

necessary and are not primarily ideologically motivated. Recognising this to be so, the Socialist International urges all donor countries to resist the attempts by private and public pressure groups to deprive countries which nationalise and expropriate their own basic resources of their normal expectations of development assistance. In particular, it calls on all member parties whose governments participate in the decisions of the World Bank to ensure that there is no further delay in the resumption of Bank lending to Chile.

The Bureau appreciates that difficult issues of the level of compensation frequently arise following expropriation. But these fail to be resolved bilaterally, and through the normal processes of the law. Such problems should not be permitted to impede economic development.

At this moment in the struggle for socialism in Chile, the Socialist International extends its strongest support and good wishes for the success of the great efforts of the Radical Party to establish social justice based on respect for Human Rights and the principles of socialism in democracy.

The Socialist International congratulates the Radical Party for the outstanding contribution it has made, and continues to make, to greater understanding between the socialist parties of Europe and those of Latin America, and believes that the close links between us which have now been established on a secure foundation will give great strength to the fight to achieve socialism and democracy for all our peoples.

Nuclear Tests in the Pacific

The following is the text adopted on nuclear tests in the Pacific:

The Bureau of the Socialist International, gathered at Santiago de Chile on February 7-9, 1973, solemnly protests against the continuation of nuclear tests in the Pacific Ocean.

The verified consequences of such tests have disturbed the biological balance in the marine world and together with the increase of the rate of radiation in the atmosphere threaten shortly to turn into a drama for all the countries directly affected.

Dangerous to the atmosphere, unnecessarily expensive and technologically of no real value for the countries that keep causing them, these tests have become an onslaught against the people's security and a serious threat to the future of humanity.

The Bureau of the Socialist Inter-

national approves of the action taken by the Chilean, Australian and New Zealand Governments against the continuation of nuclear tests in the Pacific.

It denounces the French Government's decision which in spite of the protest by world opinion, continues with its series of tests in that part of the world.

It notes with satisfaction the decision taken by the French Socialist Party in which it committed itself in advance to put an end to these French tests and to ratify the international agreement on the ban of nuclear tests.

The Bureau of the Socialist International takes this opportunity to renew the appeal made at the Vienna Congress against the continuation of all nuclear tests and for the extension of the international agreement on the ban of nuclear tests to include also underground explosions, which have dangerously increased in the last few years.

London Bureau Plans 1973 Malta Conference

First-hand reports on the French and Irish general elections were given to a two-day meeting of the Bureau of the Socialist International held in London on 17-18 March. The meeting was attended by Bureau representatives of member parties from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy (both the Socialist and Social Democratic parties), Malta, Netherlands and Sweden. The chairman of the International, Dr. Bruno Pittermann, presided.

The report on the Irish general election was given by Niall Greene, Vice-Chairman of the Irish Labour Party. He said that following the electoral victory of the Fine Gael-Labour coalition on 28 February, a 15-member Cabinet had been formed in which Labour had six portfolios held by five ministers. The Labour Party Leader, Brendan Corish, had become Deputy Prime Minister and held the ministries of both social security and health. Other politically important ministries held by Labour were Industry and Commerce, by Justin Keating, and Labour, by Michael O'Leary. Niall Greene said that while the previous two periods of coalition had been unhappy experiences for the Irish Labour Party, this

time they were confident that it would usher in a time of change in Ireland.

Robert Pontillon, International Secretary of the French Socialist Party, reported that the Left had gained overall by 10 per cent (36 to 46 per cent) compared with the 1968 elections, while the Gaullists had slumped from 43 to 34 per cent. Of the 176 seats won by the left-wing front, the Socialists and other non-Communists had won 103. He said that the combined Right had obtained a hundred more seats than the Left with roughly the same number of popular votes. Robert Pontillon drew the Bureau's attention to three aspects of the election results. Firstly, they marked the final end of traditional Gaullism. Secondly, the Socialist Party has emerged as the second strongest parliamentary force and also greatly strengthened organisationally in the country. Thirdly, all options were now open for the presidential elections due in 1976.

The Bureau heard a report from Karl Czernetz (Austria) on the progress of the preparatory talks in Helsinki for a European Security Conference and also on the talks in Vienna on mutual balanced force reductions (MBFR). It was subsequently decided that a session of the International's Study Group on European Security should be convened at the time of the next Bureau meeting in London at the end of June.

Other reports received by the Bureau were an account of the Chairman's recent visit to the People's Republic of China and also the official report of the British Labour Party's recent visit to North and South Vietnam.

Two important decisions taken by the Bureau related to the Dominican Republic and the next Council Conference of the Socialist International. In accordance with the decision of the Bureau meeting held in Chile that a Socialist International mission should be sent to the Dominican Republic to investigate the wave of political terror there, the Bureau decided that the mission should comprise representatives of the Belgian Socialist Party, the German Social Democratic Party and the Swedish Social Democratic Party, all three of which are presently in government. The Secretariat of the International was instructed to fix the date of the mission.

The Bureau also decided that the 1973 Council Conference of the International should take place on 2-4 November in Malta, where the Labour Party under Dom Mintoff is currently in power.