

# SI BUREAU MEETING OSLO

'We live in a period in which the outlooks are more gloomy than they have been since the forties and the beginning of the fifties. As we stated in our conclusions of the Vienna meeting in February, a disposition for confrontation has displaced the will for peaceful cooperation in spheres of decisive importance.' With these words Reulf Steen commented in the opening address to the SI Bureau Meeting in Oslo on 12 and 13 June on the dangerous escalation of tensions in the world. At the same time he made it clear that 'there is no rational alternative to detente'.

Obviously Iran is one of the centres of tension. And so it was not surprising that the visit of the Iranian foreign minister, Ghotbzadeh, to the Norwegian capital caused quite a stir not only in the international press. After the visit to Tehran by Bruno Kreisky, Felipe Gonzalez and Olaf Palme, the exchange of ideas was continued with Willy Brandt and the SI Vice Presidents. Ghotbzadeh was offered the opportunity to present his standpoint to the SI Bureau. Undoubtedly Willy Brandt's reply reflected the views of the Bureau members:

(1) We identify ourselves with all those in the world who are struggling for their identity, integrity and dignity.

(2) We express our solidarity with all those who have been or are the victims of oppression. We therefore condemn most strongly all the forms of injustice, terror and humiliation that have been inflicted on the Iranian people.

(3) The discussions have helped us to reach a better understanding. We remain open to a frank exchange of views on constructive cooperation and partnership to make peace more secure, close the gap between rich and poor, and understand the great movements in the Islamic world.

(4) We lend our support to the efforts of you and your colleagues to reach — in our words — /'a peaceful and honourable' solution to the problem of the hostages.

This I say in all modesty and with all respect, but also in the deep conviction that much good will be achieved by this for the persons involved and their families, for the attitudes of many in the world towards Iran, and for constructive cooperation, in which your country can play a major role.'

The press reports seemed to give the impression that Iran was the main issue under discussion at the Bureau meeting. That this was not the case is shown by the long agenda, in which the preparation of the Madrid Congress and the theme of 'the international situation' were central. The catalogue of topics was so wide-ranging that without a division of labour and ad hoc commissions the workload would surely have been unmanageable. Since future Bureau meetings and congresses will surely have no lack of topics and work, similar mechanisms will undoubtedly have to be resorted to more often. Already now there is a danger that many issues can only be discussed superficially or have to be postponed from meeting to meeting.

In his introductory statement Willy Brandt touched upon the major international issues. He pointed out that the agreement of the Vienna Leaders' Conference in February, namely to take up all possibilities and contacts open to SI parties to prevent the threatening confrontation between the superpowers, had been realized in a number of instances. 'At international meetings in recent weeks — for example in May in Belgrade and Vienna — leading socialists have made important contributions to get the dialogue between East and West under way again. The first tentative successes have been booked. Additional important impulses could come out of Helmut Schmidt's visit to Moscow towards the end of the month. And the work of our disarmament commission under Kalevi Sorsa has gained in importance.'

Besides Iran, Afghanistan is in the foreground of international relations. Exploratory talks have revealed, according to

Brandt, 'that the authorities in Moscow are increasingly beginning to realize how far-reaching the consequences of their action are, and that a political solution is required. In such a solution, which will recognize the rights of the Afghan people as well as the legitimate security interests of the neighbouring countries, the non-aligned countries could take on a special responsibility. This applies above all to India.'

Willy Brandt, Reulf Steen, Bernt Carlsson



With regard to Cambodia, South Africa, the Middle East and Central America, the SI President stated that international crises should not be allowed to push regional conflicts into the background. In this context he stressed the importance of the SI Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean held in late March in Santo Domingo. Brandt added that the Socialist International did not regard itself in competition with the Mexican initiatives within the framework of COPPPAL: 'For both sides the existing and developing forms of cooperation are complementary and not competitive.'

Brandt expressed concern about the developments in many parts of Central America, in particular in El Salvador and Guatemala, and urged the government in Washington to use its great influence responsibly. In the discussion that followed Carlos Gallardo reported on behalf of his party, PSD, and the Frente Democrático contra la Represión (FDCR) on the situation in Guatemala today; and the chairman of the MNR in El Salvador, Guillermo Ungo, and the president of the newly founded Frente Democrático Revolucionario (FDR), Enrique Alvarez, reported on the dramatic situation in their country — both concluded that a civil war is inevitable and that there is a danger of intervention.

The explosive situation in Central America should not obscure the special difficulties of Jamaica and other Caribbean countries. The SI President asked repeatedly for extensive aid to the hard-pressed government of Michael Manley in Jamaica. In this he was supported by many delegates, including the former president of Venezuela and the representative of the Acción Democrática, Carlos Andrés Perez, who called for a firm opposition to the international destabilization campaign being carried out against Jamaica. At the same time he warned against the fateful role played by international christian democracy in its co-

operation with the United States.

Among the welcome events Willy Brandt counted the independence of Zimbabwe, which should show the way for further development in southern Africa.

The relationship between North and South is a major topic at every meeting of the SI, so too in Oslo. Willy Brandt stressed in this context that Mexico and Austria, following up a suggestion from the North-South Commission, had declared their willingness to stage, at the beginning of next year, an international summit at which the groundwork could be laid for the subsequent 'global negotiations'. Olof Palme reported on the work of the Commission, which should now be translated into a concrete political programme. On the basis of the concept of mutual interest, he demanded a relatively broad strategy which should include progressives of all shades.

The following points were also on the agenda:

- the study of human rights, chaired by Daniel Mayer of the French Socialist Party, will be revised for the Madrid Congress;
- the revised report of the SI working group on employment policies will be submitted to the Congress;
- on behalf of the working group on a new declaration of basic principles Felipe Gonzalez will present an interim report to the Congress;
- General Secretary Bernt Carlsson presented the report on the mission to Paraguay in November 1979, which had been organized at short notice after the failure of the mission to southern South America (Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, and Paraguay), and was to express solidarity with the fraternal Febrerista party and gather information about the situation in the country;
- the Bureau took note of the report of the newly elected president of the Confederation of Socialist Parties in the

European Community, Joop den Uyl, which, among other things, affirmed the Confederation's desire to intensify contacts with European socialist parties outside the Community.

And lastly, the preparation of the Congress in Madrid in November took up much time. An ad hoc commission under Lionel Jospin was set up to study the issues of new membership and invitations to observers. Four parties will be recommended to the Congress as new full members: the Partido Revolucionario Febrerista of Paraguay (a party with consultative status at present); the Parti Socialiste Progressiste of Lebanon; Izquierda Democrática of Ecuador and the New Jewel Movement of Grenada (the latter two had already been recommended at the Lisbon Bureau meeting).

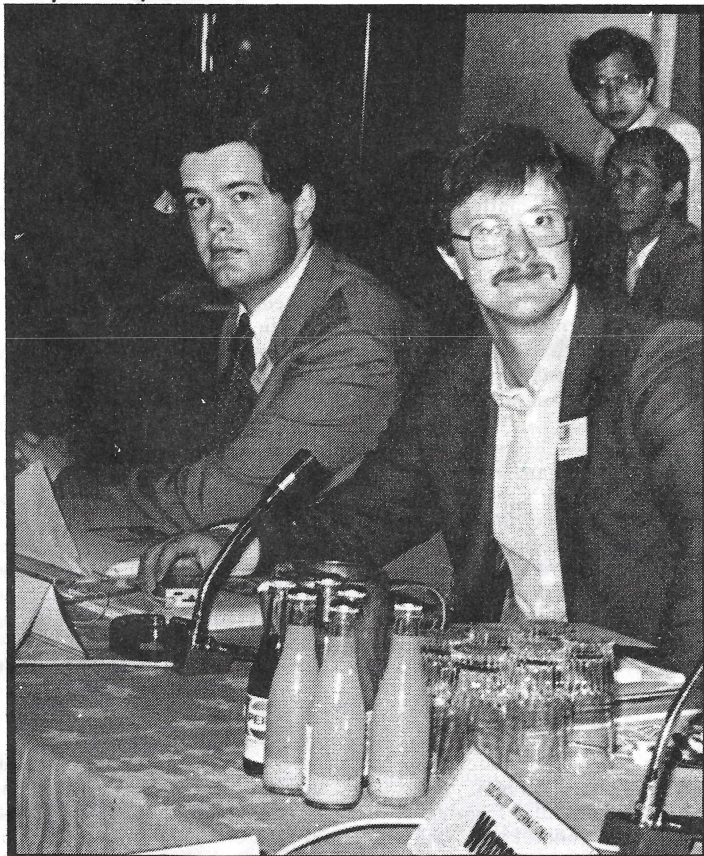
The request for membership by the Movimiento Democrático Nicaraguense (MDN) of the former junta member Alfonso Robelo, who is now polemicizing against the Sandinistas, was rejected by an overwhelming majority. Supported by Lionel Jospin, Hector Oqueli and Maarten van Traa, Hans-Eberhard Dingsels had urged that the decision be taken as soon as possible, since only in this way would it be clear where the Socialist International stood with regard to Nicaragua.

The leadership of the Socialist International will probably be unchanged from previous years, for the Bureau accepted the proposals of the Presidium to nominate Willy Brandt for President and Bernt Carlsson for General Secretary.

The main theme of the Congress in Madrid will be 'Peace, Freedom and Solidarity'. Other themes accepted were:

- The International Situation
- Arms Control and Disarmament
- North-South Relations
- Principles and Goals
- Socialism and Human Rights
- Socialism and Economic Democracy
- Socialism and Equal Opportunities

Hilary Bernard, Jukka Oas



Sadegh Ghotbzadeh



Isang Yun, Willy Brandt



# BUREAU MEETING OSLO

## Resolution

1. The Socialist International reaffirms its determination to work for peace and solidarity in the face of an increasingly serious international situation. As confrontation between the superpowers rises, the danger to détente heightens. North-South relations are under great strain. No promising solutions in the Middle East are taking shape. The Soviet troops have not yet been withdrawn from Afghanistan. The SALT II Treaty still awaits ratification. In Europe chances of a new qualitative arms race in the field of theatre nuclear weapons are growing. No negotiations about these developments are under way.

After the Party Leaders' Conference in Vienna, the Socialist International agreed that member parties would use every contact to prevent the threatening confrontation between the superpowers. In recent international gatherings, democratic socialists have played a role in reopening the dialogue between East and West and there are some indications of improvement. The visit of the Federal German Chancellor to Moscow is a further step towards reducing tensions.

2. Helmut Schmidt's proposal for a moratorium on the deployment of new nuclear weapons in Europe must be seen as a significant opening to negotiations. The Socialist International will continue to work for a meaningful dialogue between East and West. It will examine with great care all proposals by the parties concerned in East and West which could prevent the threat of a growing confrontation between

the superpowers, especially if those proposals include practical steps to combat the arms race.

3. Recent reports of false nuclear alerts which were due to technological failures illustrate the need for intensified political action on arms control. Arms control and disarmament remain central to the activities of the Socialist International.

4. In the interest of peace we regard as essential:

4.1 that in the spirit of the declaration of the Socialist International Party Leaders' Conference in Vienna last February all opportunities for bilateral and multilateral dialogue be employed;

4.2 that new proposals be made and openings be found to prevent the menace of a build-up of the arms race in Europe;

4.3 that the preparations for the Madrid Congress on peace and security should be continued to make real progress in all 'baskets' and in particular in strengthening confidence-building measures;

4.4 that a political solution to the situation in Afghanistan be found including the withdrawal of USSR troops and taking into account the legitimate security needs of its neighbours;

4.5 that a greater sense of urgency be given to the Vienna (MBFR) negotiations;

4.6 that SALT II be ratified by the US in order to get negotiations on SALT III under way.

5. It is not only in East-West

relations that dangers for peace arise; the rise of violence in the Middle East is also endangering peace. We again condemn terrorism from any quarter. Recent steps of escalation on both sides should be reversed.

6. The revolutionary process in Iran has been discussed by the Socialist International in meetings with the Foreign Minister of Iran, Sadegh Ghotbzadeh. Bruno Kreisky, Felipe Gonzalez and Olof Palme reported on the talks they had recently with President Bani Sadr and other Iranian authorities. The Bureau wishes to record its appreciation of the successful talks.

The Socialist International showed its understanding of the underlying motives of the Iranian revolution. It emphasised that the release of the hostages must be urgently brought about in a peaceful way.

7. The Socialist International Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean held in the Dominican Republic at the invitation of the PRD at the end of March underlined our commitment to Latin America and the Caribbean which the Bureau fully confirms. Human rights and political freedom are violated in a number of Latin American countries. The Socialist International greets with satisfaction the efforts of Latin American democratic forces to unify in order to fight more effectively for democracy, real independence and social justice.

8. The Socialist International fully supports the struggle of the Frente Democrático Revolucionario for freedom and democracy in El Salvador. As it did in Santo Domingo, the Socialist International asks the United States government to consider that support for the present junta in El Salvador is not a viable solution and will not prevent further bloodshed. We call on the US to change its policies. This is not a matter of anti-Americanism but an effort to achieve a constructive relationship between the US and the countries in Central America.

9. In Guatemala the danger of more bloodshed looms large and must be corrected. We support the Frente Democrático contra la Represión in its struggle against the military dictatorship and for human rights, social justice and democracy.

10. The regime in Uruguay is attempting to gain some respectability by institutionalising its dictatorship. This development has to be strongly opposed. We support the struggle of the Grupo de Convergencia Democrática for a free Uruguay and the liberation of thousands of political prisoners including the leader of the Frente Amplio, General Liber Seregni.

11. Our comrades from Jamaica face the enormous task of creating a more just social order

in a frequently hostile environment. We appeal again to the IMF to be more sensitive to this in setting its conditions for assistance to Jamaica, where a food shortage could turn into a catastrophe in the near future. Our solidarity with Jamaica must be concrete. Member parties in and out of government will press for more help to Jamaica.

12. The Socialist International strongly warns again any attempt of a military coup aimed at preventing elections in Bolivia.

13. Repression in Korea has grown to unprecedented proportions. The Socialist International expresses its deep concern at the brutality used against students and peaceful protesters. It presses for the release of opposition leader Kim Dae Jung and supports the opposition movement of exiled Koreans, the Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy and Unification. Suppression of democracy in the name of anti-communism can never be acceptable to the member parties of the Socialist International.

14. The coming to power of the new government in Zimbabwe headed by Robert Mugabe is a hopeful sign for change in Namibia and South Africa. The obvious needs of the new state of Zimbabwe, in terms of practical aid and assistance, should receive the most sympathetic response.

Once again the Socialist International wants to state its absolute condemnation of South African apartheid. Economic sanctions, including an extension of the oil embargo, should be given serious consideration. The Socialist International strongly calls upon the Republic of South Africa immediately to release Nelson Mandela and Toivo Ja Toivo.

15. As far as North-South relations are concerned, the Socialist International strongly supports the recommendations in the North-South Report presented by Olof Palme on behalf of the Independent Commission. The Socialist International is committed to work for its wide distribution and acceptance. The Socialist International welcomes the call by Mexico and Austria for an international summit early next year on global negotiations within the framework of the UN. It is also important that the major issue of North-South relations should be given consideration at Western summit meetings.

16. The Socialist International has seen a period of growth and renewal and is now a strong significant voice in global politics. Our capabilities have never been greater. We dedicate them to the struggle for Peace, Freedom and Solidarity.

We prepare ourselves for the Socialist International Congress to be held in Madrid on 13-16 November 1980 with that dedication.

## INVITATIONS TO THE 1980 CONGRESS

The 1980 Congress of the Socialist International in Madrid in November will be the biggest ever. Alongside the member parties and affiliated organizations the Socialist International is inviting 59 other organizations and political parties. The following is a list of those invited:

Afghanistan: Afghan Social Democratic Party  
Algeria: Front de Liberation Nationale  
Angola: MPLA  
Argentina: Confederación Socialista Argentina  
Bolivia: Movimiento Izquierda Revolucionaria  
Bolivia: Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionaria de Izquierda  
Bolivia: Partido Socialista  
Botswana: Botswana Democratic Party  
Brazil: Partido Democrático Trabalhista  
Czechoslovakia: Charter 77  
East Timor: Fretilin  
Ecuador: Izquierda Democrática  
Egypt: National Democratic Party  
Egypt: Progressive National Unionist Party  
Egypt: Socialist Labour Party  
El Salvador: Frente Democrático Revolucionario  
Eritrea: Eritrean People's Liberation Front  
Eritrea: Eritrean Liberation Front  
Ethiopia: All Ethiopia Socialist Movement (Me'isone)  
Gambia: People's Progressive Party  
Ghana: People's National Movement  
Greece: PASOK  
Grenada: New Jewel Movement  
Guatemala: Frente Democrático Contra la Represión  
Guatemala: Frente Unido de la Revolución  
Guatemala: Partido Revolucionario Auténtico  
Guinea-Bissau: PAIGC  
Guyana: Working People's Alliance  
Iran: a personality representing the movement supporting President Bani Sadr  
Israel: United Workers' Party (MAPAM)  
Korea, Republic of: Democratic Unification Party  
Korea, Republic of: Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy and Unification  
Lebanon: Parti Progressiste Socialiste  
Mexico: Partido Revolucionario Institucional  
Morocco: Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires  
Mozambique: Frelimo  
Namibia: SWAPO  
Netherlands Antilles: Movimiento de Antiyas Nobo  
Netherlands Antilles: Movimiento Electoral di Pueblo  
Nicaragua: Frente Sandinista  
Panama: Partido Revolucionario Democrático  
Peru: APRA  
Puerto Rico: Partido Independentista  
Somalia: Revolutionary Socialist Party  
South Africa: African National Congress  
South Africa: Black Consciousness Movement  
Tanzania: CCM  
Tunisia: Mouvement d'Unité Populaire  
Upper Volta: Front Progressiste Voltaïque  
Uruguay: Convergencia Uruguaya  
Uruguay: Frente Amplio  
Uruguay: Partido Socialista  
USA: Socialist Party  
Western Sahara: POLISARIO Front  
Yugoslavia: Socialist Alliance  
Zambia: United National Independence Party  
Zimbabwe: ZANU (PF)  
Zimbabwe: Patriotic Front (ZAPU)  
COPPPAL  
Non-Aligned Movement

It should be stressed that these organizations are not members or, in most cases, candidates for Socialist International membership. They are invited as observers to the Congress, this does not signify any other kind of relationship.

And we will be inviting the following individual guests. Some of them will unfortunately not be able to attend but the invitations were issued in a spirit of solidarity to those living under dictatorships which refuse to allow democracy.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: Otto Kersten  
Argentina: Hipólito Solari Rigoyen  
Argentina: a representative of the human rights movement  
Brazil: Luis Silva (Lula)  
Brazil: a representative of the Partido do Movimento Democrático Brasileiro  
Chile: Aniceto Rodriguez  
Colombia: a personality yet to be nominated  
Czechoslovakia: Zdenek Hejzlar  
Ecuador: President Jaime Roldos  
Great Britain: Philip Noel-Baker  
Greece: Charalambos Protopapas, Ionnis Pesmazoglou  
India: George Fernandes, Mohammed S. Hoda  
Korea, Republic of: Kim Dae Jung  
Malawi: Attati Mpakati  
Namibia: Toivo Ja Toivo  
Nepal: B. P. Koirala  
South Africa: Nelson Mandela  
United States: Edward L. Ice  
certain members of the US Congress  
members of certain progressive organizations  
a representative of the aboriginal movement  
(names to be submitted by the NDP, Canada)  
Uruguay: Liber Seregni  
USSR: Andrei Sakharov

## NEW MEMBERS

Following the Oslo Bureau meeting the Parti Socialiste Progressiste of Lebanon joins the list of parties recommended for Socialist International membership by the Bureau. Other recommendations for membership to go before the Congress for approval in November are: the Izquierda Democrática of Ecuador and the New Jewel Movement of Grenada.

The PSP will be the Socialist International's first member party in the Arab world. It was founded by the veteran socialist Kamal Jumblat who was murdered during the Lebanese civil war. His son, Walid Jumblat, is now the party leader.

The Bureau also decided to recommend acceptance of the Paraguayan Partido Revolucionario Febrerista's application for full membership. At present it is a consultative member.

Other parties whose application for membership is likely to come before the next Bureau meeting, after they were postponed pending clarification, are: Democratic Unification Party of Korea; the Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy and Unification; the Movimiento Electoral di Pueblo of the Netherlands Antilles and the Movimiento de Antiyas Nobo (consultative membership); and the Tunisian Mouvement d'Unité Populaire.

Applications from the National Democratic Party of Egypt and the Argentinian Confederación Socialista and Partido Intransigente were postponed for more detailed consideration.

The Bureau decided to reject applications from the following: Movimiento Democrático Nicaragüense; Frente Obreiro Y Liberacion 30 di Mei and Reformistan Uni Pa Bienestar di Aruba from the Netherlands Antilles.

A number of other parties have indicated an interest in applying for membership. A full report of progress on these applications will appear in the next issue of SOCIALIST AFFAIRS.