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PREPARATION OF SOCIETIES FOR LIFE IN PEACEReport of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 85th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1978, the General Assembly adopted resolution 33/73 entitled "Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace", the operative part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

...

I

"Solemnly invites all States to guide themselves in their activities by the recognition of the supreme importance and necessity of establishing, maintaining and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations and, in particular, to observe the following principles:

"1. Every nation and every human being, regardless of race, conscience, language or sex, has the inherent right to life in peace. Respect for that right, as well as for the other human rights, is in the common interest of all mankind and an indispensable condition of advancement of all nations, large and small, in all fields.

"2. A war of aggression, its planning, preparation or initiation are crimes against peace and are prohibited by international law.

"3. In accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, States have the duty to refrain from propaganda for wars of aggression.

"4. Every State, acting in the spirit of friendship and good-neighbourly relations, has the duty to promote all-round, mutually advantageous and equitable political, economic, social and cultural co-operation with other States, notwithstanding their socio-economic systems, with a view to securing their common existence and co-operation in peace, in conditions of mutual understanding of and respect for the identity and diversity of all peoples, and the duty to take up actions conducive to the furtherance of the ideals of peace, humanism and freedom.

"5. Every State has the duty to respect the right of all peoples to self-determination, independence, equality, sovereignty, the territorial integrity of States and the inviolability of their frontiers, including the right to determine the road of their development, without interference or intervention in their internal affairs.

"6. A basic instrument of the maintenance of peace is the elimination of the threat inherent in the arms race, as well as efforts towards general and complete disarmament, under effective international control, including partial measures with that end in view, in accordance with the principles agreed upon within the United Nations and relevant international agreements.

"7. Every State has the duty to discourage all manifestations and practices of colonialism, as well as racism, racial discrimination and apartheid, as contrary to the right of peoples to self-determination and to other human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"8. Every State has the duty to discourage advocacy of hatred and prejudice against other peoples as contrary to the principles of peaceful coexistence and friendly co-operation.

II

"Calls upon all States, in order to implement the above principles:

(a) To act perseveringly and consistently, with due regard for the constitutional rights and the role of the family, the institutions and the organizations concerned:

- (i) To ensure that their policies relevant to the implementation of the present Declaration, including educational processes and teaching methods as well as media information activities, incorporate contents compatible with the task of the preparation for life in peace of entire societies and, in particular, the young generations;
- (ii) Therefore, to discourage and eliminate incitement to racial hatred, national or other discrimination, injustice or advocacy of violence and war;

(b) To develop various forms of bilateral and multilateral co-operation, also in international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, with a view to enhancing preparation of societies to live in peace and, in particular, exchanging experiences on projects pursued with that end in view;

III

"1. Recommends that the governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned should initiate appropriate action towards the implementation of the present Declaration;

"2. States that a full implementation of the principles enshrined in the present Declaration calls for concerted action on the part of Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other interested international and national organizations, both governmental and non-governmental;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the progress made in the implementation of the present Declaration and to submit periodic reports thereon to the General Assembly, the first such report to be submitted not later than at its thirty-sixth session."

2. At its thirty-sixth session, the General Assembly received the report of the Secretary-General (A/36/386 and Add.1-3) and adopted, on 9 December 1981, resolution 36/104 urging that efforts be intensified towards the implementation of the Declaration. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue following the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and to submit a report thereon not later than at the thirty-ninth session.
3. In a note verbale dated 11 March 1982 the Secretary-General invited all States to communicate to him all relevant information. A note verbale was sent on 13 February 1984 as a reminder of the forthcoming report of the Secretary-General. The note called attention to the fact that the draft programme of the International Year of Peace (A/38/413, annex I) refers to the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace as one of the General Assembly resolutions which should be disseminated in publicizing the experience of the United Nations system in the promotion of peace. As at 1 October 1984, 19 Member States communicated to the Secretary-General the requested information. The substantive parts of these replies are reproduced in section II below. In addition, the Government of San Marino informed the Secretary-General in 1982, in reference to the Declaration, of the organization of a conference in the Republic.
4. On behalf of the Secretary-General, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Security Council Affairs drew the attention of the heads of all organizations within the United Nations system to General Assembly resolution 36/104 and requested them to convey relevant information. As at 1 October 1984, replies had been received from 15 organizations. A summary of these replies is contained in section III of this report.
5. All non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were informed of General Assembly resolution 36/104 and received the text of the Declaration. Several organizations have referred to the Declaration in their preparations for the International Year of Peace.
6. In submitting this report to the General Assembly the Secretary-General would like to draw the Assembly's attention to the fact that several specific measures are proposed in the replies received which, if endorsed by the Assembly, might be undertaken by organizations of the United Nations system prior to a further review of the implementation of the Declaration. Among these are the legal and political codification of the concept of the right to life in peace, a report on ways and means of countering the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war, and a report by a panel of peace research experts.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BARBADOS

[Original: English]

[23 April 1982]

1. Our Constitution is the Supreme Law of the land, i.e. it is the law upon which the validity of all other laws is determined and can only be amended under certain narrowly prescribed conditions. Enshrined therein is the right to life (sect. 12, chap. I) and the inviolability of one's person. The inviolability of one's person being interpreted here as being synonymous with the phrase "right to life in peace" is specifically protected in the Constitution (sect. 11a) where it is stated that "every person in Barbados is entitled to the right whatever his race; place of origin; political opinions; colour; creed or sex ..." to each and all of the following, namely:

- (a) Life, liberty and security of person,
- (b) Protection for the privacy of his home, and other property and from deprivation of property without compensation,
- (c) The protection of the law, and
- (d) Freedom of conscience, of expression and of assembly and association.

2. By the Treaty of Chaguaramas, 1973, Barbados is a party to the CARICOM Agreement which promotes and establishes co-operation in the cultural and economic spheres and to a limited extent in the political sphere between Barbados and its CARICOM partners. However, in relation to the wider Caribbean and the rest of the world Barbados is a party to several bilateral and multilateral agreements aimed at fostering cultural, scientific and technical co-operation between several States, with an aim to promoting peaceful coexistence and respect for each other's political, social and economic systems; different though they may be from ours. Thus cultural agreements have been concluded with States such as Cuba, 1981, China, 1980, and technical and scientific agreements with Nigeria, Korea and the Dominican Republic, and France, which has as yet to be signed.

3. At all the international forums Barbados has been unrelenting in expressing its opposition to colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination. It is party to the United Nations Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid in 1973 and is represented at the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports.

4. Section 33 of the Public Order Act, chapter 168A, makes it an offence to:

- (a) Knowingly publish or distribute written matter which is threatening, abusive or insulting or

(b) Use in public place or at any public meeting words which are threatening, abusive or insulting.

Such words or written matter being intended or that could reasonably be interpreted as likely to stir up or to be capable of stirring up hatred against any section of the public sector in Barbados, distinguished by colour, race or creed.

BULGARIA

[Original: Russian]

[23 May 1984]

1. The Government of Bulgaria considers the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace to be one of the important United Nations documents, in that it categorically recognizes the right of every nation and every human being to life in peace, indicates the link between this basic human right and the political, economic and social progress of peoples, and acknowledges the need to prepare societies for life in peace.
2. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace is of particular relevance in the current tense international situation. The United States of America and its closest allies are engaging in an increasingly wide-ranging and unrestrained arms race, continuing their attempts to disrupt the existing strategic balance and attain military superiority, constantly increasing their military expenditure, interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign States, creating hotbeds of tension in various regions which they arbitrarily designate as "regions of vital interest", advancing to the level of State policy various militarist doctrines which envisage the waging of nuclear war (total and limited) and the conduct of international relations from a position of strength, and engaging in hostile propaganda against other countries.
3. Under these circumstances, the constructive proposals of the States members of the Warsaw Treaty indicate the proper course to follow in order to move beyond confrontation and solve international problems by means of talks in which the parties enjoy equal rights and of agreements based on the principle of equality and equal security.
4. The Bulgarian Government, in full accord with the Declaration adopted by consensus at the thirty-third session of the General Assembly (resolution 33/73) on the initiative of Poland, unswervingly pursues a policy aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security, the reduction of international tension, the promotion of détente, the cessation of the arms race, and the achievement of disarmament. The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria, T. Zhivkov, stated recently that "We are doing and shall do everything possible to ensure that the world returns to détente and co-operation. We are convinced protagonists of mutually advantageous co-operation with all countries and in all fields - science, technology, production and trade. It is not we alone who need such co-operation,

and we believe that it will make ever-increasing headway, thrusting all artificial obstacles aside".

5. As will be recalled, at its thirty-eighth session the General Assembly adopted, on Bulgaria's initiative, resolution 38/73 F concerning the World Disarmament Campaign. This resolution stressed the significance of the independent actions conducted in individual countries, confirmed the need for the further conduct of activities by the international community to achieve progress in the field of disarmament, and invited Member States to co-operate with the United Nations to ensure a better flow of information with regard to the various aspects of disarmament and to avoid dissemination of tendentious information.

6. Unfortunately, despite the decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of objective information, including the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, certain circles in the NATO countries are seeking to discredit the anti-war movements, allowing the policy of the socialist countries to be misrepresented, seeking to split the anti-war movements and throw them off course, and trying to convince public opinion that nuclear war is admissible and can be limited, that it is not such a catastrophe for mankind. More than that, participants in the anti-war movements are becoming victims of direct terror and repression, arrests and judicial tyranny.

7. Despite this, awareness of the danger of a thermonuclear catastrophe has played an important role in mobilizing world public opinion, through the anti-war movements, in support of peace and disarmament, and has led to its expression on an unprecedentedly massive scale. This is apparent from the great wave of anti-war demonstrations that have taken place in the past year in response to the appeal of the World Peace Council.

8. In Bulgaria, too, a broad movement of the people in support of peace and disarmament has manifested itself. Suffice it to recall that, in response to the appeal of the World Congress of Women held in Prague in 1981, the Committee of Bulgarian Women organized a broad campaign to collect signatures for peace in the course of which more than 20,000 meetings were held and some 2,350,000 signatures were collected.

9. Bulgarian representatives have participated in a number of forums of the international community at which voices were raised in support of peace: the World Assembly for Peace in Prague, the Congress of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (Amsterdam, 1983), the International Conference on the Transformation of Europe into a Nuclear-Free Zone (Athens, January 1984), the International Meeting of Intellectuals for Peace (Paris, March 1984) and others.

10. In line with the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign, Bulgaria has organized a number of important international meetings which contributed positively to the implementation of the principles contained in the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. The participants in these meetings were representatives of a number of youth, women's and other public movements.

(a) From 25 to 27 October 1983 an international trade union discussion group on "Peace and the trade unions" was held in Sofia with the participation of representatives of more than 100 national and 13 international trade union organizations who adopted an appeal for peace addressed to working people throughout the world.

(b) At the initiative of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, a meeting of scientists from Romania, Greece and Bulgaria took place at Sofia in 1983 on the problems of establishing a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

(c) Representatives of youth organizations from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Romania and Yugoslavia met in Sofia in November 1983, taking as their slogan "Peace, friendship and co-operation, and for the transformation of the Balkans into a nuclear-weapon-free zone".

(d) On 8 March, Bulgarian and Greek women held a frontier meeting for peace. Women's organizations from Balkan and Danube countries participated in the 1983 Peace March, with the slogan "For a nuclear-free Balkans, for a nuclear-free Europe", which addressed an appeal to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session. Thus the idea of establishing a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans and strengthening peace in Europe received strong public support.

11. A major contribution to efforts to prepare young people for life in peace and to develop the creative talents of the younger generation is the Banner of Peace movement, initiated by the noted state and public activist Liudmila Zhivkova. The first International Children's Assembly "Banner of Peace", held in 1979, was the most significant event held as part of the International Year of the Child. Subsequently, with the holding of the Sofia '80 and Sofia '81 meetings, and particularly as a result of the second International Assembly "Banner of Peace" in 1982, this unique children's forum was transformed into a powerful movement which has come to occupy an important place in international life and has been acknowledged by the General Assembly of the United Nations, the General Conference of UNESCO and the World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace. In his message to the second International Assembly "Banner of Peace", which brought together at Sofia representatives of the younger generation from more than 100 States of the world, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar, said: "We warmly welcome the initiative of the Government of Bulgaria to continue to hold this Assembly, which gives full expression to the artistic talents and human dignity of the child. It is a reminder of the fundamental importance of securing for every child the rights and respect to which he is entitled as a member of the world community". On the same occasion, Mr. Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, Director-General of UNESCO, stated that, as an initiative begun and carried through by children, with their original and undeniably valuable idea that the child and children's creativity were an important factor in and an opportunity for strengthening peace throughout the world, the Assembly had become an event of international significance, and went on to say that the International Assembly would contribute to the triumph of peace and friendship among peoples and the establishment of favourable conditions for development and creativity in the name of a radiant future for our planet.

12. Immediately after the outstanding success of the second International Children's Assembly, cultural workers, artists, scientists and educationists from various countries established the Liudmila Zhivkova International Foundation, whose objectives are:

- (1) To study, develop and popularize noble ideas and undertakings aimed at the harmonious development of children and young people, the development of the creative talents inherent in each individual, the expansion of international cultural co-operation, and the strengthening of peace and mutual understanding among peoples;
- (2) To stimulate creative efforts and promote the dissemination of achievements in the field of culture, the arts, science and education;
- (3) To seek out gifted children and young people and assist in their development as future creative individuals in the name of peace and human progress;
- (4) To assist organizations, institutions and individuals in intensifying international cultural and economic co-operation for the strengthening of the cause of universal peace.

13. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace is put into practice not only in Bulgaria's international activity, but also in the country's national life:

- (a) The principles of the Declaration find reflection in article 63 of the Bulgarian Constitution, which establishes an obligation for each citizen to promote the preservation and strengthening of peace and prohibits propaganda for war;
- (b) The Bulgarian Penal Code defines as serious crimes against peace and humanity propaganda for war, incitement to war, and the planning, preparation and initiation of a war of aggression (arts. 407-409). Severe penalties are laid down for incitement to genocide and apartheid and for their preparation and perpetration (arts. 416-418), for advocating Fascist or other anti-democratic ideologies (art. 108) and for crimes against racial and national equality (art. 162) and against freedom of belief (arts. 164-165);
- (c) The Declaration has received wide publicity and dissemination throughout society. The activities of the mass media are in full accordance with the requirements concerning the preparation of societies for life in peace. They objectively reflect all events in Bulgaria and abroad, explain the negative consequences of the arms race and unmask its true causes;
- (d) The education system promotes the preparation of the younger generation for life in peace. The instruction programme in schools and higher educational institutions fully reflects the spirit of the Declaration. This orientation is being actively pursued by the national Peace Committee, the Young Communist League, the National Commission for UNESCO, the Bulgarian Teachers' Union and other public organizations.

14. The Government of Bulgaria has always proceeded from the conviction that public interest needs to be directed towards the pressing problems of peace and disarmament, and that the preparation of societies for life in peace is of exceptional importance in the current complex international situation.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[18 July 1984]

1. One of the most important conditions for improving the international situation and strengthening international security is the adoption by all States of measures aimed at the development and strengthening of mutual confidence and the achievement of better understanding between peoples. That goal is served in the adoption by the General Assembly at its thirty-third session, on the initiative of Poland, of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. The Declaration is aimed at establishing the political, economic, psychological and other prerequisites and guarantees that would help to ease international tension and ensure lasting peace on earth. It is designed to help prevent war and promote a radical change in peoples' opinions and ideas about war as something inevitable and inherent in human society from the very beginning.

2. The noble aims and objectives set forth in the Declaration take on even greater urgency today, given the sharp exacerbation of the international situation through the fault of the imperialist forces, which causes justifiable alarm and concern among peoples. The actions of the imperialist States, and primarily the United States of America, are in flagrant contradiction with the appeal contained in the Declaration "to guide themselves in their activities by the recognition of the supreme importance and necessity of establishing, maintaining and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations". While building up its military potential, the United States is at the same time declaring enormous regions of the world to be zones of its "vital interests" and is extending the network of military bases, which already encircle the entire globe. The Pentagon has set up the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force and is creating various commands with independent countries and whole continents as their targets.

3. Washington, in its foreign policy, pursues the principal objective of conducting affairs with the socialist countries "from a position of strength" and of seeking to impose its will on the whole world. The fact that Washington does not intend to respect the right of peoples to independent development, and is openly defiant of world public opinion, is evidenced by the United States aggression against the independent State of Grenada, its policy of State terrorism with regard to Nicaragua, and the interventionist actions of the United States in Lebanon. Despite "peace-loving" declarations meant for public consumption, the official military doctrine of the United States continues to be based on the possibility of delivering a first strike in a nuclear war and of winning it.

4. The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community reject the idea that it is admissible to use force in relations between States or to initiate wars. As Comrade K. U. Chernenko said at a reception in the Kremlin on 14 June, "the CMEA countries propose a policy of strengthening peace and easing international tension, and of constructive co-operation between all sovereign countries, including in the economic field, as their alternative to the intensification of the threat of war. We call for joint efforts in that direction by all States and by all those who are for détente and against nuclear madness". The same appeal is made in such important documents as the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe and the resolution entitled "Condemnation of nuclear war", which were adopted by the General Assembly on the initiative of the Soviet Union. These documents are fully consistent with the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, and in particular with its goal of securing the right of peoples to life in peace and of generating awareness in people of the idea of defending peace.

5. The Declaration emphasizes that "a basic instrument of the maintenance of peace is the elimination of the threat inherent in the arms race, as well as efforts towards general and complete disarmament, under effective international control, including partial measures with that end in view". Fully endorsing that provision in the Declaration, the Byelorussian SSR supports the range of proposals put forward by the socialist States and reiterated in the declaration of the CMEA member countries entitled "Maintenance of peace and international economic co-operation", which was adopted at the economic conference of member countries of that organization held recently at the highest level in Moscow. These proposals envisage the limitation and substantial reduction of both strategic arms and medium-range nuclear weapons, the prohibition of the militarization of outer space, the elimination of chemical weapons, etc.

6. Also consistent with the letter and spirit of the Declaration are the USSR proposals to agree upon a code of specific norms governing relations between the nuclear Powers. In accordance with the USSR initiative, the fundamental norm for relations between the nuclear Powers should be to regard the prevention of nuclear war as the primary objective in their foreign policy.

7. Since the day it was established, the Soviet State has opposed the use of any form of coercion or violence in international relations, and has advocated the ideals of peace. The founder of the Soviet State, V. I. Lenin, described the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution as "the first victory in the cause of eliminating war". In its historic decree on peace, the Soviet Government solemnly stated that it considered one of the principal goals of its foreign policy to be the eradication of wars of aggression, and it declared such wars in any form to be "the greatest crime against humanity".

8. The peace-loving policy of the Soviet State and the concern, organically inherent in socialism as a socio-economic system, for peaceful coexistence and the strengthening of peace throughout the world are reflected in the entire spiritual life of Soviet society. In the Byelorussian SSR, propaganda for war is prohibited by law and prosecuted as a criminal offence. The Constitution of the Byelorussian SSR makes it the duty of citizens of the Republic "to further the

development of friendship and co-operation with the peoples of other countries and the maintenance and strengthening of world peace".

9. The preparation of young people and the whole population for life in peace, friendship and co-operation between peoples is carried out in all educational institutions and public organizations, in the family and in labour collectives. The mass media make a large contribution to this educational process.

10. Soviet people are fully justified in considering that, not only in recent years, but at all times - both before and after the Second World War - they have been open advocates of peace, and consistent and resolute supporters of tangible and clear actions in defence of peace.

11. With the intensification of the threat of war, the peace movement in the Byelorussian SSR is assuming increasingly broad and massive proportions. An all-Union vigil of remembrance devoted to the fortieth anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War began in Minsk in April. An anti-war demonstration by 100,000 women took place on 5 May in the Republic's capital. In all, some 3.5 million people took part in mass anti-war actions in Byelorussia this year in May alone. Their slogans were: "Prevent nuclear war!", "Halt the further deployment of American missiles in Europe!", "A peaceful future for our children!", and "Yes to disarmament and peace!".

12. Marking the fortieth anniversary of the Republic's liberation from the German Fascist invaders, and expressing the will and interests of its citizens, the Byelorussian SSR will continue to exert all its efforts for the strengthening of peace and the prevention of nuclear war, and to strive for the attainment of the noble goals proclaimed in the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

COSTA RICA

[Original: Spanish]

[13 March 1984]

1. The Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations wishes to state that the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace received strong support from Costa Rica.

2. In view of the foregoing, in 1980 Costa Rica proposed the establishment of a University for Peace and is now successfully carrying out the tasks that it set itself. The seat of the University is in Costa Rica. Subsequently, Costa Rica put forward an initiative concerning the proclamation of the International Day of Peace, which has been celebrated in two successive years, namely, on the third Tuesday of September at the beginning of the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly.

3. Costa Rica is making preparations for the holding of the International Year of Peace, and the relevant information will be submitted to the General Assembly at its fortieth session with a view to setting aside 1986 for that purpose. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace is included in the draft programme on activities for the International Year of Peace for the purpose of making the resolution known and ensuring that it is widely disseminated.

4. Lastly, the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica wishes to reproduce a number of paragraphs set forth in the Proclamation concerning Permanent Neutrality made by Mr. Luis Alberto Monge, the President of the Republic, on 17 November 1983.

"A policy for peace:

"Costa Rica is opposed to war. We Costa Ricans are opposed to violence as a means of settling political differences. The ancients believed that war was the ultimate rational expression of politics, but we Costa Ricans believe that war is the ultimate irrationality and that it represents a breakdown in politics. The contemporary experience of Central America reinforces this belief. A policy for peace is an inescapable necessity at the present stage. All foreign policy and all security policies must serve to implement this concept. A policy of peace is the genuine and sole policy of our time.

"A spiritual force:

"Costa Rica fights to defend peace and struggles to prevent war in implementing day by day the ideals of Western civilization. We are a political community based on spiritual strengths and on the moral strength derived from the will and aspirations of mankind. We live in peace because we are confident that mankind has the capacity to construct, patiently and on a lasting basis, a society guaranteeing freedom for all that will bring us closer to achieving happiness. Costa Rica is neither an economic nor a political power, and it is not in a position to become either one or the other. Furthermore, Costa Rica is not a military power and does not wish to become one. Costa Rica is a spiritual force because the Costa Rican people have great faith in the power of common sense, in will-power and in the power of moral values.

"Nations cannot attain further stages in their civilization process without the genius of those who preceded us in building our native countries. Our peace is not a product of chance but, rather, the fruit of the labours of a prudent people guided by wise leaders along the path towards a national commitment to peace. As in the case of freedom, peace is neither an original nor a permanent state, and we must fashion and refashion it day by day."

CUBA

[Original: Spanish]

[22 August 1984]

1. The Government of the Republic of Cuba believes that the fundamental premise for the preparation of societies for life in peace is the cessation of imperialist policies, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and the use of force in international relations.
2. Furthermore, success in putting an end to the arms race and bringing about general and complete disarmament would contribute to creating in the world a climate of peace and security among States and to using part of the funds currently devoted to that purpose for the economic and social development of the so-called third world.
3. Accordingly, Cuba strongly condemns the emplacement by the United States Administration and some of its NATO allies of medium-range nuclear missiles in the territories of some Western European countries, resulting in the disruption of the military balance between the two major military blocs and creating a new spiral in the arms race.
4. The Republic of Cuba believes that societies will not be able to live in peace until there is respect for the right to self-determination, independence, equality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-interference in their internal affairs.
5. Another fact of singular importance which militates against the right of peoples to live in peace is the critical situation created by the aggressive attitude of the United States in the Central American region. El Salvador is suffering from virtual United States military intervention, while Nicaragua is the victim of acts of war also on the part of the United States, which is encouraging and supporting the counter-revolutionary forces fighting to overthrow the established Government.
6. The United States Government has gone so far as to violate the most elementary rules of navigation and international law by proceeding to mine the main Nicaraguan ports and by subsequently disregarding the decision of the International Court of Justice, which condemned and demanded the cessation of those criminal acts.
7. The Government of the Republic of Cuba believes, furthermore, that the acts of hostility and aggression being carried out by the United States and some of its allies, and the intimidatory military manoeuvres which they are conducting near the frontiers and territorial waters of other States, are in complete contravention of the principles contained in the Declaration and the most elementary rules of contemporary international law.
8. Another aspect of vital importance for the full implementation of the Declaration is respect for human rights and equality, regardless of race, belief, language or sex. In this context, the Government of the Republic of Cuba condemns

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the racist practices of apartheid pursued by the Governments of South Africa and Israel, in contravention of all the resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

[Original: English]

[26 July 1984]

1. As a founding Member of the United Nations, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has since the very establishment of that important organization tried to contribute its share to the maintenance and the strengthening of peace throughout the world. The harsh experiences from its entire history, in the course of which not one major conflict in Europe bypassed its territory, constitute an inexhaustible source of encouragement for Czechoslovakia to strive for the preservation of peaceful relations among nations. This endeavour has an added urgency at the present time, when the arms race is of an unprecedented scope, particularly in the nuclear field. The United States and some of its allies do not even attempt to hide the fact that by their actions they pursue the aim of achieving military superiority over the USSR and the States of the Warsaw Treaty. The deployment of new United States intermediary missiles, which was started towards the end of the last year in the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy, is nothing else but materialization of those plans and is sharply at variance with the principal idea of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. The socialist States, including Czechoslovakia, could not follow such developments with indifference. That is why the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic emphasized in his New Year's address that "in the interest of peace, we cannot permit the aggressive forces of imperialism to upset the existing strategic balance of forces in the world, to threaten the post-war arrangement of Europe and the security of our own as well as other socialist States. We cannot forget Munich, the destruction of our national independence and freedom and the threat to the very existence of our peoples".

2. The greatest danger emanating from the current militarist policies of the United States and NATO consists precisely in the grave threat to peace and international security and in the increased risk of an outbreak of nuclear war. However, along with other States of the Warsaw Treaty, Czechoslovakia emphasized at the same time that "however complicated the situation in the world, there are possibilities for overcoming this dangerous stage in international relations".* Czechoslovakia bases its actions on that assumption and, along with other socialist countries, strives through its active policy of peace to contribute to the achievement of real disarmament and thus to averting nuclear war.

3. With a view to implementing the ideas of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life of Peace, Czechoslovakia is taking an active part both in global and regional projects of the peace movement. Upon decision of the World Peace

* The 1983 Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty Countries.

Council, a world assembly of peace forces was held in Prague in 1983, to which both the Czechoslovak Government and people devoted extraordinary attention.

4. Proceeding from the fact that in the current tense international situation the negotiating machinery for disarmament is an inseparable component part of international relations and that the United Nations plays one of the most important roles in that machinery, Czechoslovakia attaches special importance to that organization. For the same reason the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance expressed themselves in their recent Declaration in favour of an increased role of the United Nations and the organizations within its system as an important forum for uniting the efforts of States to strengthen peace and international security and to contribute to the solution of the urgent world problems.

5. The adoption of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace represented a significant step of the international community. It reflects the desire of the overwhelming majority of mankind to forget the horrors of war and not to permit their recurrence. Unfortunately, not all States let themselves be guided by the genuine aspirations of their people. All the more is it necessary to redouble our efforts and to erect a strong barrier in the way of the forces of imperialism and reaction.

6. The socialist countries came up with a number of important initiatives aimed at real disarmament, both nuclear and conventional. Many proposals have been submitted with a view to creating a favourable atmosphere for initiating negotiations and for their successful progress. One of them is the important proposal of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Konstantin Chernenko, made on 2 March 1984, according to which the nuclear Powers should be governed by certain principles and norms and they should make averting a nuclear war the principal objective of their foreign policy. That proposal was rightfully entitled a code of peace. We include among these proposals also the Declaration of International Co-operation for Disarmament adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session on the initiative of Czechoslovakia. If States are guided by the provisions of that Declaration, it can be assumed that the principal goal of the Declaration on the preparation of Societies for Life in Peace will be implemented. In fact, the Declaration on International Co-operation for Disarmament, as well as the follow-up resolution at the thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions of the Assembly, place primary emphasis on the vital need to remove the threat of a nuclear war, to halt the arms race and to achieve disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field, in order to maintain the peace and to strengthen international security. Without these prerequisites it will hardly be possible to approach such a responsible task as is the preparation of societies for life in peace.

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[28 April 1982]

Ecuador, a country with a deep-rooted pacifist vocation that is aware of how important and urgent it is to contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of a just peace for both present and future generations, is implementing, on a permanent basis and in a consistent manner, each and every one of the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, both in its domestic sphere and in its relations with other States in the international community, and it has therefore taken the relevant steps at both levels.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[26 July 1984]

1. It is the principal goal of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-third session, to help guarantee the foremost human right, the right to life in peace. The perilous deterioration of the international situation, on which the most aggressive imperialist forces are embarked, underlines the contemporary relevance of the Declaration as well as the need to implement it.
2. The German Democratic Republic believes that there is no more important task today than to make intensified efforts for peace, mankind's paramount value, jointly with all forces ready for accommodation. All energies and potentialities should be mobilized for reducing and, in the end, removing completely the danger of nuclear inferno. This is a matter of particular urgency since the deployment of new United States nuclear first-strike weapons in western Europe has ushered in a new, more dangerous stage in imperialism's policy of confrontation and massive expansion of military might. This course, aimed at gaining world-wide military superiority, goes hand in hand with a whole series of aggressive acts, interventionist operations and attempts at destabilization in almost all regions of the globe. The use of force against the people of Grenada in contravention of international law, the interventionist activities against Central America, particularly Nicaragua, the brutal military interference in Lebanon, and the all-around support and assistance provided to the South African apartheid régime and the aggressor State Israel are cases in point, which speak for themselves. This anti-human, strong-arm policy, pursued at a global scale, runs counter to the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. Even so, the chances of effectively countering the dangers that are hanging over the peace have increased. The majority of States are ever more unwilling to tolerate thought patterns based on categories of war, let alone to tolerate warlike actions. The peoples stand up more forcefully than ever for peace, security and disarmament as well as co-operation.

3. The German Democratic Republic, the socialist German workers' and farmers' State where the roots of aggression against other peoples were torn out forever, has since its foundation contributed effectively to the safeguarding of peace. It has been and continues to be ready to work in a broad coalition of common sense with all forces interested in the preservation of peace. This is commensurate with the responsibility which results from its location at the junction between the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO alliances as well as from the historical duty to make every effort so that German soil will never again become the starting-point of another war.

4. Under the present conditions, each step suited to give life to the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace takes on an as yet unprecedented significance. In keeping with its peace policy pursued as a matter of principle, the German Democratic Republic has advocated since the Declaration's coming into existence that it be put into practice by all States. Its foreign and domestic policies have proved to be policies in the cause of peace. In the Prague Declaration and the Moscow Joint Statement, respectively of 5 January and 28 June 1983, it has put forward, jointly with its Warsaw Treaty allies, an extensive programme containing realistic, far-reaching proposals for the resolution of the most burning world problems. In the view of the German Democratic Republic, the conclusion, between the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty and the States members of NATO, of a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations would be particularly suited to lessen military confrontation and to strengthen security and confidence between States. The same can be said in respect of implementing the Soviet-initiated resolutions of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly concerning the condemnation of nuclear war and a freeze on nuclear-weapon arsenals and which have the German Democratic Republic's full support. Adoption of effective measures aimed at the prevention of nuclear war and the cessation of the arms race is also the goal of wide-ranging initiatives made by the German Democratic Republic, for instance those calling for a ban on the first use of nuclear weapons, the prohibition of neutron nuclear weapons and the outlawing of chemical weapons. The purpose of all those proposals is to save succeeding generations - today's and those to come - from the scourge of war and to assure their right to life in peace.

5. In keeping with the Declaration, the German Democratic Republic attaches great importance to the spiritual dimension of the preparation of peoples for life in peace. Taking into account that every Government has the task of firmly fixing the ideals of peace and international understanding in the minds of men, the German Democratic Republic is strongly opposed to all and any concepts which glorify war, declare a nuclear first strike as feasible and winnable or advocate hatred for other peoples, racial discrimination or revanchism. It is in this aspect in particular that the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace sees a basic prerequisite for the maintenance of peace and an effective means of mobilization of efforts against the growing danger of war. The German Democratic Republic's educational policy fully conforms with the requirement, for it is permeated with the spirit of international understanding, respect for other peoples and international solidarity. A key objective consists in equipping the younger generation with knowledge of the underlying causes and the devastating effects of wars and, based on such knowledge, developing in them a high sense of readiness and

responsibility to stand up actively for peace, disarmament and the elimination of national oppression and against colonialism, racism, apartheid, fascism, neo-Nazism and revanchism.

6. In the German Democratic Republic there is no room for nationalism, chauvinism or other forms of disregard for other peoples. Respect for all nations and solidarity with all peoples struggling for their freedom and independence have become characteristic of its citizens' attitude.

7. The German Democratic Republic recognizes the important contribution which the United Nations and, in particular, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization have made and continue to make in the co-ordination of activities aimed at promoting education in the spirit of peace. It supports committedly all efforts undertaken with that end in view. The appeal for the preservation of peace, launched by the General Conference of UNESCO at its twenty-second session, has evoked a broad favourable response among the people of the German Democratic Republic.

8. Besides the guarantee of the right to life in peace, which is the primary goal of the Declaration, it also reaffirms the necessity of implementing all other human rights. This concern takes a special place in the German Democratic Republic, corresponding with the humanist nature of its social system, in which the well-being of the people is the most important thing. The United Nations has in recent years been extensively informed about the high degree of quality which the German Democratic Republic has reached in the implementation of human rights. Its relevant reports submitted to the United Nations, such as those relating to the fulfilment of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights or the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, have found a great deal of appreciation.

9. Equally recognized is the German Democratic Republic's contribution to the defence of human rights at the international level. Thus, the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation was, upon its initiative, adopted at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly. Also, the German Democratic Republic, in past years, sponsored resolutions on "Measures to be taken against Nazi, Fascist and neo-Fascist activities and all other forms of totalitarian ideologies and practices based on racial intolerance, hatred and terror". The German Democratic Republic in this way contributes effectively towards giving effect to the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

10. The Declaration rightly singles out the mass media for taking an important place in the spiritual confrontation over the basic issues facing the human race. They bear indeed a great responsibility for the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation between States and peoples, the furtherance of social and cultural development and the implementation of human rights. The mass media must serve to combat incitement to war, racism and apartheid. These principles prevail in all aspects of the German Democratic Republic's policy on information, both internally and externally. The German Democratic Republic is working at the United Nations,

at UNESCO and in other international bodies towards gaining observance of these principles on a world-wide scale, and it backs up the just demands for the establishment of a new international information order.

11. In keeping with the essence and the ends of its social system, the German Democratic Republic will continue to stand up actively, as it has in the past, for the implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

GHANA

[Original: English]

[31 July 1984]

1. The policies which the Government of the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) have pursued since assuming the reins of power on 31 December 1981 have served the real interests of peace at both the national and the international level.

2. Internally, these policies have been animated by a desire to instil into the Ghanaian society a keen sense of social justice and public accountability, to make the people become aware of their rights and responsibilities and, above all, to take them into confidence by involving them, for the first time in their national life, in the decision-making process of the State. As a revolutionary Government, the PNDC is determined to effect structural changes in the administration of the country. It has encouraged the formation of workers and Area Defence Committees which are meant to constitute a hedge against corruption, an evil which undermines the very structure and cohesion of society and also to ensure that the people are set on a new life of self-reliance and national confidence, free from discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin, religion, political orientation and other negative factors. One of the most important acts of the Government of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (4 June 1979-23 September 1979) which, in a sense, was the precursor to the administration of the PNDC, was to abolish the normal requirement imposed on all applicants for public employment to indicate their tribal origin. The PNDC has scrupulously adhered to that rule.

3. Though the PNDC is a revolutionary Government, respect for fundamental human rights has not been overlooked. This is borne out, for instance, by the provisions in the PNDC Establishment Proclamation, 1981. One of the guiding principles set out in the supplementary provisions to the Proclamation is that in all actions by any authority, wings, organs or person in the State, "respect for fundamental human rights and for the dignity of the human person are to be cultivated among all sections of the society and established as part of the basis of social justice".

4. Since the PNDC has been criticized by a section of the foreign press with regard to the operation of the Public Tribunals in Ghana, it is felt necessary to dilate on the country's judicial system. As is known, Ghana has since its colonial days had a legal system and a judiciary based on the British legal system. With the advent of the PNDC administration a look at the judicial system showed, as had been evident for some time then, that the traditional courts were handicapped in

trial of cases by long delays and strict adherence to legal technicalities in the midst of which true justice was sometimes lost sight of, while serious economic crimes continued to be committed.

5. Under a new law establishing the Public Tribunals Board, not only has right of appeal been upheld but also the National Tribunal has been granted power to review its own decisions. This, no doubt, allows further opportunity to correct any errors that might have been made. The tribunals which normally sit in public deal essentially with criminal offences generally and particularly with offences of an economic nature. Cases before the tribunals are prosecuted by professional lawyers and police prosecutors. The guiding principle in both proceedings and decisions is the rule of natural justice. The method of trial is still accusatorial and the prosecution has always first to establish and prove its case whilst the accused has the right to counsel of his choice. In order to safeguard human rights, the law specifically provides that no person appearing before a tribunal shall be convicted on hearsay evidence alone. An accused may be granted bail and witnesses and counsel have the same immunities and privileges as those appearing before the high courts of the country. Decisions of a public tribunal under the law must be either unanimous or by a majority but a decision to impose the death penalty, which only the national or regional tribunal may impose, must be unanimous and is subject to confirmation by the PNDC. Limits are set on fines which the lower tribunals can impose.

6. To prevent military personnel from taking undue advantage of civilians, a Special Military Tribunal was established in July 1982. This tribunal deals with military personnel who assault, molest or unlawfully arrest any person, among other offences.

7. These are some of the safeguards which the PNDC Administration has provided by law to ensure that human rights and peace as well as the true interests of the people are effectively protected in Ghana.

8. As a sequel to the measures to improve upon the operation of the country's judiciary system, a new concept of prisons was introduced. Its essential features are to convert the prisons from being the dumping grounds where criminals become hardened, to centres of reform by encouraging prisoners to learn a trade and to allow those who are about to be released and have exhibited good conduct to be granted parole to visit home at short intervals. This is to assist in their eventual reintegration into society. Besides, the Government has been releasing all categories of prisoners from time to time on important national days as an amnesty.

9. As a further means of promoting national peace and of mobilizing the total strength of Ghanaians in the development of their country, the PNDC outlined in August 1983 a new National Policy of Reconciliation. In a radio and television broadcast, the Chairman of the PNDC, Flt.-Lt. J. J. Rawlings, gave Ghanaians who had fled the country, particularly in 1979, to escape the decisions of the AFRC, the opportunity to have their cases reviewed and to ensure their return to Ghana under safe conduct. The rationale behind the policy was that because of the shortness of the AFRC rule, the PNDC conceded that some errors might have been made

in the trial of some of the convicts. The Government therefore declared its intention to reopen the cases with a view to rectifying such errors, if any. The aim was also to ensure that Ghanaians who sincerely wished to help in the national reconstruction effort, despite their past crimes, were given a second chance. The AFRC convicts were not going to be retried; rather, on the basis of their petitions as well as records and available evidence, their cases were going to be reviewed.

10. At the international level, particularly within the United Nations system, Ghana has consistently sought in various ways to promote the ideals of peace and international understanding among nations. Since its independence, Ghana has taken a resolute stand against the arms race, particularly in the nuclear field. The recent election of prominent Ghanaians, in particular to the chairmanship of the United Nations Committee on Disarmament and to the presidency of the Executive Board of UNESCO, is a reflection of the efforts which Ghana has made towards the achievement of the goals set by the United Nations.

11. The Government of Ghana has given active encouragement to several locally based non-governmental organizations which strive for international peace and security and for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. Examples of such organizations are the African Youth Command, the Ghana National Committee against Apartheid, the Ghana Peace and Solidarity Council and the Regional Office in Accra of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA). For example, the Ghana Government, in conjunction with the Ghana Peace and Solidarity Council, sponsored the highly successful international Conference for Solidarity with the Liberation Struggle of the Peoples of Southern Africa held by the Government; the Ghana United Nations Association has been instrumental in inculcating into students in the country's educational institutions the ideals of the United Nations Charter. It is, no doubt, in recognition of the role and activities of GUNA that the World Federation of United Nations Associations decided to site its Regional Office in Accra (headed by a Ghanaian) to co-ordinate the activities of all national United Nations associations in Africa. Ghana's role and effectiveness in mobilizing the youth in the service of peace was further underlined when the International Youth Student Movement for the United Nations (based in Geneva) elected a Ghanaian as its President in 1983, the first time an African has occupied that position. It is also worth mentioning that thousands of Ghanaians striving for peace, friendship and international solidarity have joined various local associations for friendship with the following countries: USSR, Cuba, the United States of America, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Switzerland and Sweden.

12. Ghanaians are studying in most foreign countries in both East and West whilst local institutions of learning play host to foreign students, particularly those from countries still struggling for their independence. Even though it is difficult to know the exact population of Ghanaians studying in Western countries because large numbers are not government sponsored, the number of Ghanaian students in the USSR, Cuba and other socialist countries is about 2,000. Ghanaian specialists trained in foreign lands return to their native country enriched by the life and culture of other nations to contribute to the upliftment of the society. Such cultural exchanges help in eliminating racial prejudice and in promoting bonds of friendship and solidarity between Ghana and the countries concerned.

13. In an endeavour to promote peace and so enhance its relations with African countries, especially those which are geographically contiguous to it, Ghana has succeeded in establishing with some of these countries joint permanent commissions for co-operation. These permanent commissions provide a valuable framework for examining, on a bilateral basis, several important ways of furthering international co-operation and friendship. The joint commissions meet alternately in the capitals of the countries concerned. Among the countries with which Ghana has signed such agreements are Togo, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger, Guinea, Senegal, Angola, Algeria and Nigeria. It must be mentioned that under the agreements with Togo, Burkina Faso and the Ivory Coast, Ghana's immediate neighbours, joint border demarcation commissions have been set up. These have played no small role in helping to resolve numerous border disputes which might otherwise have affected relations with these countries and so assuring for populations on both sides of the border the means of interacting peacefully with each other.

14. The PNDC Government believes that constant consultations and interaction constitute the best means of strengthening relations and thereby peace among nations and will continue to work in that direction.

GREECE

[Original: French]

[11 July 1984]

1. The preservation of peace has always been and continues to be one of the main aims of the Greek Government. That is why the Greek Government attaches great importance to respect for the United Nations Charter and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and supports all initiatives designed to avert the threat of war.

2. The Greek Government, in accordance with its tradition of peace voted in favour of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which it has subsequently applied by taking the following steps:

(a) Votes in favour of disarmament and international security;

(b) Contribution to the World Disarmament Campaign;

(c) Support for peace movements;

(d) Initiatives regarding the transformation of the Balkans into a nuclear-weapon-free zone, the observation of a minute of silence for peace (22 March) by the member countries of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Joint Declaration on the halting of the nuclear arms race;

(e) Efforts to develop a policy of friendship and co-operation with all peoples and Governments of the world, and more particularly with those of the Balkans and the Mediterranean.

3. To the latter end the Greek Government is making every effort needed to improve the region's political climate, in the hope of attaining its goal of transforming the Mediterranean into a sea of peace.

4. To that end, the Greek Government wishes to reiterate its support for the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace and is ready to assist the Secretary-General in his task of implementing the Declaration.

HUNGARY

[Original: English]

[13 September 1984]

1. In part III, paragraph 3, of its Declaration adopted on 15 December 1978, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to submit periodic reports on the implementation of the Declaration. Accordingly, for the first time, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic prepared a report for the thirty-sixth session and submitted it in New York after 15 August 1981 (see A/36/386). Later, by a note dated 13 February 1984 referring to Assembly resolution 36/104, the Secretary-General again requested the Governments of Member States to furnish additional information on the subject.

2. The Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Nations has the honour to transmit herewith the relevant information of his Government in compliance with the said request, noting its full support of the Declaration as was also expressed in its previous report. Furthermore, the Hungarian delegation to the thirty-third session of the General Assembly was a co-sponsor of the draft Declaration in the awareness that the purposes and principles formulated therein were fully in harmony with Hungarian legislation.

3. The Government's report of 1978 mentioned above enumerated the constitutional guarantees, enactments and other instruments of domestic law that provide a legal basis and government safeguards for the preparation of society for life in peace, covering in detail the established practice concerning the instruction and education of the young generation and the endeavours of Hungarian citizens on behalf of peace. It referred also to the Government's activity at international forums and in bilateral relations and its consistent efforts to contribute constantly to the preparation of societies for life in peace.

4. In view of the foregoing, the present report does not deal with the above aspects.

I

5. The Declaration of 1978 on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace occupies an outstanding place among the documents of the General Assembly. Its significance is determined by its subject-matter, namely the endeavour to create, preserve and consolidate peace, just and lasting. Its importance is underlined by

addressing its appeal not only to States, but also to all peoples of the world and to all human beings, who have the inherent right to life in peace. The three years since the previous report have also increased its practical value by confirming that the Declaration has offered a long-term action-oriented programme to work for in several fields of life.

6. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is pleased to communicate that during the three years since the previous report Hungarian society as a whole has witnessed a growing need for and an intensifying practice of preparation for life in peace. Despite the more tense international situation and the crisis of the world economy Hungary has made further progress in several fields in full conformity with the Declaration and with the best endeavours of the Hungarian Government. This process is marked by the following events:

(1) At the initiative of the editors of Képes Ujság, an illustrated magazine, peace-loving public opinion in Hungary has, for the third time and with a great tradition-creating force, represented itself at the national peace rally organized at Püspötavacs, the geographical centre of Hungary, to commemorate the atom-bombing of Hiroshima. The programme of events for 4 and 5 August 1984 had some 350,000 participants, who expressed in a wide variety of ways the inalienable right of all individuals to life in peace (signatures demanding a halt to the arms race, disarmament forums, cultural programmes expressing the people's desire for peace, an exhibition in memory of the atomic attack on Hiroshima, "peace-weddings" of young couples on this occasion, sport contests, mass meetings on behalf of peace, an exhibition of posters, a drawing competition, etc.). In content, dimension and significance the peace rally at Püspötavacs can be compared with the mass impact of the Easter peace marches in Western Europe.

(2) In each of the past three years United Nations Disarmament Week continued to be observed with the active participation of the National Peace Council, the Hungarian Association for the United Nations, the Patriotic People's Front, the trade unions, and the youth and other mass organizations. Last fall the Disarmament Committee of the National Peace Council held a nation-wide conference of lecturers with some 1,000 participants (activists for peace who deliver lectures on disarmament topics for different groups of the population); the conference was followed by disarmament forums across the country. United Nations Day was also observed on 24 October 1983. Last fall the Disarmament Committee of the National Peace Council and the Planetarium of Budapest held a joint meeting to discuss questions of space warfare; the experience of discussions was passed on to the Hungarian peace movement.

(3) It is an established tradition of several decades that the Month of Peace and Friendship is observed in Hungary every year following the anniversary of the victory over fascism, on 9 May. This year's programme had some 600,000 participants, who reaffirmed their commitment to the cause of maintaining peace and security and halting the arms race and discussed the complex sets of conditions for the preservation of peace at a great variety of events: demonstrations for peace, peace train on the route Budapest-Cegléd, peace boat on the Danube, debates and clubs, Esperanto peace tour, peace festivals of nationalities, peace song competition, peace meetings of children and students, form master's classes on questions of peace, peace meetings of clergymen, Europe Week, etc.

(4) The unprecedented increase in the activity of the churches and denominations in the peace movement deserves special mention. In view of its great importance, the following aspects should be underlined:

(a) "An event unexampled in Hungarian history took place on Thursday" - said the widely read daily Magyar Nemzet of the deliberations by some 500 leaders of Hungarian churches and denominations, who met in the House of Parliament on 29 March 1984 to discuss the responsibility of believers to the homeland and to mankind. The participants adopted an appeal entitled "The Future belongs to the Men of Peace", reaffirming their faith in that defence of life and peace is a sacred duty of all believers. The Appeal reads, inter alia, as follows: "We are particularly aware of our responsibility now that our homeland is, together with other countries of the world, faced with a dangerous international situation and difficult economic problems. Therefore we consider it basically important to preserve and develop the firm national unity existing in our country and society."

(b) The Hungarian Government notes with great satisfaction that between 22 July and 5 August 1984 Budapest was host to the Seventh General Meeting (Assembly) of the Lutheran World Federation, where some 3,000 delegates representing about 50 million believers elected Dr. Zoltán Káldy - Archbishop and President of the Hungarian Evangelic Church, M.P., Vice-President of the Hungarian Peace Council, and internationally known activist for peace - to be President of the World Federation. As the events received broad coverage in the world press, the Hungarian Government believes to be widely supported in its view that the world meeting in Hungary of the representatives of Lutherans also made a significant contribution to the preparation of believers for life in peace.

(c) As is indicated also by the information contained in the foregoing paragraphs, the activity of the Catholic and Inter-Church Peace Committees (the latter rallying all other churches and denominations) in the Hungarian peace movement has grown considerably in intensity over the past three years. These committees co-operate successfully with other committees which, working in other sectors of the peace movement, make a joint contribution to the healthy development of an awareness of peace of all society on the basis of historical experience. Thus, for instance, a joint mass for the dead was celebrated in commemoration of the tragic events of the deportation of Hungarian Jews 40 years ago.

(5) It is important to note that the commitment of Hungary's population to the cause of peace as well as its concern about its own security and that of other nations - mainly since NATO's Brussels decision of 12 December 1979 and the breakdown of Soviet-American talks in Geneva - have considerably increased over the past years. At the same time the population has shown a stronger sense of responsibility coupled with a growing demand for information and for peaceful international co-operation. The wide-ranging actions for peace and constant activity of the different sectors of peace-loving Hungarian public opinion testify to the fact that the need to maintain and develop the conditions for life in peace is a fundamental category of the public mind in present-day Hungarian society.

7. The community of scientists and specialists wish to meet this nation-wide social need by constant and regular information, by the dissemination of popular science and scientific knowledge, and by the development of international co-operation. This process may be illustrated by the following:

(a) In the first part of 1982 the Hungarian Academy of Sciences set up its Inter-Institute Peace Research Centre, which in June of that year organized in Budapest an international symposium with the participation of peace researchers from 17 countries. Recalled as the "meeting of peace researchers on Margaret Island", the symposium immediately made its scientific analysis of the status of the arms race available to the peace movement.

(b) At the invitation of the Peace Research Centre, the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) held its tenth conference at Győr in September 1983. It was attended by some 300 peace researchers, including such prominent personalities as J. Galtung (United Nations University), Marek Thee (Norway), Professor Sakamoto (Japan), István Kende (Hungary) and others.

(c) Retired generals from NATO and Warsaw Treaty countries met for the first time in Vienna between 15 and 18 May 1984. Among them was retired engineer Lt. Gen. Tibor Sárdy of Hungary, who informed the leaders of the peace movement and the public about the results of the meeting. He said that the participants were unanimous in stating that they would "use their influence to help solve problems like the withdrawal of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction from Europe, the prevention of the militarization of space, the adoption of confidence-building measures, and return to détente and co-operation ..." (see "An Unusual Conference - Generals for Disarmament and Peace", Peace News and Views, quarterly of the National Peace Council, No. 7, Summer 1984, Budapest).

(d) For two years a Hungarian section, the Hungarian National Committee set up last spring under the chairmanship of Academician János Szentágothay, has been very active in the work of the international movement of "Physicians for Averting a Nuclear Catastrophe", which was launched by American and Soviet physicians. The peace movement of physicians plays an important role not only in international co-operation, but also in the information and mobilization of the different sectors of the Hungarian population. Panel doctors and medical specialists in close contact with the population are a significant factor of the national peace movement and their activity is supported by the Government.

(e) The forum "Teachers for Peace and Disarmament", held at Kazincbarcika on 25 October 1983, was concerned with tasks relating to education for peace.

(f) In response to the need of young people, the National Peace Council set up its Committee of Youth and Students last year to help the realization of comprehensive and varied programmes related to questions of peace. The Committee's work is characterized by the mass involvement of youth in the Hungarian peace movement. It had a large part in the organization of the Peace Rally at Pusztavacs referred to above. Also to be mentioned here is that at the peace meeting of youth which was held in front of the House of Parliament on 20 December 1983, in response to a disarmament initiative of Hungarian youth, a peace appeal of youth was handed to Antal Apró, Speaker of Parliament. The appeal was signed by more than two and a half million citizens, mostly young people, representing one fourth of the population.

II

8. The process of preparation of society for life in peace can be expected to make further headway despite international tensions and economic difficulties. In this respect the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is doing its best to ensure the right to preparation for life in peace for all citizens, for the whole of present-day Hungarian society, keeping it in view in its domestic and foreign policy activities.

9. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic believes that the important events and anniversaries of the near and more distant future will provide additional possibilities and an appropriate framework for the implementation of the Declaration of 1978. These events are expected to offer the following programmes in Hungary:

(a) The Tenth National Peace Conference convened in Budapest for 27 and 28 October 1984, during United Nations Disarmament Week, to represent the stand of peace-loving Hungarian public opinion;

(b) The fortieth anniversary, on 4 April 1985, of Hungary's liberation, coinciding with the thirty-fifth anniversary of the emergence of the Hungarian peace movement;

(c) The International Youth Year 1985 "Participation, Development and Peace" is also the year of the Twelfth World Youth Festival. Hungarian youth will actively participate in both events of great importance;

(d) The fortieth anniversary, on 24 October 1985, of the establishment of the United Nations, and International Peace Year 1986.

10. The details of the general programme will be set forth by the competent organs in conformity with the appeal contained in the Declaration of 1978.

III

11. The positions represented during the past three years by the different sectors and committees of the Hungarian peace movement within the framework of non-governmental organizations may be summed up, also, as the position of Hungary's peace-loving public opinion in these terms:

"Hungarian citizens participate in the struggle for peace, security and disarmament in socialist national unity, forming part of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, and as Europeans. Accordingly they want to strengthen their country's internal stability and commitment in present-day international political, economic and cultural relations; therefore they take every opportunity to advocate the cause of international peace and security in close alliance with the forces of social progress." [Quoted from the records of the 27 February 1984 meeting of the National Peace Council.]

12. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic lends every possible support to the social preparation of Hungarian citizens for life in peace and remains ready to support in full measure international co-operation unfolding in this field. In this activity it is guided by the conviction that the universal human interest coincides with the national interest in the effort to prepare societies for life in peace.

KUWAIT

[Original: Arabic]

[21 May 1984]

The principles of this Declaration are implemented on the basis of our Islamic religion, which urges us to observe the lofty principles which will bring about peaceful coexistence among societies. Believing in the necessity of this principle, we endeavour constantly to implement it through the following:

1. The general goals of education in the State of Kuwait which our academic curricula endeavour to attain, namely:

(a) The strengthening of ties of solidarity, brotherhood and family spirit between the country's inhabitants and the ensuring of freedom from any fanaticism deriving from sectarianism, regionalism or class feeling;

(b) Openness to the world and co-operation with all peace-loving peoples;

(c) Belief in peace based on justice and in support for the freedoms of the peoples and an endeavour to accomplish that through Arab and international organizations;

2. Cultural agreements between the State of Kuwait and Arab and foreign States which benefit our society and are designed to strengthen relations between Kuwait and other States;

3. The award of study scholarships to students from Arab States and other friendly States; the Ministry of Education also sends Kuwaiti students to study in other States on scholarships from the Ministry;

4. The Ministry's dispatch of pictures painted by its nationals to arts competitions and festivals, because of its belief in the need for its nationals to participate in such festivals side by side with their counterparts from other States;

5. The Ministry's sending of students of both sexes on visits to Arab countries and other friendly States, in order that they may become acquainted with other peoples and their cultures;

6. The Ministry's sending of representatives to international conferences, academic symposia and seminars, and training courses aimed at increasing their expertise and enabling them to benefit from the attainments of other States in the educational and technological fields;

7. The provision by the Ministry of educational assistance in the form of financial aid to schools and scientific bodies abroad, as well as textbooks and educational aids; the sending of Kuwaiti teachers to teach the Arabic language and the Islamic religion in friendly States, such as the Republic of Maldives, the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Mali; and also the sending of Kuwaiti teachers to the Republic of Malta to teach the Arabic language.

MONGOLIA

[Original: Russian]

[11 September 1984]

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/73 of 15 December 1978, the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic is submitting information on the implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

2. Mongolia attaches great importance to the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, whose adoption by the United Nations was an important contribution to the strengthening of peace and international security and to the building of confidence among peoples. The Declaration is of particular significance in the present international situation, which has been exacerbated by the militarist and adventurist policies of the most aggressive circles of imperialism, first and foremost the United States of America.

3. Under those conditions, the most urgent task of mankind is the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, prevention of the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe, cessation of the arms race and the adoption of disarmament measures. It was for that purpose that the socialist countries put forward a whole series of important initiatives in the United Nations and in other international forums.

4. Mongolia wholeheartedly supports the constructive proposals advanced by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries with a view to strengthening peace and security in the world. Mongolia's initiative in advocating the conclusion of a convention on non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between the States of Asia and the Pacific is in harmony with those proposals. The purpose of this initiative is to outlaw the use of force in international relations and to strengthen mutual understanding and confidence in the region.

5. Mongolia takes an active part in the work of the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament and other international organizations directed towards the maintenance and strengthening of peace and international security. Mongolia was the initiator of the international Disarmament Week, during which, every year, a world campaign to mobilize public opinion for peace and disarmament is organized.

6. The Mongolian Constitution embodies the principles of Mongolia's foreign policy, which is directed at the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security. The Mongolian Penal Code contains provisions under which any form of propaganda to promote war and to incite enmity and hatred among nations and nationalities and any restriction of their rights are strictly forbidden and are punishable by law.

7. In Mongolia, the inculcation of the spirit of peace, friendship and internationalism is considered an important aim of popular education. The systematic and consistent study, in elementary and secondary schools and in higher educational institutions, of the history and culture of the peoples of the world, of world geography and of foreign languages provides children and youth with objective notions about other peoples and countries. In Mongolia, Children's and youth organizations play an important role in educating youth in the spirit of peace and friendship among peoples. The varied activities of these organizations include the holding of festivals and months of friendship and of weeks and days devoted to the culture and art of other peoples, the organization of marches, and the development of ties with youth organizations of other countries. Recently (16-18 August 1984), the Regional Meeting of Representatives of Youth Organizations of the Countries of Asia and Oceania, in which representatives of 35 youth organizations from 28 countries took part, was held in Ulan Bator, the capital.

8. As part of International Youth Year, Mongolia will undertake a wide range of measures aimed at involving youth in the furthering of peace and mutual understanding, and at educating youth in the spirit of peace, friendship and co-operation among peoples.

9. The mass media in Mongolia promote the strengthening of peace and international security, removal of the threat of nuclear war, cessation of the arms race, disarmament, the development of friendship and co-operation among peoples, the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and apartheid, and the social and national progress of peoples.

PHILIPPINES

[Original: English]

[25 April 1984]

1. In the Philippines, the implementation of the above Declaration is spearheaded by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW) in collaboration with other government and non-governmental agencies.

2. Activities have been undertaken in the Philippines to promote peace. Among them are the following:

(a) Creation in 1983 of a Peace Committee, the objectives of which are:

(i) To incorporate peace promotion as a component in the education and literacy projects of NCRFW;

/...

- (ii) To hold dialogues at the grass-roots level through Balikbayan Councils;
- (iii) To hold meetings with different Muslim women leaders and other civic women organizations on peace promotion and campaign;
- (iv) To start thinking "Peace" within ourselves, the family and the community.

(b) A Congress with the Barangay Association, composed of 1,480 leaders, was held in Baguio City with the theme, "Better Understanding between Parishioners and the Church of the Community", 2 to 5 March 1983.

(c) Declaration of the "Most Peaceful City" - identified were Quezon City under Mayor Adelina Rodriguez, and Upi Maguindanao under Mayor Sinsuat.

(d) Observance of the International Day of Peace - 29 September 1983. The "Day of Peace" is commemorated every third Tuesday of September in response to the 1981 United Nations resolution. It is usually celebrated with an ecumenical mass, followed by prayers and songs of different denominations.

POLAND

[Original: English]

[9 July 1984]

1. Nearly six years have passed since, on Poland's initiative, the General Assembly adopted its Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. This, unfortunately, has been a time of general deterioration of the international situation, when tension, confrontation and armed conflicts in different parts of the world were accompanied by an accelerated arms race; a time of an atmosphere of distrust, suspicion and increased war psychosis, fueled as they were by imperialist quarters. The inalienable right of nations and individuals to life in peace, reaffirmed by United Nations decisions, has been put in jeopardy. The basic rules of the comity of nations, including the indisputable principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, are being still trampled upon.

2. When the United Nations was being born out of the tragic experience of the most terrible of wars in man's history, the paramount ideas and the major objective of its founders was "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind". After almost 40 years since its formulation, this objective has preserved its full topicality. Equally unchanged remain the major purposes of the United Nations - maintenance of international peace and security, development of friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and the solving, through co-operation, of common international problems in the economic, social, cultural and humanitarian field as well as human rights problems. Over the years, the United Nations has indeed become a centre for

harmonizing international co-operation in the attainment of these ends. Yet, the effectiveness of United Nations efforts - determined, above all, by the political will of the Member States - remains limited. At the same time, it cannot rest on declarations and solemn assurances alone but, first and foremost, on their practical implementation, on the respect for agreed principles and rules, which are the cornerstone of just peace and security of nations.

3. The major cause of a serious aggravation of the international situation, apart from the accelerating arms race, is a distinct ideological approach to relations among States and attempts by certain capitalist States at imposing their own system of values upon other States. A dangerous, though logical, consequence of the simplistic perception of the world, conceived by the leader of one of the major world Powers - and according to which the policy pursued by some States purportedly symbolizes goodness and light, while other States are being referred to in terms of "the empire of evil and darkness" - is the constant departure from the policy of genuine dialogue and understanding. This deplorable qualification not only runs counter to both the letter and spirit of the Declaration, but likewise flagrantly contravenes all other rules of international relations, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 20 of which unequivocally prohibits propaganda for war and any advocacy of national hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. It results in the growth of confrontation and an undermining of the entire set of principles and agreements developed with a view to ensuring a peaceful and stable development of the world. Such a stand is especially in striking conflict with principles 4, 5 and 8 of the Declaration.

4. The elimination of objective causes of conflicts and threats in the world of today calls not only for active efforts on the part of States and Governments, but also for mobilization of the public opinion at large, as well as the civic, religious and professional organizations and movements. In other words, it calls for education and preparation of societies for life in peace. Security of States cannot be exclusively based on military strength and on preparing societies for belligerencies. It is high time that broadly conceived, specific actions be launched throughout the world to develop a durable awareness of international peace and security in the minds of men. For indeed peace is tantamount to co-operation among States and societies, mutual respect, a sense of security and a creative atmosphere in all areas of human endeavour; it opens up vistas for man's self-realization. Both peace and war are of man's making. This is to say that by putting into effect values characteristic of life in peace, war can be eliminated. This was the intention that motivated Poland in submitting in 1978 a draft Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. This goal also animates Poland's efforts in the process of implementation of the provisions of the Declaration.

5. The Declaration cannot be treated as a one-time act to register the position of States with respect to the preparation of societies for life in peace. Indeed, it represents an important stage in the historic aspiration permanently to eliminate wars from the life of nations. Throughout the ages brilliant minds in different countries, also in Poland, used to come forth with concepts of elimination of wars as a social phenomenon as well as with plans for "eternal peace".

6. The centuries-long tradition of Poland's anti-war political thought found its continuation in the League of Nations in the form of a proposal to prepare a convention which would specify and prohibit acts inhibiting good relations among States and posing a threat to world peace. It envisaged that internal legislation of States would provide for punishment for warmongering propaganda, deliberate dissemination of false or distorted information or documents designed to poison the international atmosphere. As regards the question of the education of the younger generation, a general revision of school textbooks was urged, so as to make them serve the idea of co-operation and rapprochement between the youth and teachers from different countries. At that time, in a world held captive by colonialism, such proposals could be hardly accepted, yet they did play a role in pointing to the need for a new approach of societies to the question of war and peace.

7. The founding of the United Nations, the peace-oriented policy of the socialist States and other peace-loving countries as well as the historic process of emancipation of peoples have for the first time ever created a material opportunity for the permanent elimination of war from the life of nations. Great expectations were aroused by the signing, in the early 1970s, of a number of momentous agreements, between the Soviet Union and the United States, based upon the principles of peaceful coexistence, détente, equitable co-operation and equal security. In many countries these hopes have released new energies in the struggle for a better, peaceful world. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace was, inter alia, their joint multilateral product. In its light, when the alternative is a global nuclear war, the right to life in peace, which the Declaration has established as a binding norm for the entire United Nations system, receives an absolute priority over all other human rights. Efforts pursued by Poland in the implementation of the principles and recommendations of the Declaration were extensively presented in the first information submitted by the Government of the Polish People's Republic in 1981 (document A/36/119 of 5 March 1981).

8. In the period under review the Polish foreign policy, based as it is on lasting principles and objectives, focused its efforts on all planes of the international endeavour designed to strengthen peace and security and flowing, inter alia, from the provisions of the historic Declaration. For this momentous document refers to virtually all spheres of international life; hence, its implementation should be pursued by all means available to the international community.

9. In concert with the efforts of the other socialist States, Poland's efforts have been, above all, determined by the concern to avert the growing danger of a nuclear catastrophe, generated by the persistent attempts of the present United States administration and of some of its NATO allies to upset the strategic balance that has existed for many years and to attain - through a rapidly accelerating arms race - superiority over the Soviet Union and other States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty. The unprecedented arms race, inconsistent with the recommendations of the Declaration, primarily affects the European continent, saturated to the utmost with all types of weapons. The commencement in Western Europe, in spite of large-scale public opinion protests, of the deployment of new American intermediate-range missiles, a first-strike weapon, represents its most glaring manifestation. Hence, also in the context of the Declaration under consideration, there is no more urgent a matter today than that of saving peace.

10. In conformity with the Declaration, which already in its preamble warns against dangers for world peace posed by the arms race, especially in the nuclear area and by the development of new types and systems of weapons, as well as in conformity with General Assembly resolution 36/104, which inter alia reaffirmed the lasting importance of the preparation of societies for life in peace as part of all constructive efforts at shaping relations among States and strengthening international peace and security, to the forefront of Polish activities came efforts aimed at averting the threat of war, nuclear war in particular, halting the arms race and proceeding to disarmament.

11. Poland's efforts are part of the programme of peace originating in the profoundly humanist ideals of socialism, a programme embodied in many specific proposals and initiatives of the supreme political bodies of States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty. Those proposals and initiatives encompass, inter alia, an immediate freeze of nuclear arsenals by all nuclear-weapon States, first of all the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, early agreement on non-increasing military expenditures and on their subsequent reduction, banning and liquidating chemical weapons and conclusion of a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations between the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty and the States members of the North Atlantic Treaty. Poland has also given active support at the United Nations and in the Conference on Disarmament to the important initiative of the Soviet Union on the prohibition of the use of force in outer space and from space against the Earth.

12. At the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, guided by the provisions of principle 4 of the Declaration and by its desire to make a tangible contribution to a climate of trust in international relations as well as to the strengthening of security, not in the military sphere alone, Poland submitted its well-known initiative on confidence-building measures in international economic relations. The initiative has found its expression in an appropriate resolution of the General Assembly.

13. The response of major Western Powers to the peaceful, constructive initiatives of the socialist States must regrettably be assessed as contrary to the spirit of the Declaration. The same applies to their response to the legitimate claims of the developing countries, including, in particular, those regarding the establishment of a new international economic order and a new international information order.

14. Over the last three years, pursuant to the resolution of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic of 21 December 1978 and the decree of the Council of Ministers of 18 October 1979 concerning the implementation by Poland of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, further specific measures have been undertaken to carry out the principles spelt out in the Declaration. The lead role towards this end has been played by governmental institutions which by their very statutes are involved in the education and upbringing of youth, i.e. the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology and the Council of Ministers' Bureau for Youth Affairs. Civic organizations such as the Union of Polish Socialist Youth, the

Polish Pathfinders Union and other youth organizations, the Polish Committee for UNICEF and the Polish UNESCO-Committee are also active in promoting and enhancing the principles of the Declaration in the Polish society and in infusing them with a new idea serving the cause of education for peace.

15. As regards the students in the elementary and high schools, in the years 1981-1984 efforts centered on the improvement of pedagogic and organizational methods of implementing the principles of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. Particular stress in the training of teachers of the humanities was laid on the moulding of the anti-war consciousness of students. Courses dealing with some of the most controversial issues of the contemporary world, designed to deepen the awareness of the role played in the educational process by the knowledge of the culture of other nations, were introduced in the curriculum of the Radio and Television University for Teachers. Within the framework of activities concerning education for peace, the Institute of School Curricula, in 1981, conducted tests among elementary school students on their level of knowledge of other nations and of war and peace. Inter alia, an analysis of 1,352 students' papers was made to ascertain their level of knowledge of war and peace as well as their attitude towards such phenomena. The results of such studies serve to improve school curricula in that field.

16. The Workshop of the Radio and Television University for Teachers (NURT) of the Teacher Training Institute came out with a proposal for international co-operation in audio-visual teaching methods. It is envisaged that in the autumn of 1988 NURT courses will broadcast audio-visual programmes depicting different social and cultural conditions and life styles, based on materials provided by Hungary and France.

17. In 1983, the School and Pedagogic Publishers put out a book by Dr. E. A. Wesolowska, entitled Wychowanie dla pokoju w pracach szkoły (Education for Peace in School Work), which provides comprehensive and reliable information on the introduction into school practice of the principles contained in the Declaration and in other international instruments dealing with the preparation of societies for life in peace.

18. The question of implementation of the Declaration was also pursued in international contacts. This has found its reflection, among others, in the agreement between the Polish Youth Affairs Bureau and the Office for Youth of the German Democratic Republic, signed in January 1984. The agreement contains provisions relative to the preparation of the younger generation of the two countries for life in peace and the popularization of the Declaration's principles within the context of observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Polish People's Republic and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the German Democratic Republic.

19. As regards activities among university students, at the Jagellonian University in Cracow and the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, scientific conferences and seminars were held in the years 1982-1984 on the topics of peaceful coexistence and of peace as a moral standard. The subject-matter of the Declaration has been introduced in the programmes of summer courses offered by Polish universities for foreign students and academics and for the youth of Polish extraction from foreign

countries, and in particular in the programmes of summer schools of Polish language and culture, organized by six leading Polish universities. In 1983 the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology prepared an outline programme of "education in a school of higher learning", which gives practical effect to the implementation of the ideas of the Declaration.

20. Civic organizations active in schools of higher learning can also claim valuable accomplishment in the field of popularization and implementation of the Declaration. For example:

(a) The United Nations Students' Association of Poland organized, within the framework of their field research camps, various discussion, lectures and contests of political knowledge to popularize the issues of peace and disarmament as well as United Nations efforts in that field;

(b) The All-Poland Committee of Foreign Students in November 1982 adopted a resolution, which, inter alia, included an appeal for peaceful co-operation of the young people throughout the world;

(c) The Polish United Nations Association, in collaboration with the Department of History of the Łódź University, introduced a series of lectures on "Education for peace" into the curriculum of the Department and created a Peace Research Unit, composed of teachers-members of Poland's UNA;

(d) The Polish Academy of Sciences, popularizing the accomplishments of Poland's most eminent scholars in the field of education for peace, in 1983 published a volume on "Education for Peace", containing selected lectures in philosophy, economy, pedagogy, political sciences and history which highlight the role played by these branches of science in moulding man's peaceful postures.

21. Activities for the implementation of the Declaration have been pursued by numerous civic organizations in Poland, including:

(a) Action by the Society of Children's Friends with a view to eliminating military toys from stores and instead seeking to popularize those featuring technology in the service of peace as well as developing physical fitness;

(b) The Polish National UNESCO Committee between 1982 and 1984 organized 28 camps for students of UNESCO-associated schools, with the participation of teachers from France, the German Democratic Republic, Switzerland, the United States of America, Great Britain and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; their programme included learning about the language and culture of other nations, thus promoting the cause of implementation of the Declaration;

(c) Within the framework of observation of successive anniversaries of the outbreak of the Second World War, the Union of Polish Socialist Youth has been organizing every year in September and October a national campaign meant to acquaint school children with the effects of the war and to instil in them strong anti-war feelings. The camp launched under the slogan "September Warns" culminated in a mass anti-war rally held at the former Auschwitz extermination camp;

(d) The Polish Pathfinders' Union every year organizes an annual International Camp of Peace and Friendship, one of the major objectives of which is to popularize peace-oriented initiatives, including in particular the idea of preparation for life in peace; equally interesting are the Union's achievements within the International Instructors' Experience Exchange Forum, which in 1983 was held under the slogan "Education for Life in Peace".

22. Between 1981 and 1984 Poland has also made a significant contribution to the popularization of the principles of the Declaration on international forums. Participating in scores of international conferences and meetings, Polish delegations actively sought to develop and broaden the principles of the Declaration by way of new concrete forms and contents of international co-operation, namely:

(a) An Intergovernmental UNESCO Conference on Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms with a View to Developing a Climate of Opinion Favourable to the Strengthening of Security and Disarmament, held in Paris in April 1983, adopted, on a Polish initiative, a recommendation concerning education for international understanding through improving and revising the contents of school textbooks and expanding their exchanges;

(b) In implementing the decisions of the VIII Regional Conference of representatives of National UNESCO Committees, held in Madrid in 1981, and in keeping with the recommendations of the 1982 Vienna meeting of experts, Poland participates in the preparation of international educational research topics, including Topic IX of the Joint UNESCO European Studies, "Education for international understanding, co-operation, peace and education relative to human rights and fundamental freedoms through the shaping of humanistic and ethical values";

(c) The Polish Committee for UNICEF initiated, at meetings of representatives of National Committees, enrichment of the programme of education for development combined with the elements of education for peace. This initiative has received broad support and is already being put into effect;

(d) Within the programme of observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Committee of Children and Teenage Youth Movements, special "Peace Relays" were organized. The Polish Pathfinders Union took an active part in a seminar concluding the 1983 Relay under the slogan: "Children need peace and disarmament";

(e) An international seminar devoted to "Education for Peace", held at Gdansk in June 1984 under the auspices of the Polish Society for the Propagation of Knowledge, with the participation of representatives of member organizations of the International Council for Adult Education, sought to promote a better East-West understanding through joint efforts of educational organizations to prepare societies for life in peace and friendship among nations.

23. Through frequent international contacts, active participation in international meetings and conferences devoted to education for peace, Poland shares its extensive, years-long experience with a view to establishing a durable international system of co-operation in education for peace. In the opinion of the Government of the Polish People's Republic, this co-operation is one of the indispensable factors in the universal implementation of the principles of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

24. In the nuclear age, given also the existence of other modern weapons with unprecedented destructive capability, the elimination of wars is a prerequisite for the survival of mankind. A world without wars calls for sustained and consistent action on various planes, including co-operation between Governments and governmental institutions, active commitment on the part of social forces and non-governmental organizations as well as a gradual restructuring of international relations and their thorough democratization. A ban on the right to war (ius ad bellum) will not become fully effective unless the current law against war (ius contra bellum) is supplemented by a well-developed system of the right to life in peace (ius ad pacem).

25. Realization of the right of nations and individuals to life in peace is not and cannot be the result of Governments' efforts alone. Still, one cannot fail to appreciate the great role and responsibility of leaders of States, statesmen, politicians and diplomats for the entire process. The international community is entitled to urge heads of State and Governments to exercise moderation and restraint in the implementation of their political ambitions, including those serving electoral expediency, which all too often lead to the poisoning of the international atmosphere and the destruction of accomplishments so painstakingly put together. The Declaration also encourages development in various forms, of relevant activities on the part of civic organizations and institutions and of their bilateral and multilateral international co-operation within the framework of government and non-governmental organizations.

26. With respect to the preparation of societies for life in peace, it is essential at present to seek effective means of implementation of the decisions existing in this regard. The Government of the Polish People's Republic is persuaded of the usefulness of undertaking the following practical steps before the next review of the Declaration's implementation:

(a) Associating the observances of the International Year of Peace (General Assembly resolution 37/16) with the principles and objectives of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

(b) Undertaking legal and political codification of the concept of the right to life in peace within the framework of broadly-based actions for the sake of strengthening international security.

(c) Preparation of a report with appropriate recommendations on the ways and means whereby, on the basis of the principles of the Declaration, one could and should counteract the danger of an outbreak of a nuclear war. The report in question could be prepared with the assistance of scientists of international standing and the representatives of non-governmental organizations and institutions, such as the Pugwash movement or the International Union of Scientists.

(d) Preparation under the auspices of UNESCO of a handbook, describing in a competent, understandable and comprehensive manner the questions related to the preparation of societies for life in peace. Such a handbook - available in all countries of the world - could be used as an aid to teachers, school children and students; it would facilitate international dialogue by identifying the complexities of international peace and security, and, in particular, the common dangers to the ways of implementation of the process of the preparation of societies for life in peace.

(e) Convening a panel of peace-research experts to consider, in a comprehensive way, questions pertaining to the implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace. Such a panel, convened in consultation with national research institutions and relevant international organizations - both governmental and non-governmental - would provide an opportunity for an in-depth exchange of opinions and a presentation of research results between most prominent scholars from different countries and regions of the world. In particular, it would be advisable to undertake work on a long-term international programme of effective implementation of the principles and objectives of the Declaration.

ROMANIA

[Original: French]

[1 June 1984]

1. At the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, Romania supported the proposal of Poland for the adoption of a United Nations Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace and played a part in its adoption by the General Assembly (resolution 33/73 of 15 December 1978). Romania also took note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General's report submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session (resolution 36/104 of 9 December 1981).

2. In the view of the Romanian Government, the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace occupies a key position among the documents adopted over the years by the United Nations. Its importance lies in the fact that it recognizes "the supreme importance and necessity of establishing, maintaining and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations" and calls upon all States to act in strict accordance with the principles contained in the Declaration.

3. The aims and principles of the Declaration are in full accordance with Romanian national legislation. The 1965 Constitution provides that Romania "maintains and develops relations of friendship and fraternal collaboration with the socialist countries ... promotes relations of collaboration with countries having other socio-political systems, and works in international organizations for peace and understanding among peoples" (art. 14, para. 1). It should be noted that chapter II of the Constitution sets out the fundamental rights and duties of citizens, which are guaranteed by the State. In particular, article 17 states that

"The citizens of the Socialist Republic of Romania, irrespective of nationality, race, sex or religion, have equal rights ... No restriction of these rights and no difference in their exercise on the grounds of nationality, race, sex or religion are permitted. Any act whose aim is to establish such restrictions, as well as nationalist-chauvinist propaganda and incitement to racial or national hatred, shall be punished by law".

4. In all the various codes and other laws governing the specific areas of social, political and economic life in Romania these constitutional principles are reflected and expanded upon as appropriate, again with guarantees for their effective implementation.

5. Romania bases all its national and international activities on the fundamental concept that socialism and peace are indissolubly linked. In line with that concept, Romanian foreign policy is centred on international peace, which constitutes a fundamental goal to the attainment of which all of the people's strength is committed. It is in accordance with this fundamental goal that Romania's foreign policy towards every State in the world and its positions on current major issues are determined. Through its international activities, Romania has clearly affirmed the desire of the Romanian people to live in peace and to co-operate with all nations on earth, whatever their economic and social system, on the basis of the principles of equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, non-intervention in internal affairs, mutual advantage and renunciation of force or the threat of force. In view of the seriousness of the situation currently prevailing, Romania considers it more than ever necessary to redouble efforts and to increase international co-operation with a view to ending states of tension, settling disputes between States exclusively through the peaceful means of negotiation, and halting the arms race, in particular by promoting nuclear disarmament. That is why the Romanian Government considers that the fundamental problem of our time is to prevent war and guarantee peace, which constitutes the supreme right of peoples to existence, life and free and independent development. It is also essential for a more important role to be assigned to the United Nations in the democratic resolution of all the world's political problems.

6. Romania is concerned - as clearly evidenced by its foreign policy - to continue expanding its economic contacts with other States, and to diversify its range of economic, technical and scientific and cultural co-operation, irrespective of political régime. To prosecute these aims a whole series of legislative norms has been adopted, including the act governing foreign trade and economic and technical and scientific co-operation by the Socialist Republic of Romania; the decree relating to the organization of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Socialist Republic of Romania; the decree relating to the composition, organization and operation of joint ventures in the Socialist Republic of Romania; the decree relating to the taxation of the profits of joint ventures established in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania; and the decree relating to the authorization and functioning of representatives of foreign commercial firms and financial organizations.

7. While recognizing the great importance of developing cultural, artistic and tourist contacts as a means of furthering mutual understanding, eliminating distrust and promoting closer ties between peoples, Romania conceives of cultural and artistic co-operation as rejecting anything which undermines human dignity and the progressive ideals of nations, and as preventing the dissemination through the media and works of art of hatred, racism and chauvinism and of reactionary concepts of any kind which pollute the awareness of the younger generation and lead to discord between peoples. The development of cultural exchanges should serve to educate peoples, particularly young people, in a spirit of humanism, the noble aspirations of progress and peace for mankind, friendship and co-operation among nations, and the cause of world civilization.

8. Education and training programmes provided in schools and universities conform to the spirit of the principles and purposes of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

9. The acceptance of foreign students, in particular to receive university education or to follow post-graduate advanced training courses in Romania, promotes increased friendship between the Romanian and other peoples and contributes to improved mutual understanding.

10. It should be noted that the younger generation in Europe and the world is today making itself felt as one of the major social forces behind the movements for freedom, peace and social progress, coming out strongly in favour of respect for the right of peoples to a free and independent life, without any outside interference, and the principles of independence, sovereignty and equality among all States - principles which are of critical importance in today's political life. The Romanian Government considers that the younger generation, by transcending political, ideological and religious convictions, can, in unison with other social and political forces, positively influence the course of political events on the European continent and throughout the world by supporting the efforts and activities of Governments and politicians to promote détente and international peace and security.

11. Romania, Romanian public opinion and, in particular, the younger generation greeted with deep satisfaction the decision by the General Assembly to hold, in 1985, the International Youth Year with the motto "Participation, Development, Peace", seeing in it an indication of the concern of decision-makers with responsibility at various levels for taking initiatives and action to take up and resolve, in their varied aspects, the current and potential problems of the younger generation. The International Youth Year should offer a framework for a responsible, multilateral assessment of the economic, socio-political and cultural status of young people, and for the identification of the most appropriate ways and means of increasing the contribution made by young people to the debate on and the settlement of the major problems of our day. These include, in particular, the establishment of a climate of peace, security and co-operation in Europe and throughout the world; the halting of the arms race and the attainment of general disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament; the elimination of the phenomenon of underdevelopment and the establishment of a new international economic order; the strengthening of the role of the United Nations and the democratization of international life; the settlement of disputes between States by peaceful means; and the elimination of racial discrimination and the policy of apartheid, etc.

12. For young people in today's world the elimination of war from the life of peoples and the safeguarding of peace are not an abstract problem, one for philosophical meditation, but, on the contrary, a very real issue the solution of which is of direct and vital interest to them. Young people are ever more aware of the fact that in the current international situation, when the arms stockpiled in the world's arsenals can destroy human civilization many times over, they must act with a sense of urgency and express their views on a problem which concerns not only the present but also the future of peoples and of young people everywhere. Young Romanians - in common with young people in other countries - have taken part in impressive demonstrations and marches, voicing their support for safeguarding life on our planet, eliminating the danger of a destructive nuclear catastrophe and moving without delay to tangible disarmament measures, especially nuclear disarmament measures, and for peace and understanding among peoples.

13. Romania welcomed the fact that in the draft programme of the International Year of Peace (A/38/413, annex I), the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace is included among the General Assembly resolutions to be disseminated to publicize the experience of the United Nations system in the promotion of peace.

14. It should be noted that the Romanian capital will serve as a venue, from 3 to 5 July 1984, for the consultative meeting of non-governmental organizations on the programme of the International Year of Peace, whose work will facilitate a useful dialogue on the major problems of our day, in particular peace and development, peace and disarmament, and preparation for life in peace.

15. The Socialist Republic of Romania will continue to work, as it has in the past, to implement the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[20 July 1984]

1. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the initiative of Poland, is an important international document for the preservation and strengthening of peace and the creation of a state of confidence and mutual understanding among peoples. The Declaration reaffirms the inalienable right of all peoples and States to life in peace and stresses the need for efforts to attain general and complete disarmament. The main objective of this document is to improve the psychological atmosphere in the world and reduce tension in international relations. Implementation of the Declaration's provisions is particularly urgent in the contemporary circumstances of a serious deterioration in the international situation. The main cause of tension is the aggressive policy of the imperialist States, first among them the United States of America, which have embarked on a course of military might, the attainment of military supremacy and the imposition on other States and peoples of régimes acceptable to them.

2. The transformation of Western Europe into a launching pad for new United States first-strike missiles, the occupation of Grenada, the undeclared war against Nicaragua and the interference in the internal affairs of Central American States, the intervention in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the threats directed against the Syrian Arab Republic are merely the most recent examples which demonstrate this policy of force. The unprecedented growth in military expenditure is continuing, as is the implementation at a forced pace of programmes for the development and deployment of new strategic weapon systems whose purpose is quite clear - to acquire a nuclear first-strike potential. The plans being developed by Washington for the use of outer space for military purposes give rise to serious concern. All of this runs radically counter to the purposes and principles of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which invites all States "to guide themselves in their activities by the recognition of the supreme importance and necessity of establishing, maintaining and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations" and defines the planning, preparation or initiation of wars of aggression as crimes against peace.

3. Against the military policy of the United States of America and NATO, the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community advance a broad programme of specific peace initiatives aimed at improving the situation in the world. Cessation of the arms race, a freeze on nuclear arsenals, limitation and substantial reduction of strategic weapons, a lowering of the level of military confrontation in Europe - these are what the socialist States are calling for. The proposals by the countries of the socialist community concerning the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, the prohibition of the militarization of outer space, the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, the conclusion of a treaty on non-use of military force and on maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw Treaty States and the NATO countries are both urgent and significant. An extremely important initiative of the USSR was the proposal to develop norms to regulate relations among nuclear-weapon States and make them mandatory. The point of this proposal is to orient the foreign policy of the nuclear Powers primarily towards preventing nuclear war and strengthening peace.

4. Preparation for life in mutual international understanding, co-operation and peace, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms takes place in the Ukraine in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR. Article 67 of the Constitution specifies that the internationalist duty of a citizen of the Ukrainian SSR shall be to further the development of friendship and co-operation with the peoples of other countries and the maintenance and strengthening of world peace. On the basis of constitutional provisions, war propaganda is banned in the Ukraine, and the preparation of young people and the population as a whole for life in peace and friendship among peoples and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms takes place in all educational institutions, in children's and youth organizations, in production collectives and in the family. This is one of the most important aims of the education system in the Ukrainian SSR. Education in the ideals of peace, co-operation and mutual understanding, and in uncompromising opposition to militarism, propaganda for war and national and racial discord, is one of the aims of Ukrainian Soviet literature and art. The mass media play an active part in this education. A major task in propagating the idea of peace and mutual international understanding among the

population of the Ukraine is also performed by the "Znanie" society. An important means of preparing societies for life in peace is their participation in the peace movement. By participating in anti-war efforts, the public in Soviet Ukraine is demonstrating its firm resolve to defend peace on earth and not to permit a nuclear catastrophe. In all, some 130,000 anti-war events - rallies, public meetings, demonstrations, peace festivals, study evenings and peace vigils - took place in the Ukrainian SSR in 1983 with the participation of 40 million of the Republic's citizens. Within the framework of the Month of Action against the Threat of Nuclear War, held in May 1984, Ukrainian peace advocates undertook more than 50,000 activities in which about 20 million people participated.

5. The contribution of the Ukrainian SSR to implementing the important principles of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace was noted at the UNESCO Intergovernmental Conference on Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms which took place in Paris from 12 to 20 April 1983. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR took an active part in the work of the Conference.

6. The Ukrainian SSR is ready to continue in future its active co-operation with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and all States Members of the United Nations in order to give effect to the important provisions of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[12 July 1984]

1. The Soviet Union regards the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which was adopted, on the initiative of Poland, by the General Assembly, as an important instrument for fostering the adoption of practical measures to develop essential mutual understanding and to create a climate of confidence in international relations. The purpose of the Declaration is to help prevent war by creating the proper moral and psychological climate. Implementation of the provisions of this United Nations Declaration would help to reduce tension in international relations and to improve the international situation.

2. At the present time this task is becoming more, rather than less, urgent because, despite the determination of the overwhelming majority of States to guarantee the peace and security of mankind which this Declaration clearly expresses, the world situation continues to be extremely dangerous.

3. The reason for this is the militaristic policy of the imperialist States, and primarily the United States, which disregard the Declaration's invitation to all countries "to guide themselves in their activities by the recognition of the supreme importance and necessity of establishing, maintaining and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations". These States, placing open reliance on armed force, are striving for military superiority, and trying to

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subject other peoples to their will by every means, including direct military action, such events as the aggression in Lebanon, the occupation of Grenada and the undeclared war against Nicaragua. Attempts are being made to reconcile people to the notion of the "admissibility" of the use of force and the methods of State terrorism to defend "vital interests" in various regions of the globe and to inure them to the foolhardy concepts of "limited" and "protracted" nuclear wars, in the dangerous illusion that the first user of nuclear weapons can win a nuclear war.

4. All of this runs diametrically counter to the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which affirms the inherent right of individuals, States and all mankind to life in peace and stresses that a war of aggression, its planning, preparation or initiation are crimes against peace. It is no coincidence that it was precisely the United States and Israel which, unlike the 138 States Members of the United Nations that voted for the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, refused to support it.

5. The Soviet Union, which regards the interests of peace as of paramount importance in its foreign policy, rejects the notion of the "admissibility" of the use of force in inter-State relations, and of the initiation of war, as reckless and criminal. It is not irresponsible attempts to condition nations to the notion of the "admissibility" of a nuclear war or striving for nuclear superiority, but rather concentrated political determination to prevent a catastrophe and to guarantee people the right to live in peace, which we are convinced must now be the primary factors shaping the policy of the leaders of all States, and primarily of the nuclear States.

6. Precisely such a mandate was laid down in the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe and resolution on the condemnation of nuclear war, which were adopted by the General Assembly on the initiative of the USSR in 1981 (resolution 38/100) and 1983 (resolution 38/75) and are fully in keeping with the historically important task indicated in the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, namely, to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men.

7. The Soviet Union fully endorses the Declaration's provision that a basic instrument of the maintenance of peace is the elimination of the threat inherent in the arms race, and this is the objective of a set of measures proposed by the Soviet Union. To freeze nuclear weapons arsenals, to limit and substantially reduce strategic weapons, to lower drastically the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe, to prevent the militarization of outer space, to prohibit and destroy chemical weapons - these and other measures proposed by the Soviet Union to reduce the risk of war are measures made necessary by life itself. They are genuine and meet in equal measure the interests of all States and the demands and hopes of the peoples of the world.

8. This is also true of the USSR proposal for agreement on specific norms to regulate relations among nuclear-weapon Powers and on making them mandatory. It is important for all the nuclear Powers to attach paramount importance in their policy to the task of preventing nuclear war and to conduct their mutual relations with that in mind.

9. The Soviet Union, which advocates the limitation and reduction of the material means of waging war, is tirelessly striving to strengthen the political, legal, moral and psychological foundations and guarantees of international security and consistently pursues a policy of peace.

10. The striving for peace is rooted in the very nature of Soviet society, in which there are no classes or social groups with a vested interest in the arms race or in material or psychological preparation for starting a war. The cause of building socialism and communism, to which generations of Soviet people are devoting all their energy, requires a peaceful environment. "The end of war, peace among nations, the cessation of plunder and violence," said the founder of the Soviet State, V. I. Lenin, "that is our ideal".

11. This precept of Lenin's is looked upon as sacred in the USSR, and the entire spiritual life of the advanced socialist society which has been established there is imbued with fidelity to it. War propaganda is prohibited in the Soviet Union, and the preparation of young people and of the entire population for life in peace and friendship between peoples and in respect for basic human rights and freedoms is pursued in all educational establishments, in children's and young people's organizations, in production collectives and in the family. The press, radio, television and other mass media participate actively in this noble work.

12. Devotion to peace and humanism permeates the "Guidelines for the reform of the general and professional schools" recently approved by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. The concepts of peace, co-operation and mutual understanding are reflected in the syllabuses of compulsory school subjects. There is no place in Soviet schools for the incitement of hatred against other peoples; rather, students are taught to seek knowledge of their past and present and to respect their culture, traditions and national characteristics. Education in the same spirit of friendship between peoples is continued in higher educational establishments as well.

13. A result, and at the same time one of the most important ways, of educating Soviet people in the spirit of peace is their broad and active participation in the anti-war movement which has spread throughout the world as a result of the aggravated nuclear threat. The feelings of the Soviet people were clearly expressed by 800,000 working people from Moscow at an anti-war demonstration on 1 October 1983. In a statement unanimously adopted at rallies taking place at the same time, they proclaimed, in an appeal to all people of good will: "The nuclear alarm calls for action! We can and must act together!". Seventy million boys and girls participated in a referendum entitled "I vote for peace" arranged by youth organizations. Millions of athletes have participated in peace races. A peace fund has been established in the Soviet Union, started and constantly replenished by voluntary contributions from more than 80 million Soviet people.

14. The Soviet Union is fully aware of its responsibility to other peoples for the fate of the world. As the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, K. U. Chernenko, stressed, "The USSR will co-operate fully with all States which are prepared to help by practical deeds to reduce international

tension and create a climate of confidence in the world - in other words, with all those who will really work not for the preparation of war but for strengthening the foundations of peace. And we feel that all available mechanisms - including, of course, those such as the United Nations, which was established in order to preserve and strengthen peace - must be fully used for that purpose".

15. Guided by this principled approach, the Soviet Union is prepared to continue to co-operate actively with the United Nations and its Member States to give effect to the provisions of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

VIET NAM

[Original: English]

[1 May 1984]

1. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which was adopted by an overwhelming majority at the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, constitutes an important victory for the forces of peace and social progress in the struggle to strengthen international peace and security, for the noble objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. The Declaration reaffirms in a comprehensive fashion the principles contained in many of the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of a just and durable peace. At this juncture, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam deems it necessary to emphasize the significance of the Declaration in its assertion that every nation and every human being has the inherent right to life in peace and that respect for that right is in the common interest of all mankind and is also an indispensable condition of advancement of all nations in all fields. In this sense, a war of aggression is a crime against mankind. A basic instrument of the maintenance of peace is the elimination of the threat inherent in the arms race; so are the efforts towards general and complete disarmament. Peace cannot be divorced from the right of all peoples to self-determination and independence.

2. Peace is the nature of Viet Nam's socialist society. On the ground of and in parallel with the fundamental economic policy of progressively satisfying the increasing material and cultural needs of the whole society by continuously developing production and raising social labor efficiency, on the basis of socialist collective mastery and modern science and technology, the Party and the Government of Viet Nam carry out many policies, including those of education on and advocacy of peace so as to stimulate all the political, ideological and educational factors to peace.

3. From their childhood, the Vietnamese citizens are brought up to love labour and peace. Friendship with all peoples in the world is a major subject in Viet Nam's educational programmes. Viet Nam's public media are geared towards promoting the people's awareness of and fostering their love for a just and durable peace. Mass organizations, such as Viet Nam Fatherland Front, Viet Nam Peace Committee, Viet Nam Confederation of Trade Unions, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth

League, Viet Nam Women's Union, etc. have adopted programmes of action on peace education. Within two months (2 July-21 September 1982) the Central Committees of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front and of Viet Nam Peace Committee have collected 15 million signatures by the Vietnamese people in response to a world-wide campaign for the collection of signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament.

4. On foreign relations, the policy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is clearly stated in article 14 of its Constitution. Viet Nam pursues a policy of preserving and developing friendly relations with neighbouring countries; of uniting with peoples struggling for national independence and social progress; it stands for peaceful coexistence with countries of different political and social systems on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity; for non-interference in each other's affairs; for actively supporting and contributing to the struggle of the world's people against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, hegemonism, apartheid and zionism, for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

5. In the present international tensions, Viet Nam holds that more than ever before our international community should realize more fully the significance and importance of preparing societies for life in peace. From the late 1970s the war-mongering forces led by United States imperialism have intensified activities aimed at revitalizing the cold war of the 1950s. They put forth a series of extremely dangerous military doctrines, i.e., "limited nuclear war", "protracted nuclear war", "strategic first strike" and so on, which in fact serve as justifications for their plans to use nuclear weapons against the human race. It is also they who are now feverishly engaged in war propaganda, creating the so-called "Soviet threat" as a bogey so as to justify their long-insisted-on deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in an attempt to tip the strategic balance of forces in their favour. On the Asian continent, the expansionist and international reactionary forces, who have long been clamouring for the inevitability of a world war and who have considered themselves "the NATO in the East", increased their anti-peace collusion with United States imperialism and tried to cause instability in many parts of Asia, especially in South-East and South-West Asia. History clearly testifies to the fact that speeding up war preparations and making wars have always been seen by the bellicose forces as an effective measure to extricate themselves from crises. Within the first 50 years of that century the imperialists have waged two world wars which brought about measureless consequences for mankind. Right after the emergence of the first socialist State in 1917, the reactionary forces in the West had propagandized for a crusade aimed at "nipping the Soviet State in the bud". As soon as the Second World War had come to an end, the United States adopted the reactionary political strategies of "containment", "roll-back" as well as the adventurous military doctrine of "massive retaliation" against the socialist countries and the national independence movement. But their wicked schemes are doomed to failure as they were in the past. Nowadays, concerted efforts by the socialist countries, the non-aligned countries, the forces for democracy and peace, and by all peoples can succeed in rolling back the danger of nuclear war, checking the policy of war and aggression of the imperialists and reactionaries world-wide.

6. The Vietnamese people, after decades of sacrifices in their struggle against the imperialist and expansionist aggressors to regain independence and to actively contribute to the struggle for world peace, yearn ardently for a stable and durable peace. Viet Nam is willing to co-operate with any country in promoting the implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

III. SUMMARY OF REPLIES RECEIVED FROM ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

1. At its twenty-first session, the General Conference of UNESCO adopted a resolution to study the possibility of initiating preparatory work on an interdisciplinary study on the preparation of societies for life in peace, based on research and exchanges of experience among member States and to take into account, in the implementation of the programme for 1981-1983, the appeal made to UNESCO by the General Assembly in its Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, particularly in the fields of education, social sciences, culture and communication.

2. UNESCO has undertaken research on the influence of the arms race on the scientific community and the development of science and technology, the results of which have been published in its Revue internationale des science sociales (vol. 35, No. 1, 1983). The first part of its 1983 Yearbook on Peace and Conflict Studies, soon to be published within the framework of its 1984 programme, will be devoted to the theme "Perceptions of threats and the conceptions of security", the theme of an international meeting of experts convened by the Director-General at UNESCO headquarters in Paris from 2 to 5 November 1982. French and Spanish adaptations of the Manual "Armaments, Arms Control and Disarmament" are also being prepared.

3. An international conference on "Media and Disarmament" was organized by UNESCO in Nairobi, Kenya, from 18 to 22 April 1983 as part of its contribution to the World Disarmament Campaign.

4. From 12 to 20 April 1983, an intergovernmental Conference on Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education Relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms was held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Several recommendations were adopted at the intergovernmental conference with a view to attaining the objectives of the 1974 Recommendations concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace, and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. Among them were the request that the Director-General organize an international consultation of specialists in the social sciences and education, information and communication, to study the means of improving, at the higher education level, educational action and research enabling students to gain the necessary knowledge of the problems of peace, human rights and the rights of peoples; the support of efforts by member States to disseminate, in their national languages, the international instruments calling for international understanding, co-operation and peace; and that the mass media be encouraged to contribute more to the education for international understanding, co-operation and peace.

5. A regional seminar on peace research and education for disarmament in Africa was organized by UNESCO in Dakar, Senegal, from 5 to 9 December 1983. The purpose of the seminar was to define regional priorities for peace research and to find ways and means of integrating disarmament problems into educational programmes in Africa. The seminar was the third in a series of three regional seminars organized in accordance with the recommendation of the World Congress on Education for Disarmament (Paris, 3-13 June 1980).

6. In paragraph 2 (a) of resolution "Major Programme XIII - Peace, International Understanding, Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples", adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, the Director-General was invited (i) to encourage reflection on factors contributing to peace, especially by undertaking multidisciplinary studies on the causes and consequences of conflict and their different interpretations, and factors favourable to peace, in particular, in UNESCO's fields of competence, and by an analysis of international relations in their political, social and cultural dimensions and to develop the study and education of public international law; and (ii) to promote research on the causes and consequences of the arms race, the creation of conditions favourable to disarmament, and the relationship of peace, disarmament and development, in conjunction with the work undertaken by UNESCO under subprogramme VIII.1.1 on "Development and international relations".

7. Within the framework of its 1984-1985 programme and budget and programme XIII.1 entitled "Maintenance of peace and international understanding", UNESCO will undertake the following studies and activities in the social and human sciences:

- (a) Philosophical reflection on peace in the present world context;
- (b) Factors contributing to peace and the causes and consequences of conflicts and their different interpretations;
- (c) International relations in their political, social and cultural dimensions and the development of the study and teaching of public international law;
- (d) Problems of armaments and their consequences, in UNESCO fields of competence;
- (e) Links between peace, disarmament and development;
- (f) Improvement of action to implement the 1974 Recommendation and the stimulation of activities concerning the follow-up to the 1983 intergovernmental conference;
- (g) Action for the extension, in higher education, of education for peace, disarmament and respect for human rights and the rights of peoples;
- (h) Out-of-school education and adult education;
- (i) Experimental project concerning the role of the mass media in spreading knowledge and information relating to peace, human rights and the rights of peoples;

(j) Promotion of co-operation between educational institutions and the social institutions, in particular the mass media;

(k) Encouragement of reflection and action by young people.

World Health Organization

8. By adopting in 1977 the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000, and through the actions it has been undertaking since then, WHO is contributing to the fight against ill health, hunger and malnutrition, serious causes of social strife and tensions. The interdependence of socio-economic development and peace is recognized by the World Health Assembly and it has adopted a number of resolutions on this subject, including one which requested the Director-General to expedite and intensify the study of the contribution that WHO could and should make to economic and social development in order to facilitate the implementation of the United Nations resolutions on strengthening peace, détente and disarmament and prevention of thermonuclear conflict. At its thirty-sixth assembly, the World Health Assembly endorsed the conclusion reached by the International Committee of Experts in Medical Sciences and Public Health, in its report on the "Effects of nuclear war on health and health services", that it is impossible to prepare health services to deal in a systematic way with a catastrophe resulting from nuclear warfare, and that nuclear weapons constitute the greatest immediate threat to the health and welfare of mankind. The findings in this report have been given wide publicity.

9. In accordance with a recommendation by the World Health Assembly, the Director-General has established a WHO Management Group consisting of eminent scientists, whose present and planned future work includes inter alia studies on atmospheric chemistry and climatic change during and after war in relation to the health of population; contamination of water and food with radioactivity and the effects of wartime conditions on survivability after exposure to radiation; and psychological aspects of the arms race and nuclear war. Regular dissemination to the general public is planned of information on reports and articles prepared by the Management Group.

International Labour Organisation

10. The ILO will emphasize the economic and social conditions conducive to peace, particularly through employment promotion, human resources development and conciliation of labour interests. In its programme and budget for 1984-1985, the ILO has allocated resources for carrying out two studies, "The Conversion of Manpower Employed for Military Purposes" and "The Economic and Social Consequences of Reallocating Resources previously used for Military Purposes to the Developing Countries". It also plans to publish a number of articles in 1984 on employment and disarmament.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

11. FAO plans to include the text of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace in the brief that will be issued in 1985 to all FAO representatives concerning World Food Day activities in 1986.

World Food Programme

12. WFP aims to promote, through its assistance, economic and social development in countries throughout the developing world where such development may be seen as a means for international co-operation. In June 1984, WFP's governing body, the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, approved 34 new projects worth \$558 million to be undertaken by WFP. WFP's food assistance to the victims of man-made and other emergency situations is helping to reduce those pressures which so often, in times of disaster, threaten the very basis of peace.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

13. UNCTAD will be proposing, for consideration by the Trade and Development Board at its session in September 1984, the inclusion of a special item on the "Trade and economic aspects of disarmament" in the agenda of a subsequent Board session, and, subject to the Board's approval, will prepare studies and articles on this subject for inclusion in UNCTAD publications. Pursuant to UNCTAD resolution 44 (II) of 12 May 1972, the UNCTAD secretariat has paid considerable attention to the trade and economic aspects of disarmament, and participated actively in a number of conferences, seminars and meetings on these issues. A special chapter on this subject was included in the Trade and Development Report, 1982.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

14. Within the framework of its programme, UNIDO is contributing to the implementation of the Declaration by providing assistance to developing countries in their industrialization process, and by providing possibilities for international co-operation between developed and developing countries, as well as among developing countries themselves, through its system of consultations at the global, regional and national levels on issues relating to industrialization.

World Intellectual Property Organization

15. WIPO will point out, at training courses, seminars, symposia and other meetings it is organizing, that the activities undertaken by the organization - in promoting creative intellectual endeavours and in facilitating access to the selection and use of technology, scientific and technical information, literacy and artistic works for the purpose of economic, social and cultural development - contribute to the establishment of conditions for a more just and therefore more peaceful world.

World Tourism Organization

16. By carrying out its mandate, WTO is promoting peace and understanding among people and creating conditions for societies' common existence and co-operation.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees
in the Near East

17. Through its education, health and relief services to the Palestine refugees, UNRWA contributes towards the promotion of a measure of stability in the politically sensitive area.

International Maritime Organization

18. Within the framework of its programme, and in particular through the establishment or strengthening of national maritime infrastructures and capabilities, IMO can have a major impact on the economic and social progress of developing countries and thus contribute to peace in their societies and in the international community as a whole.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

19. Through its assistance programmes and projects for the physical infrastructure-related sectors such as shipping, transport and communications, agriculture, natural resources, international trade, industry, human settlements and statistics, and its activities aimed at resolving important social problems, including the development of popular participation strategies and programmes, the promotion of income-generating activities among disadvantage groups, and its special assistance programmes for the least developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region, ESCAP is contributing towards the preparation of societies for life in peace.

World Bank, United Nations Development Programme and United Nations
Disaster Relief Organization

20. The World Bank, UNDP and UNDRO are enhancing economic development, particularly that of the developing countries, and reducing the human suffering of disaster victims, thus contributing to the implementation of the Declaration through their respective activities.
