

SA/AM
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BERNEDA
JAMDHAKAB

DHAKA 3.4.1990 09:00

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DDA
DIVISION POLITIQUE II
COPIE DDIP, DROITS DE L'HOMME

PROFITANT DE MON DEPLACEMENT AU BANGLADESH POUR LA PRESENTATION DE MES LETTRES DE CREANCE, J'AI FAIT ESCALE LE 24 A KATMANDOU POUR FAIRE LE POINT DE LA SITUATION DANS CE PAYS AVEC LES REPRESENTANTS DE SDC AINSI QU'AVEC LES CHEFS DE MISSION DES USA ET DE LA RFA.
UN RAPPORT SUR CES DISCUSSIONS VOUS PARVIENDRA PROCHAINEMENT. LE PERSONNEL DE SDC EST TRES PREOCCUPE PAR CE QUI SE PASSE AU NEPAL. IL S'EST REUNI EN ASSEMBLEE LE 25 MARS ET A VOTE UNANIMEMENT UNE RESOLUTION DEMANDANT AU CONSEIL FEDERAL D'INTERVENIR A NOUVEAU AUPRES DES AUTORITES NEPALAISES ET, SI DES PROGRES N'INTERVIENNENT PAS RAPIDEMENT, DE PRENDRE DES MESURES TOUCHANT L'AIDE SUISSE.
LE PERSONNEL A CHARGE LE DIRECTEUR DE SDC, M. WIRZ, DE ME REMETTRE CETTE RESOLUTION. M. WIRZ, QUI N'ETAIT PAS PRESENT A L'ASSEMBLEE DU 25.3. SE JOINT A SES CONCLUSIONS QU'IL A SIGNEES, A POSTERIORI.
LE TEXTE DE LA RESOLUTION ET LES SIGNATAIRES SONT LE SUIVANTS:

QUOTE

R E S O L U T I O N

IN THE COURSE OF A MEETING HELD ON THE 25TH MARCH 1990 IN KATHMANDU, THE UNDERSIGNED, WORKING WITH PROJECTS IN NEPAL FINANCED BY SWITZERLAND (REFERRED TO HEREUNDER AS THE UNDERSIGNED), WERE INFORMED OF THE FACT THAT THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL HAD HANDED OVER A NOTE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL ON THE 8TH MARCH 1990.

THE UNDERSIGNED VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE FEDERAL COUNCIL'S GESTURE, SINCE IT CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES ITS WISH TO SEE THAT BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL ARE FULLY RESPECTED. IN SPITE OF SUCH A PRAISEWORTHY INITIATIVE, THE UNDERSIGNED NOTE WITH ANXIETY THAT NO REAL IMPROVEMENT HAS OCCURED IN NEPAL IN THE MEANTIME AS FAR AS VIOLENCE, REPRESSION AND ARBITRARY ARRESTS ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE CONCERNED. THESE DEEDS CONTINUE REGARDLESS.

THE UNDERSIGNED ALSO WISH TO REFER TO THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION ENTITLED: "THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF SWISS DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION", NO 26, PAGE 9, WHICH CLEARLY STIPULATES THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS POSSIBLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WISH TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL THAT ALTHOUGH BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL HAD NOT BEEN FULLY RESPECTED IN THE PAST, THE PRESENT DEGRADATION OF THE SITUATION IS IN TOTAL VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE PRINCIPLES.

THEREFORE THE UNDERSIGNED WISH TO OFFER SOME CONCRETE EXAMPLES OF HUMAN RIGHT VIOLATIONS IN NEPAL. THE FOLLOWING FACTS REPRESENT ONLY A SMALL SAMPLE OF DAILY VIOLATIONS SINCE FEBRUARY 90:

- THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND HELD IN DETENTION OR PRISON WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL. THEY ARE KEPT IN OVERCROWDED AND EXTREMELY COLD CONDITIONS, WITHOUT FOOD OR CLOTHES. AS NAMES OF DETAINEES ARE NOT DISCLOSED IN PUBLIC, FAMILIES AND RELATIVES DO PARTLY NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THEM.
- BEATINGS AND CASES OF PHYSICAL TORTURE HAVE BEEN REPORTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. VICTIMS OF GOVERNMENT ATROCITIES ARE NOT PROVIDED ADEQUATE MEDICAL FACILITIES IN HOSPITALS. (WRITTEN JOINT STATEMENT TO THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, FEBRUARY 1990)
- FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY OF CORPSES, ATTIMES, HEADLESS, IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, TERROR IS RAPIDLY SPREADING IN THE COUNTRY. (QUOTED IN NEWSLETTER FOPHUR, MARCH 1990)
- PARTNERS OF HELVETAS AND THE SWISS DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (SDC) E.G. DR. D.R. PANDEY, WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF IDS (INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS) AND ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE HUMAN RIGHT ORGANISATION NEPAL, ARE PUT INTO JAIL, ALONG WITH MANY OTHER INTELLECTUALS AND PROFESSIONALS PARTICIPATING IN A LEGITIMATE AND HARMLESS SEMINAR.
- PROJECT VEHICLES HAVE BEEN SIMPLY APPROPRIATED WITHOUT ANY AUTHORISATION AND USED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE TRANSPORT OF THE POLICE AND ARMY.

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IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THE UNDERSIGNED WISH TO ASK THE FEDERAL COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, A SERIOUS AND IN DEPTH EXAMINATION OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN NEPAL, WHICH IS PREOCCUPYING US. IT HAMPERS AND IS IN CONTRADICTION WITH THE AIMS OF THE SWISS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

THE UNDERSIGNED FURTHERMORE WISH TO ASK THE FEDERAL COUNCIL TO INTERVENE AGAIN TO REQUEST NEPAL'S GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY PROMOTE BASIC FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ALL PERSONS ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY SHOULD ALSO BE IMMEDIATELY FREED.

THE UNDERSIGNED ARE MOREOVER CONVINCED THAT OUR COUNTRY SHOULD TAKE STEPS IN BRINGING THE DONORS TOGETHER AND PROPOSING COMMON ACTIONS. A GOOD OPPORTUNITY WOULD BE THE NEPAL AID GROUP MEETING IN PARIS IN MAY 1990. WE ARE ALSO CONVINCED THAT A CONCERTED ACTION ON THE PART OF ALL DONORS IS A GOOD AND STRONG MEANS OF BRINGING ABOUT THE REESTABLISHMENT OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL.

IN CASE SUCH IMPROVEMENT IS NOT RAPIDLY FORTHCOMING, THE UNDERSIGNED SUGGEST TO THE FEDERAL COUNCIL THAT FURTHER STEPS AND STRONG ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN, DEPENDING ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE SITUATION IN NEPAL:

1. NO NEW COMMITMENTS FOR THE TIME BEING.
2. SUSPENSION OF ONGOING PROJECTS.
3. WITHDRAWING SWISS PARTICIPATION.

IN VIEW OF THE DEGRADATION OF THE SITUATION OVER THE LAST THREE DAYS THE UNDERSIGNED STRONGLY REQUEST THAT THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTS THE SUGGESTED STEPS.

KATHMANDU, 1ST APRIL 1990

ARIANE ASSELO-BICKERT, MERET OETTLI-HOTTINGER, PHILIPPE ZORZI, URS DUERSTELER, CLAUDE BOBILLIEN, ROSEMARIE DUERSTELER-KELLER, JAMES LORENZEN, ESTHER LORENZEN, CATHY DOLF, WERNER WALTER, MARTINA ERNI, ROLF WIDMER, ELISABETH WALTER, IRENE GLASL BOENI, HEINZ BOENI, REINER BODMER, HEIDI BODMER, RETO WIESER, BENEDIKT DOLF, BERNHARD OETTLI, JAQUELINE ZORZI, GIORGIO GIANINAZZI, MARTIN PAULI, SUSANNE SCHLAEPPI, WALTER SCHLAEPPI, TINA WIESER-FROEHLICHER, HANS STEINER, EDITH PFISTER, GABRIELLA STEINER, CELINE BEAUDOIN, FLAVIA SCHMIDT-RIANDA, PATRICK LEU, RALF SCHMIDT, JAMES RUTHERTORD, WALTER SCHMID, ELISABETH SCHMID-BERTA, OTTO PFISTER, BERTRAND TREPANIER, JANINE POLLIEU PAULI, WERNER WIRZ

UNQUOTE

LES VIOLATIONS DES DROITS DE L'HOMME RELEVES PAR NOS COOPERANTS, MALHEUREUSEMENT, SEMBLENT BIEN CORRESPONDRE A LA REALITE ET ONT ETE CORROBORES PAR D'AUTRES PERSONNES AVEC QUI J'AI EU DES CONTACTS.

LA DEMARCHE DE NOS COOPERANTS EST LA CONSEQUENCE D'UNE BRUSQUE DEGRADATION DE LA SITUATION AU COURS DES DERNIERS JOURS. TOUTEFOIS, LE PIRE PEUT ENCORE ETRE EVITE ET LES PROCHAINES JOURS MONTRERONT QUEL SENS ATTRIBUER AU REMANEMENT MINISTERIEL QUI VIENT D'AVOIR LIEU LE 14 AVRIL, LE ROI EST CENSE FAIRE UN DISCOURS PUBLIC ET LE 18 SE TIENDRA UN CONSEIL NATIONAL DU PANCHAYAT.

COMPTE TENU DES MESSAGES QUE VOUS AUREZ PASSES AU MINISTRE DES FINANCES DU NEPAL LORS DE SON RECENT PASSAGE A BERNE, JE NE PENSE PAS QU'UNE NOUVELLE INTERVENTION SE JUSTIFIE CES PROCHAINES JOURS.

J'AI PREVU DE ME RENDRE A KATMANDOU FIN AVRIL/DEBUT MAI ET DE VOIR PLUSIEURS MEMBRES DU CABINET, Y COMPRIS LE NOUVEAU MAE. AU BESOIN, JE POURRAIS AUSSI ESSAYER DE VOIR LE PREMIER MINISTRE QUI EST UN PERSONNAGE-CLE DANS LA PRESENTE CRISE. SUIVANT L'EVOLUTION DE LA SITUATION, VOUS POURRIEZ ME CHARGER DE REMETTRE UN MESSAGE DU CF FELBER.

LA PROCHAINE REUNION DU CONSORTIUM D'AIDE AU NEPAL SERA AUSSI UNE BONNE OCCASION DE RAPPELER NOS CONDITIONS POUR LA POURSUITE DE LA COOPERATION ET CE, DE PREFERENCE APRES CONCERTATION AVEC QUELQUES "LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES".

A PLUS LONG TERME, SELON LES DEVELOPPEMENTS, LA SUISSE POURRAIT, LE CAS ECHEANT, ETRE AMENEES A PRENDRE UNE CERTAINE DISTANCE, VOIRE PROCEDER A CERTAINES REVISIONS, TOUT EN AYANT A L'ESPRIT LA LONGUE ET FRUCTUEUSE HISTOIRE DE LA COOPERATION NEPALO-SUISSE ET EN GARDANT L'ESPOIR DE JOURS MEILLEURS.

POUR L'IMMEDIAT, J'AI DONNE 2 INSTRUCTIONS A SDC/NEPAL.

1. CONTINUER D'INTERVENIR POUR QUE LES VEHICULES SEQUESTRES APPARTENANT AUX PROJETS QUE NOUS FINANCONS, SOIENT RESTITUES SANS DELAI ET QU'IL SOIT MIS FIN A CETTE PRATIQUE AVEC EFFET IMMEDIAT.
2. QUAT LE PERSONNEL DE LA COOPERATION AU NEPAL S'ABSTIENNE DE TOUTE PRISE DE POSITION PUBLIQUE, D'ACTES OU DE MANIFESTATIONS DE SYMPATHIE QUI L'EXPOSE A DEVENIR LA CIBLE DE MESURES DE REPRESAILLE DES AUTORITES NEPALAISES.

JE VOUS SAURAI GRE DE ME FAIRE PART DE VOS COMMENTAIRES ET INSTRUCTIONS. ZEHNDER+

