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Item 46 of the preliminary list*

CONCLUSION OF A TREATY ON THE COMPLETE AND GENERAL PROHIBITION
OF NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS

Note verbale dated 15 April 1976 from the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United

Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, on instructions from the Soviet Government, has the honour to inform the Secretary-General of the following.

In connexion with the goal of eliminating the danger of a nuclear war and ending the nuclear arms race, the problem of the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests has acquired special significance. The importance of this problem and the necessity to do everything possible to conclude an international treaty on the general and complete cessation of nuclear weapon tests was stressed once again in the report of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, at the Twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

By an overwhelming majority of votes, the United Nations General Assembly at its thirtieth session adopted resolution 3478 (XXX), on the proposal of the USSR. That resolution contains an appeal to all nuclear weapon States to enter into negotiations with a view to reaching agreement on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

The Soviet Union declares that it is prepared to participate in negotiations on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3478 (XXX).

^{*} A/31/50.

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The conclusion of an international treaty outlawing all nuclear weapon tests would make a major contribution to the limitation of the arms race and would thereby help to develop and deepen the process of détente still further and to eliminate the danger of nuclear conflict.

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requests that this letter be circulated as an official document of the United Nations General Assembly under item 46 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session.