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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE

Letter dated 11 November 1986 from the Permanent
Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request you to circulate the enclosed declaration of the Sixth World Meeting of Writers, held from 28 to 30 October 1986 at Sofia, Bulgaria, as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 21.

(Signed) Boris TSVETKOV
First Deputy Foreign Minister
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration of the Sixth World Meeting of Writers, held from
28 to 30 October 1986 at Sofia, Bulgaria

The **Sixth World Meeting** of Writers "Peace is the Hope of the Planet" **was** attended by 207 **writers** from 57 countries. **The meeting** was dedicated to **the future not only as a topic but also as a problem** fateful for **all** mankind, a problem of **peace** and of life as well. **Now we** are **at an unusual** and possibly unmatched moment when we can be delivered of the **persisting** nightmare **of** a dramatic past.

That **is** why we are particularly grateful to M. Gorbachev, **Rajiv Gandhi**, Ronald **Reagan** and Todor **Zhivkov** for their candid replies to our **questions**.

Their words **give** us hope and **convince us that the** work of the writer and of all artists reflect **the** sincere hope of the collective **human** mind. For **this** reason **the** appeal of this meeting is addressed not only to writers, but **to all** people on Earth, including politicians, Governments, parliaments, academies and **religious** leaders, **in the expectation that they will be the new** builders of **peace**.

Today there is a wide circle of **people raising** their **voices in all languages**, dialects and persuasions, **who wish to unite and are making** efforts to **achieve** mutual understanding. The universal **desire** for survival is **gaining** the upper hand. **This is the true hope that is needed** to inspire the **need** for nuclear **disarmament**, for a world of real human rights and social **justice**, a world of indestructible unity of peace, **creativity** and **beauty**, **as well as to preserve what has been** accomplished at **Reykjavik**, where first expectations, apprehensions and hopes were turned for **a moment into a universal expression of present-day human yearnings**.

As writers, let us treasure the truth, for a lie can easily become an excuse for destroying mankind. Let us save the stars of lovers and **poets**, so that **these** stars can twinkle with peaceful glimmer after the bitter **nightmares** of endless wars and blaze a trail **to a new bright age** of **human** harmony.
