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STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Report of the Secretary-General

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BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original : Russian]

[15 July 1986]

- 1. The Byelorussian SSR, which has consistently supported the proposals made at the United Nations to transform the Mediterranean region into a zone of lasting peace and co-operation, has on a number of occasions, most recently in 1985, sent comments to the Secretary-General on possible measures to facilitate the realization of this Important goal.
- 2. An alarming and dangerous situation is developing in the Mediterranean region at present: it 18 crammed with destructive weaponry, nuclear and other, and has become an arena of military confrontation. This is a direct consequence of the "neo-globalist" aspirations of the United State8 which manifest themselves in the policy of overthrowing "objectionable" Government8 and putting down national liberation movement8 in order to further imperial ambitions.
- 3. The policy of the United States in the Mediterranean region runs counter to the efforts of the international community to strengthen security in the region. The United States course, of exacerbating military tension, provoking regional conflicts and perpetuating a state of confrontation, is directed against the interests of peoples and against the strengthening of world peace. The policy of the United States in relation to Cyprus, Syria and other countries of the region and its encouragement of Israel's aggressive actions are alarming examples of that course. The unprecedented antl-Libya campaign reached its apogre in the United States' armed attack on Libya, A sovereign Mediterranean Member State of the United Nations. This was an act of diect aggression, a heinous violation Of international law, the spirit and letter of the Charter of the United Nations and universal morality.
- 4. The criminal action8 of the United States against Libya undermine secur ity and sharply exacerbate the aituation in the already explosive Mediterranean area; they may have grave consequences which spread beyond the region. The Byelorussian SSR most categorically condemns the aggressive actions of the United States anti-demand; that it desist from such actions henceforth.
- 5. Security in the Mediterranean region should be part of the general move to set about constructing a comprehensive system of international security extending to all parts of the world.
- 6. Further to its earlier proposals and comments on measures to enhance security and stability in this region, the Byelorussian SSR declares its support for the recent, far-reaching proposal by the USSR for a simultaneous, mutual withdrawal from the Mediterranean Sea of the naval fleets of the United States and the IJSSR. Such a withdrawal would make it possible to take an important step to ease tension in this region and create a climate or further progress towards the establishment of a zone of peace, security and co-operation. Urgent negotiations on this proposal are essential. Subsequent measures to enhance security in the

Mediterranean region could be worked out around the crucial Soviet proposals for the elimination of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction presented in the statement of 15 January 1986 by Mr. M. S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

- 7. Co-operation within a broader framework, along the lines of the Conference On Security and Co-operation in Europe, could play a significant part in the formulation and implementation of measures to improve the situation in the Mediterranean region, along with existing forms of co-operation among some of the States Of this region. The United States and other interested countries could join in this effort alongside the Mediterranean and neighbouring States.
- 8. The United Nations must promote practical progress in transforming the Mediterranean into a region of lasting peace, security and co-operation for all.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[22 July 19861

- 1. The German Democratic Republic holds the: view that under the conditions of the nuclear age, matters of regional and global security are more than ever most closely interrelated. Today, insecurity and instability prevailing in one region of the world can easily spread to other regions and thus become a factor unleashing a global catastrophe. Therefore, the crucial challenge in strengthening both international and regional security remains the elimination of the danger of a nuclear world war. The German Democratic Republic feels deeply committed to this task. As the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) and Chairman of the German Democratic Republic State Counci 1, Et ich Honecker, stressed at the Eleventh Congress of SED, our country will also in the future work for the improvement of the international situation and a return to détente in the pursuit of its policy of result-oriented, purposeful dialogue and of co-operation.
- 2. At this juncture it is essential to make global and comprehensive efforts for the cessation of the arms race on earth and its prevention in outer space. Along these lines, the German Democrate Republic welcomes the programme proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to rid the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 and to create a comprehensive system of international security; this programme was complemented by the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty States for the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.
- 3. The German Democratic Republic regards the strengthening of security and co-operation in Europe as one of its main foreign policy tasks. In doing so, it proceeds from the premise that the destiny of Europe is inseparably linked with that of the Mediterranean region in geographical as well as historical and strategic terms. Today, the two biggest military groupings are confronting each other in Europe. A conflict unleashed in Europe would inevitably have disastrous

consequences for the Mediterranean area. On the other hand, tensions and hotbeds of conflict existing in the Mediterranean region constitute a permanent and latent threat to European security.

- 4. The German Democratic Republic is most deeply concerned about the situation in that region, which remains extremely explosive due to the imperialist policy Of confrontation and massive arms buildup an it became manifest in the recent acts of aggression aga inst Libya.
- 5. The German Democratic Republic encourages all initiative and activities aimed at transforming the Mediterranean from a region of military and political confrontation and **tensions** into a zone of lasting peace, of security, good-neighbour1 iness and co-operation.
- 6. In the opinion of the German Democratic Republic, a number of proposals made by the Warsaw Treaty member States show a way towards normalizing the situation in the Mediterranean region. Thus the proposats
- (a) To hold a representative conference similar to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,
- (b) To transform the Mediterranean region into a nuclear-weapon-free zone and not to deploy there any nuclear weapons and nuclear delivery vahicles,
- (c) Tr tetabl ish, together with the United States and other Western States, reliable guarantees that no nuclear weapons will be used in the Mediterranean area,
 - (d) To dismantle all military bases in that region,
- (a) To extend Co the Mediterranean region the confidence-building measures which have stood their test in international practice,

could make an invaluable contribution to the strengthening of security in the Mediterranean and constauently also in Europe.

- 7. At the same time, the German Democratic Republic subscribes to increased efforts for the elimination of the hotbeds of conflict existing in the Mediterranean region. It comes out for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict through collective efforts and supports the proposal to convent an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all interested sides, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.
- 8. One way towards settling the auestion of Cyprus in its international aspects is, in the view of the German Democratic Republic, the proposal to convene an international representative conference within the framework of the United Nations, which dould be attended by Cyprus-representatives of both communities by Greece and Turkey as well as the United Nations Security Council members and other States, especially non-aligned countries.

- 9. The German Democratic Republic maintains wide-ranging bilateral ties with the Mediterranean States. They include the political dialogue, economic and scientific-technological as well as cultural co-operation.
- 10. As a participating State of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the German Democratic Republic is involved in forms of multilateral co-operation in the Mediterranean initiated by the Conference. At the Madrid meeting of the Conference participating States, the German Democratic Republic supported the proposal to convene a further expert meeting and played an active part in the work of the Seminar held at Venice in October 1984.
- 11. Furthermore, the German Democratic Republic supports the initiatives taken within the framework of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and Of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the promotion of economic, scientific and cultural co-operation in the Mediterranean region.

UKRAINIANSOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[14 August 1986]

- 1. Today as never before, decisive action and concrete measures are needed to bring about a change for the better in the course of international events, halt the arms race and begin the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security. A number of new, energetic moves and initiatives by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community are aimed at achieving these goals.
- 2. An important place in the range of questions associated with greater European and international security as a whole is occupied by the problem Of the Mediterranean, which has been under discussion in the United Nations for a number of years. There has been a notable deterioration in the situation in this heavily populated region of the world as a result of the intensive militaristic build-up by the United States and its pursuit of the notorious "doctr ine of neo-globalism". This can be seen in Washington's acts of aggression against sovereign Libya, which aroused protest and indignation throughout the world, its campaign of blackmail against Syria and its interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus and other Mediterranean countries.
- 3. The acute tension in the Middle East, caused by the aggressive aspirations of the strategic partner of the United States, Israel, and by Washington's anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian policy, is not abating.
- 4. Such a policy of State terrorism is totally at variance with the idea of declaring the Mediterranean Sea a zone of peace, security and co-operation, and poses a threat to world peace.
- 5. The situation in the Mediterranean, which directly adjoins the Black Sea, immediately affects the interests of the Ukrainian SSR.

- 6. The Ukrainian SSR consistently advocates the transformation of he Mediterranean from a region of military and political confrontation into a zone of lasting peace and security; it firmly supports the moves b, peace-loving States to improve the situation in the region.
- 7. In our view, the implementation of a number of specific measures proposed by the Soviet Union would contribute to the realization of this idea: they include the extension to this region of agreed confidence-building measures, the reduction of armed forces, the withdrawal from the Mediterranean of ships carrying nuclear weapons, the refusal to deploy nuclear weapons in the terr itorits of non-nuclear Mediterranean countries and the adoption by the nuclear Powers of the obligation not to use nuclear weapons against any Mediterranean country which does not permit the deployment of such weapons on its territory.
- 8. A major contribution to diminished tension in the region could be made by taking up the new, far-reaching Soviet initiative on the withdrawal from the Mediterranean Sea of the naval fleets of the United States and the USSR and the proposal by the Warsaw Treaty countries for a reduction in armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.
- 9. In the view of the Ukrainian SSR, further steps to enhance security in this region could be designed around the Soviet proposals, presented in the statement of 15 January 1986, for eliminating weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000.
- 10. Action on those proposals would create among the States of the Mediterranean basin an atmosphere Of confidence in their security, which would be a solid basis for developing economic, ecitnt i f ic, technical and cultural co-operation among the States of the region and improving the international situation as a whole.
- 11. The Ukrainian SSR fully supports the efforts of peace-loving States aimed at reducing tension in the region and in this connection is in sympathy with the initiatives of the non-aligned countries, which are preparing to hold their second conference this year in Malta. The adoption of specific measures to enhance security in the Mediterranean would be helped by the holding of an even broader conference on this aueetion, along the lines of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. In addition to the Mediterranean and neighbouring States, the United States and other interested countries could take part.
- 12. The United Nations can and should play its part in normalizing the situation in the region building confidence and security and transforming the Mediterranean region into a zone of lasting peace and co-operation in accordance with the appea 1 made by the Central iissembly at its fortieth session in resolution 40/157.
- 13. The Ukrainian SSR, for its part, will continue to work actively for the practical implementation of the idea of establishing such a zone.