

MR. MINISTER,

Maio/85

ALLOW ME, FIRST OF ALL, TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND WORDS OF WELCOME AND FOR THE WARM HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO US BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF INDIA.

A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO THE THEN MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF BRAZIL PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO NEW DELHI. THE ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF THAT VISIT WAS THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE BETWEEN BRAZIL AND INDIA. THIS PURPOSE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED. MY OWN VISIT HAS ACCORDINGLY A DIFFERENT MEANING. BUILDING UPON THE GOOD RELATIONS ALREADY EXISTING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE, ON BEHALF OF THE NEWLY-ELECTED GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL, THAT THE TWO LARGEST DEMOCRACIES OF THE THIRD WORLD WORK EVEN MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER, DEEPENING AND BROADENING THESE RELATIONS.

COOPERATION HAS AS A BASIC PRE-CONDITION THE CONVERGENCE OF VIEW OF CERTAIN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF CONVIVIALITY BOTH AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. THIS CONVERGENCE EXISTS IN THE CASE OF INDIA AND BRAZIL. WE SHARE MANY BASIC GOALS AND IDEALS, SUCH AS THE DEFENSE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND WORLD PEACE, AND THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING, THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND THE ACCELERATION OF DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. IT IS TRUE THAT WE BELONG TO DIFFERENT CULTURAL TRADITIONS. BUT WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT FOR BETTER OR WORSE THE SAME HISTORICAL TRENDS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INSERTION OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, DURING THE 16TH CENTURY, IN THE MAINSTREAM OF EUROPEAN LIFE.

THE COMMON PERSPECTIVE OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAD A COLONIAL PAST AND ARE TODAY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS STRENGTHENED BY THE COINCIDENCE OF MATERIAL FACTORS, AMONG WHICH ARE THE

LARGE TERRITORIAL EXTENSION, THE ABUNDANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, A SIMILAR LEVEL OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND A BROAD DEMOGRAPHIC BASIS, AS WELL AS THE NEED TO KEEP PACE WITH A CONSTANTLY GROWING POPULATION THROUGH IMPROVED LIVING CONDITIONS.

THE COINCIDENCE OF PRINCIPLES, EXPERIENCES AND OBJECTIVE CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE LED BRAZIL AND INDIA TO ADOPT SIMILAR POSITIONS IN RESPECT OF THE BASIC QUESTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCENE.

FOREMOST AMONG THESE QUESTIONS IS THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR ANIHILATION. IN A STATEMENT AS RELEVANT TODAY AS WHEN IT WAS DELIVERED, ALMOST TWENTY YEARS AGO, MRS. GANDHI SAID THAT "THE PEACE AMONG US, IF IT CAN BE CALLED PEACE, IS AN EMBATTLED ONE. WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH THE COMPETITIVE BUILD-UP OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS WHICH THREATEN HUMAN SURVIVAL. WE HOPE THAT OUR DEDICATION TO TANGIBLE AND REALISTIC STEPS TOWARDS GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT WILL

HELP TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR A LASTING PEACE. THIS THEN IS NOT A MOMENT WHEN WE CAN CONFINE OURSELVES TO NARROW NATIONAL GROOVES. INDEED, WE MUST RAISE THE VOICE OF HUMANITY TO ASSERT THAT WAR IS NOT INEVITABLE, THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE WHICH CAN GAIN ADDED MEANING THROUGH ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION". WE FULLY SHARE THESE VIEWS. THAT IS WHY BRAZIL HAS EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE DELHI DECLARATION ON DISARMAMENT, ISSUED BY THE SUMMIT MEETING OF THE SIX LAST JANUARY,

DESPITE ALL EFFORTS, THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION OF OUR DAYS IS IN A PROCESS OF CONSTANT DETERIORATION, DEEPENING REGIONAL CRISES IN SEVERAL AREAS OF THE WORLD AND INCREASED CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS ARE COUPLED WITH AN ECONOMIC CRISES OF GLOBAL DIMENSIONS WHICH AFFECT ALL COUNTRIES AND REGIONS AND RESIST ORTHODOX THERAPIES,

THE REGIONAL CRISES THAT DE-STABILIZE INTERNATIONAL

LIFE ARE IN THEMSELVES THE CONSEQUENCES OF DEEP-ROOTED STRUCTURAL FACTORS. THEY WILL NOT BE SOLVED ON A PERMANENT BASIS UNLESS THE UNDERLYING ISSUES ARE TACKLED. IN GENERAL, THE SOCIO-ECONOMICAL DYNAMICS OF EACH REGION IS A KEY ELEMENT IN THE SEARCH FOR LEGITIMATE SOLUTIONS. REGIONAL PROBLEMS MUST BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT ANY EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE, TAKING PRIMARILY INTO ACCOUNT THE CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS AND POINTS OF VIEW OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.

THESE PRINCIPLES APPLY TO SITUATIONS SUCH AS THOSE IN CENTRAL AMERICA, SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, WHERE, AS A RULE, EAST-WEST INVOLVEMENT TEND ALL TOO OFTEN TO WIDEN THE SCOPE OF CONFLICTS, TO DEEPEN LOCAL RIVALRIES, TO ENCOURAGE ATTITUDES OF INTRANSIGENCE, AND TO NARROW PROSPECTS FOR JUST AND LASTING SOLUTIONS.

AS OBSERVER TO THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, BRAZIL HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS OF INDIA

TO PROMOTE THE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS WITH REGARD TO ALL THESE
ISSUES AND OTHERS OF A SIMILAR NATURE.

MR. MINISTER,

FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY THE WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM
HAS NOT EXPERIENCED SUCH A PERVASIVE AND LASTING CRISIS.
ITS LONG TERM CONSEQUENCES ARE DEEPLY DISTURBING; ITS IMMEDIATE
EFFECTS ARE A SOURCE OF ECONOMIC DISTRESS AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY.
ONE OF THE MOST STRIKING FEATURES OF THE CRISIS IS THAT IT
HAS NO CLEAR GEOGRAPHICAL FRONTIER. IN ADDITION, IT IS NOT
LIMITED TO CERTAIN SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY. THE CRISIS IS
GLOBAL, AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE PROVED TO BE THE
MOST VULNERABLE LINK IN AN INTERDEPENDENT SYSTEM. COOPERATION
AND DIALOGUE ARE THEREFORE MORE NECESSARY THAN EVER BEFORE,
HOWEVER, NEVER BEFORE HAVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND
MULTILATERALISM BEEN SO FRAGILE.

BRAZIL AND INDIA ARE COOPERATING CLOSELY IN TRYING TO PERSUADE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES THAT THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRESERVATION OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL, MONETARY AND TRADE SYSTEMS ARE CERTAINLY HIGHER THAN THOSE THAT MIGHT DERIVE FROM A BALANCED RESTRUCTURING OF THE WORLD ECONOMY.

PROMOTING A REAL MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM, RESTORING THE CREDIBILITY OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT AS THE MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK FOR REGULATING THE TRADE IN PHYSICAL GOODS AND IMPLEMENTING THE COMMITMENTS ALREADY UNDERTAKEN, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATING TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ARE PRIORITY TASKS FACING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN THIS CONNEXION, INDIA AND BRAZIL, TOGETHER WITH OTHER LESS DEVELOPED CONTRACTING PARTIES, HAVE SUBMITTED LAST MONTH TO THE COUNCIL OF GATT A STATEMENT ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF WORLD TRADE RELATIONS, INCLUDING THEIR POSITION ON A NEW ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE

NEGOTIATIONS.

WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST RATES, THE VOLATILITY OF EXCHANGE RATES AND THE LIQUIDITY BOTTLENECKS AFFECTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A RESULT OF SUCH TRENDS, ARE ISSUES OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, AND SHOULD BE TACKLED ON A PRIORITY BASIS. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE THAT ALL THESE ISSUES ARE INTERDEPENDENT, AND THAT FINANCE AND TRADE QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN AN INTEGRATED MANNER.

IMPORTANT AS THESE NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES ARE, THEY SHOULD NOT OBSCURE THE URGENCY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. THE VERY BLEAKNESS OF THE PRESENT MOMENT MAY TEACH US NEW FORMS OF ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP, AND COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE MOST PROMISING OF THESE NEW FORMS. WE ATTACH A SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF A GENERAL SYSTEM OF TRADE PREFERENCES AMONG

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE NEW DELHI MEETING WILL PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE IN THIS PROCESS. MY PRESENCE AS HEAD OF THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION IS AN INDICATION OF OUR POSITIVE ATTITUDE. YOU MAY REST ASSURED, MR. MINISTER, THAT DESPITE OUR PRESENT ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE SYSTEM, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE CARACAS PROGRAMME OF ACTION.

MR. MINISTER,

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ALMOST SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE INDIAN STATE, I AM CONVINCED THAT THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PHASE IN INDIAN-BRAZILIAN COOPERATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN. OUR POLITICAL RELATIONS WILL BECOME CLOSER AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE AS THE SYSTEM OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS CREATED DURING MY PREDECESSOR'S VISIT BECOMES FULLY OPERATIONAL. OUR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RELATIONS WILL BE STRENGTHENED

AND DIVERSIFIED, CONSISTENT WITH INDIAN AND BRAZILIAN CAPABILITIES
IN THIS FIELD, WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. THE CREATION OF A JOINT COMMISSION
AND THE IMMEDIATE SETTING OF A SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC
COOPERATION WILL PROVIDE A FORUM FOR THE DISCUSSION OF ALL
BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, INCLUDING THE NEED TO EXPAND TRADE
ON A BALANCED BASIS, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. I AM SURE THAT OUR
COOPERATION ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL MATTERS WILL SOON
BE AS INTENSE AS TO CONSTITUTE A BASIS FOR THE CREATION OF A
JOINT SUB-COMMISSION TO DEAL WITH OUR LINKS IN THESE FIELDS
IN A SYSTEMATIC AND ORDINATE WAY. FINALLY, OUR CULTURAL RELATIONS
SHOULD BE INTENSIFIED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 1968 AGREEMENT, IN
ORDER TO FACILITATE THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE INDIAN
AND THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLES.

MR. MINISTER,

OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY FAR APART:

LET US DEMONSTRATE THAT PHYSICAL DISTANCES CAN BE OVERCOME.

WE BELONG TO DIFFERENT CULTURAL ENVIRONMENTS: LET US DEMONSTRATE THAT DIFFERENCES CAN BE MORE ENRICHING THAN SIMILARITIES.

OUR ECONOMIES ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY COMPLEMENTARY: LET US EXPLORE SUCH COMPLEMENTARITIES AS DO EXIST, AND DEVISE WAYS TO INCREASE OUR INTERDEPENDENCE ON A BROAD RANGE OF AREAS, NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO TRADE IN COMMODITIES. TOGETHER, LET US FORGE A NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT.

I INVITE ALL THOSE PRESENT TO JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO THE HEALTH OF HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT GIANI ZAIL SINGH AND HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME-MINISTER RAJIV GANDHI, TO THE INCREASING PROSPERITY OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE, TO THE EVER-LASTING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN BRAZIL AND INDIA, AND TO THE PERSONAL HAPPINESS OF YOUR EXCELLENCY.

THANK YOU.