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Eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE
AGENDA OF THE EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION; ITEM PROPOSED BY
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

MEASURES TO AVERT THE THREAT OF A NEW WORLD WAR AND TO
REDUCE TENSION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Letter dated 21 September 1953 from the Chairman of the
delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,
addressed to the President of the General Assembly

New York, 21 September 1953

I have the honour to submit herewith for inclusion in the agenda of the eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly the important and urgent item:

"Measures to avert the threat of a new world war and to reduce tension in international relations".

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the attached draft resolution on this item to be distributed as a General Assembly document.

signed) A. VYSHINSKY

Chairman of the delegation of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

MEASURES TO AVERT THE THREAT OF A NEW WORLD WAR AND TO
REDUCE TENSION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Noting that the cessation of hostilities in Korea is an important contribution to the reduction of tension in international relations, and that it has created more favourable conditions for further action to avert the threat of a new world war,

Noting, at the same time, that in a number of countries the armaments race, far from abating, is being continued on an even greater scale, and that weapons of mass destruction, as a result of the latest advances in the application of atomic energy for this purpose, are becoming ever more destructive and dangerous for many millions of people,

With the object of averting the threat of a new world war and strengthening the peace and security of nations,

1. Declares atomic, hydrogen and other types of weapons of mass destruction to be unconditionally prohibited, and instructs the Security Council to take immediate steps to prepare and implement an international agreement which will ensure the establishment of strict international control over the observance of this prohibition;

2. Recommends to the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, France and China, which bear the chief responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, that they reduce their armed forces by one-third within one year; and with a view to the alleviation of the burden of military expenditure recommends to the Security Council that it call as soon as possible an international conference for the carrying out by all States of the reduction of armaments;

3. Recognizes that the establishment of military, air and naval bases in the territories of other States increases the threat of a new world war and operates to undermine the national sovereignty and independence of States;

The General Assembly,

Recommends to the Security Council that it take steps to ensure the elimination of military bases in the territories of other States, considering this a matter of vital importance for the establishment of a stable peace and of international security;

4. Condemns the propaganda which is being conducted in a number of countries with the aim of inciting enmity and hatred among nations and preparing a new world war, and calls upon all governments to take measures to put a stop to such propaganda, which is incompatible with the fundamental purposes and principles of the United Nations.

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Eighth session

AGENDA OF THE EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

Second report of the General Committee

1. The General Committee, at its 33th meeting held on 22 September 1953, considered the request by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/2484) for the inclusion in the agenda of the eighth session of the following additional item:

"Memorandum of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 'C' of the General Assembly, adopted on 28 August 1953."

2. The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that this item should not be included in the agenda of the session.

3. At the 89th meeting on the same date, the General Committee considered a further request by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/2485) for the inclusion in the agenda of the following additional item:

"Measures to avert the threat of a new world war and to reduce tension in international relations."

4. The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that this item should be included in the agenda of the session, and that it should be referred to the First Committee for consideration and report.