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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 9 August 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you the text of a statement by the Presidium of the League of the German Democratic Republic for the United Nations on the outcome of the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 50 and 55 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Siegfried ZACHMANN
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary

Chargé d'Affaires of the
Permanent Mission of the German Democratic
Republic to the United Nations

* A/37/150.

ANNEX

Statement by the Presidium of the League of the GDR for the United Nations on the Second Special Session Devoted to Disarmament

The Presidium of the League of the GDR for the United Nations notes with satisfaction that in view of the threat to mankind emerging from the imperialist policy of superarmament and confrontation, at the United Nations special session the overwhelming majority of States called for immediate and effective measures for averting the danger of nuclear war. The obligation announced to the world forum by the USSR not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is a step of historical importance which is wholeheartedly welcomed by the GDR League for the United Nations. It expresses the expectation that the other nuclear States will follow this example.

The Presidium of the League appreciates the numerous constructive initiatives and proposals borne by the will for peace, which emanated above all from the socialist States, among them the GDR, and a number of non-aligned States. In their core all positive ideas aimed at concrete steps for ending the arms race and proceeding to disarmament. It is necessary on the basis of the proposals borne by reason and realism to hold honest negotiations and to enter into arrangements which put an end to the arms madness. The United Nations

should play a significant role in this respect to meet its high responsibility for the safeguarding of peace and international security.

It is regrettable that the United Nations special session could not take concrete decisions and recommendations on genuine disarmament measures. The responsibility for that lies with the USA and other NATO States which, in contradiction to the clear will of the majority of the participants in the session, prevented such results and opposed any proposal aimed at effective disarmament. They stick to their destructive positions, to the programme of enforced armament and to the aggressive nuclear doctrines.

In view of that the Presidium of the GDR League for the United Nations deems it necessary that all forces devoted to the cause of peace intensify their actions for effective measures towards arms limitation and disarmament. The League will act in this sense.

Absolute priority must be given to all steps for the prevention of a thermonuclear war. Of great significance for the peace of the world would be the freezing of nuclear armament, the gradual reduction of all nuclear weapons up to their complete elimination, the prohibition of the barbaric neutron weapon, the prevention of any development of further weapons of mass destruction, like the chemical weapon. Not superarmament and confrontation, but disarmament and peaceful cooperation must determine world politics in the interests of life on our planet.

We expect from the forthcoming 37th Session of the UN General Assembly that it will take up the constructive initiatives and proposals submitted at the UN special session, that it will bring about relevant decisions and thus make a contribution for the right of every person to a life in peace.