. When we come to discuss the draft among Personal Representatives, I will seek to secure its deletion; but the Japanese will attach much importance to it, and there may be others who support them.
6. I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

7 June 1984

Approved by
ROBERT ARMSTRONG

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and signed in his absence

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DECLARATION ON DEMOCRATIC VALUES

(Text of 7 June 1984)

We, the Heads of State or Government of seven major industrial democracies with the President of the Commission of the European Communities, assembled in London for the Tenth Economic Summit meeting, affirm our commitment to the values which sustain and bring together our societies.

2. We believe in a rule of law which respects and protects without fear or favour the human and civil rights and liberties of every citizen, and provides the setting in which the human spirit can develop in freedom and diversity.

3. We believe in a system of democracy which ensures genuine choice in elections freely held, free expression of opinion and capacity to respond and adapt to change in all its aspects.

4. We believe that political and economic freedom are interdependent. It is for Governments to set the conditions in which there can be confidence in the soundness of the currency; in which enterprise and employment can flourish; in which there can be the greatest possible range and freedom of choice, and personal initiative; in which all can share in the benefits of growth and society can provide care and support for those in need; and in which the lives of all can be enriched by the fruits of innovation, imagination and scientific discovery. Our countries have the resources and will jointly to master the tasks of the third industrial revolution.

5. We believe in close partnership with each other in the conviction that this will reinforce political and economic stability and solidarity in the world as a whole. We look for co-operation with all countries on the basis of respect for their independence and territorial integrity, regardless of differences between political, economic and social systems. We respect genuine non-alignment. We acknowledge the moral responsibilities that go with economic success. We reaffirm our keen concern about the problems of hunger and poverty in the world; and our determination to help those who most need it.

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6. We believe in the need for peace with freedom and justice. Each of us rejects the use of force as a means of settling disputes: each of us will maintain only the military strength necessary to deter aggression and to meet our responsibilities for effective defence.

7. We believe that, as we stated at Williamsburg, our security is indivisible and must be approached on a global basis. We are convinced that international problems and conflicts can and must be resolved through reasoned dialogue and negotiation and we shall support all efforts to this end.

8. Strong in these beliefs, our countries are endowed with unrivalled diversity and creative vigour. With such a heritage we look forward to the future with confidence.

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