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

#### Disarmament Week

#### Report of the Secretary-General

#### CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION .....	3
II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS .....	4
Bangladesh .....	4
Bulgaria .....	5
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic .....	6
Czechoslovakia .....	7
Finland .....	9
German Democratic Republic .....	9
Hungary .....	12

\* A/42/150.

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
Mexico .....	13
Mongolia .....	16
Poland .....	18
Romania .....	19
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic .....	20
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics .....	23
Viet Nam .....	26
III. UNITED NATIONS .....	26
A. United Nations Headquarters .....	26
B. United Nations Office at Geneva .....	27
C. United Nations information centres and services .....	27
IV. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	28

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-first session, the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", adopted resolution 41/86 D of 4 December 1986, the operative part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General 1/ on the follow-up measures undertaken by governmental and non-governmental organizations in holding Disarmament Week;

"2. Expresses its appreciation to all States and international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations for their energetic support of and active participation in Disarmament Week, in particular in holding the 1986 Disarmament Week in close connection with the celebration of the International Year of Peace;

"3. Expresses serious concern over the continued escalation of the arms race, especially the nuclear-arms race, and the imminent danger of its extension into outer space, which gravely jeopardizes international peace and security and increases the danger of outbreak of a nuclear war;

"4. Stresses the important role of the mass media in acquainting the world public with the aims of Disarmament Week and measures undertaken within its framework;

"5. Invites all States, in carrying out appropriate measures at the local level on the occasion of Disarmament Week, to take into account the elements of the model programme for Disarmament Week, prepared by the Secretary-General; 2/

"6. Invites the relevant specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to intensify activities, within their areas of competence, to disseminate information on the consequences of the arms race, especially the nuclear-arms race, and requests them to inform the Secretary-General accordingly;

"7. Also invites international non-governmental organizations to take an active part in Disarmament Week and to inform the Secretary-General of the activities undertaken;

"8. Further invites the Secretary-General to use the United Nations mass media as widely as possible to promote better understanding among the world public of disarmament problems and the objectives of Disarmament Week;

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"9. Requests Governments to continue, in accordance with resolution 33/71 D, to inform the Secretary-General of activities undertaken to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 33/71 D, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-second session a report on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution.

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"1/ A/41/492 and Corr.1.

"2/ A/34/436."

2. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of the resolution, the Secretary-General submits herewith the report on the information received concerning the activities undertaken to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week.

3. It should be noted that the information requested in paragraph 6 of resolution 41/86 D will be provided in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Contribution of the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to the cause of arms limitation and disarmament", to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-third session in pursuance of resolution 41/59 D of 3 December 1986.

## II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

### BANGLADESH

[Original: English]

[4 May 1987]

1. Bangladesh, as a matter of policy, adheres to the idea of general and complete disarmament and from the very outset welcomed the idea of observance of Disarmament Week. The Bangladesh delegation, headed by the President, to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament in 1982 clearly outlined Bangladesh's stand on the issue.

2. As a part of the programme for raising the consciousness of the people to the threat of nuclear war and to world peace in general, various governmental and non-governmental organizations have organized seminars, discussions, exhibitions and symposia while observing the Week.

3. The Government of Bangladesh observed the International Year of Peace in Bangladesh through the formation of a high-level national committee headed by the Foreign Minister. The Committee arranged various meetings, discussions highlighting the principles and purposes of international peace, including disarmament, and observance of the Week.

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## BULGARIA

[Original: Russian]

[6 April 1987]

1. In response to the call of the tenth special session of the General Assembly - the first special session devoted to disarmament - the week devoted to furthering the goals of disarmament was widely and solemnly observed in the People's Republic of Bulgaria in 1986. During the preparation and observance of Disarmament Week, account was taken of elements and aspects of the model programme for Disarmament Week, the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade and the resolution on the World Disarmament Campaign (General Assembly resolution 41/60 A).
2. Events in observance of Disarmament Week in Bulgaria were closely linked to nation-wide activities related to the observance of the International Year of Peace.
3. In celebration of United Nations Day and Disarmament Week, public meetings and rallies were held in Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna and other towns and villages in Bulgaria. At a solemn meeting in Sofia, a telegram was adopted which was addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, on the occasion of United Nations Day.
4. On the initiative of the Bulgarian Peace Committee, many meetings and gatherings took place throughout the country at which the Bulgarian public expressed its support for the goals and purposes of the world Organization and its readiness to help preserve and strengthen peace and prevent nuclear war. In these forums, general approval was given to the new peace initiatives of the USSR and other socialist countries designed to create a comprehensive system of international peace and security.
5. Many of these events were held with significant international participation. In October 1986, an international symposium was held in Sofia on the subject "Nuclear-free zones in Europe" attended by many Bulgarian and foreign political figures and public and scientific workers from 22 countries. The United Nations Secretary-General and the Chairman of the Council of State of the Bulgarian People's Republic sent greetings to the participants in the symposium. A declaration supporting ideas and proposals for the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe was adopted.
6. The sixth international writers' meeting, on the theme "Peace - the hope of the planet", was held in Sofia with the participation of well-known writers from 57 countries. A declaration of hope was adopted unanimously.
7. An international scientific conference entitled "Environmental protection and the defence of world peace" was held in Varna, attended by scientists from more than 30 countries and representatives of 12 international organizations. A declaration was adopted for the establishment in Bulgaria of an "Ecoforum of peace" as an international organization dealing with environmental protection problems and disarmament.

8. The Bulgarian mass media gave broad coverage to United Nations Day and Disarmament Week. In 1986, books, research works and articles on disarmament problems were published. The media provided daily coverage of various aspects of disarmament.

9. Bulgaria is firmly determined to continue the unswerving pursuit of its fundamental policy of peace and co-operation and to do everything in its power to ensure the widest dissemination and implementation of the idea of preventing a nuclear war and rapidly achieving general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

#### BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[26 January 1987]

1. In 1986, Disarmament Week was observed in the Byelorussian SSR as part of events commemorating the International Year of Peace. Its observation coincided with a particularly important and crucial event, when world attention was focused on the results of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik, which made it possible to break new ground in the campaign against nuclear weapons.

2. Mass anti-war rallies in the context of Disarmament Week were held with the participation of nearly 5 million inhabitants. The Week opened with a meeting of public figures from the capital of the Byelorussian SSR, the hero city of Minsk. It was devoted to United Nations Day, the International Year of Peace and Disarmament Week. The participants sent a letter to the Secretary-General calling upon all people of good will to join forces and take practical steps to protect current and future generations against the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

3. Rallies, demonstrations, marches and meetings took place in enterprises, establishments and educational institutions in Minsk, Grodno, Brest, Bobruisk, Pinsk, Mozhir, Novopolotsk, Lida, Soligorsk and other towns and district centres in the Republic at which resolutions, appeals and letters to the United Nations and to the Congress and President of the United States were adopted. They included an appeal to the United States to follow the Soviet example and stop all nuclear tests, drop its "Star Wars" plans and respond to the new Soviet initiatives.

4. Participants in mass anti-war actions supported the peaceful initiatives of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government aimed at reducing and completely destroying nuclear weapons, preventing the militarization of outer space and safeguarding international security.

5. Days of volunteer labour, vigils and trips were organized in labour collectives in the country to raise money for the Soviet Peace Fund. Libraries and cinemas organized exhibitions of children's drawings entitled "A peaceful sky for the planet" and of photographs entitled "The working people of Byelorussia in the struggle for peace".

6. The media gave wide coverage to the many public activities that were held as part of the Week. Special attention was devoted to the specific Soviet initiatives contained in the decisions of the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the statements and speeches of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, M. S. Gorbachev, and to the major and far-reaching proposals put forward by the USSR at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik.

7. The events held in the Byelorussian SSR confirmed the determination of Soviet citizens to continue to intensify their efforts to end nuclear tests, achieve the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, prevent the militarization of outer space and avert the threat of war.

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

[Original: English]

[21 July 1987]

1. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is convinced that it is a primary and most urgent challenge of the present time to avert war and to exclude it once and for all from the life of humanity. Therefore, it actively works to curb and halt the arms race on Earth and to prevent any extension of the arms race into outer space. It strives for the adoption of concrete and effective measures that would lead to disarmament, primarily to nuclear disarmament, with the aim of achieving complete and general disarmament under effective international supervision.

2. These aims are implementable only in an atmosphere of broad international co-operation, confidence, sound compromise and respect for the principles of mutuality, equality of obligations and undiminished security of all parties. Accordingly, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, along with its allies, proposes to create, through combined efforts of all States, a comprehensive system of international peace and security that would lead to the building of a nuclear-free, demilitarized, democratic and non-violent world where the relations among nations would be established in the spirit of mutual respect, friendship and co-operation.

3. In pushing ahead and working out these ideas, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic participates in the work of the respective international disarmament forums of both global and regional direction. This is demonstrated by the active and constructive Czechoslovak participation in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, in the Vienna negotiations on mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, in the Geneva Conference on Disarmament and in disarmament negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations, including two special sessions of the General Assembly devoted exclusively to the subject of disarmament. In the interest of achieving real progress in disarmament negotiations, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is presenting its own initiative proposals. In the recent period, there has been, in particular, the proposal put forward jointly with the German Democratic Republic for the establishment of a zone free of chemical weapons in Central Europe and of a nuclear-weapon-free corridor in Central Europe.

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4. At the second special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament in 1982, Czechoslovakia fully endorsed the declaration of a World Disarmament Campaign since it is fully aware that only the participation of the broadest strata of population can ensure an effective response to and support for this activity. The amount of Kčs 300,000 allocated by the Czechoslovak Government for this purpose is being gradually drawn.
5. In reply to resolution 41/86 D, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic presents information about the most relevant events held in 1986 designed to promote and spread the intentions of Disarmament Week declared by the General Assembly at its first special session on disarmament.
6. A festive gathering was held at Prague on 23 October 1986, organized by the Czechoslovak United Nations Association and by the Czechoslovak Society for International Relations, with the participation of more than 130 government officials, representatives of official institutions and educational establishments, members of the diplomatic corps and mass media people. On that day, the Slovak Peace Council organized a similar meeting at Bratislava. Traditional gatherings and meetings devoted to United Nations Day and to Disarmament Week were also held in some other towns in Czechoslovakia.
7. In the framework of Disarmament Week, the Czechoslovak Peace Council, the Regional Committee of the Socialist Academy and the Faculty of International Law of the Košice University, jointly with the House of Culture at Košice, organized a series of gatherings in eastern Slovakia, which were also attended by the former Director of a United Nations information centre, T. Lahoda, as a member of the Czechoslovak United Nations Association. The collective members of the Association also arranged a number of gatherings, exhibitions and other events.
8. Lectures, exchanges of views and film shows attended by more than 3,000 persons were held at Košice, Humenné and Medzilaborce in the period 27-31 October 1986 in the framework of Disarmament Week. A week of United Nations films combined with an exhibition of pictures was organized by the House of Culture at Košice jointly with the Faculty of Law of P. J. Šafárik University.
9. This is only a brief overview of the main events arranged on the occasion of Disarmament Week. In addition, Czechoslovak citizens can hear every day about world developments and about the state of discussion of disarmament issues from the mass media.
10. This year, too, the Czechoslovak Peace Movement, jointly with international non-governmental organizations, is arranging a number of significant events in the framework of Disarmament Week, which, as in previous years, are undoubtedly going to meet with great interest by the Czechoslovak public. Increased attention will be paid to them also in the Czechoslovak mass media.
11. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic will continue to contribute as much as possible to the achievement of progress in disarmament negotiations and to stand for a speedy elaboration of specific contractual legal documents that would diminish the risk of war, strengthen peace and provide for a transition to disarmament. It will also support in future the efforts exerted by the United Nations in this direction in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.



## FINLAND

[Original: English]

[9 March 1987]

1. United Nations Disarmament Week was widely observed in Finland also in 1986. The manifold activities during the week were organized and co-ordinated by the Finnish National Commission for Disarmament Week. The Commission is a non-governmental body consisting of representatives from some 180 voluntary organizations, including political parties, youth and student organizations, labour unions and peace movement organizations. More than 100,000 people are estimated to have participated in the different events organized during the week.
2. The Finnish mass media noted United Nations Disarmament Week extensively and thus participated in the work to create a broader understanding of the objectives of the week.
3. The leading themes during the week were appeals for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, as well as the urgent need for nuclear and conventional disarmament in general.

## GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[25 March 1987]

1. The 1986 week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament proclaimed by the United Nations again mobilized hundreds of thousands of citizens in the German Democratic Republic. At mass rallies and meetings or other functions, they manifested their desire for peace and declared their willingness to assist in the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. These activities expressed their awareness that humanity at the present stage of its development is facing a unique situation without parallel in history. "Today, the all-decisive question is whether the arms race will escalate in all its aspects and the danger of nuclear war will increase, or whether general security will be strengthened and a stable peace be ensured for all", noted the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, Erich Honecker.
2. In the run-up to United Nations Disarmament Week in the International Year of Peace, a festive function was sponsored by the German Democratic Republic League for the United Nations and the German Democratic Republic Peace Council. Numerous public figures and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the German Democratic Republic attended the function. The speeches made on the occasion pointed out that in the nuclear and space age the question of war or peace has assumed a completely new dimension, unprecedented in history. The tenor underlying the discussions was that the German Democratic Republic remains committed to the struggle for the solution of the fundamental issue of the present time, to avert mankind's

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destruction in a nuclear catastrophe and to secure for it a durable peace. The disarmament initiatives submitted by the German Democratic Republic, the USSR, other Warsaw Treaty States and many other countries to this end were commended.

3. The following examples are indicative of the multifarious activities in the framework of Disarmament Week:

(a) Three thousand inhabitants of the district town of Reichenbach, responding to an invitation from the pupils of the "Peace" Comprehensive School, gathered for an impressive rally in the town's market-place; in a declaration of intent, the participants urged: "Stop the arms race - disarmament now";

(b) Veterans from the German Democratic Republic and the United States of America who had fought in the Spanish Civil War held a meeting at Berlin, where they united their voices in a passionate appeal for world-wide disarmament;

(c) Workers of the pipe factory at Zeithain gathered for a peace meeting; together with a delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Preservation of Peace, they declared their willingness to do their utmost for peace;

(d) At a festive function at Jena, Professor Gunther Drefahl, President of the German Democratic Republic Peace Council, stated that "the world today needs a type of common sense that causes all human beings to behave as responsible owners of our planet";

(e) A meeting of the national branch of International Physicians for the Prevention of a Nuclear War, held to mark the International Physicians' Day for Peace, united 250 doctors from the German Democratic Republic, who received a message of greetings from Erich Honecker, Chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic;

(f) Numerous letters from, inter alia, the synod of the Protestant-Lutheran Church of Saxony, the German Democratic Republic Writers Union and the German Democratic Republic curatorship of the Gossner Mission were sent to the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, to thank him for the stand that he took at Reykjavik;

(g) The Committee of German Democratic Republic Physicians for the Prevention of a Nuclear War and the Committee for Scientific Aspects of Peace-keeping and Disarmament at the German Democratic Republic Academy of Sciences called for an immediate and comprehensive nuclear-test ban in cables to the United States Congress;

(h) The International Peace Torch Run, under the slogan "Give the world a chance - children need peace", was continued in the German Democratic Republic with a meeting held at the Memorial to the Victims of Fascism and Militarism at Berlin. The highlight of the day was a rally of 3,000 children in the Pioneers' Palace;

(i) The annual solidarity campaign of the radio stations of the German Democratic Republic and the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions was started

under the motto "Freedom for peace" at a gala concert in the Rostock sports and congress hall with 3,000 people attending;

(j) Renowned physicists of the German Democratic Republic addressed an appeal for nuclear disarmament to their colleagues and the peace-loving public throughout the world.

4. The comprehensive and far-reaching peace programme put forward by the Soviet Union and the proposals submitted by the Warsaw Treaty States at Budapest, which open up a practicable way into a millennium without nuclear weapons were warmly supported at further functions held during Disarmament Week. The activities undertaken by the German Democratic Republic for ridding Central Europe of nuclear and chemical weapons were widely acclaimed. Dissatisfaction was expressed with the insistence of the United States on its "Star Wars" programme (strategic defence initiative (SDI)).

5. The media of the German Democratic Republic reported on the multifarious activities of the States Members of the United Nations at the forty-first session of the General Assembly, including the resolutions sponsored by the German Democratic Republic on nuclear disarmament, the non-first-use of nuclear weapons, the prohibition of chemical weapons and the intensification of disarmament negotiations. The press, radio and television informed the public about the special session of the First Committee of the General Assembly devoted to World Disarmament Week and about the personal commitment of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar to the cause of arms limitation and disarmament. They gave extensive coverage to the wave of powerful peace rallies held throughout the world and to the call by millions of people for a comprehensive nuclear-test ban and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Furthermore, the media carried reports about the session of the Palme Commission at Budapest on questions of European security and nuclear disarmament, the session of the Christian Peace Conference (CFK) at Hannover, the meeting of 12 world religions and numerous denominational communities on the International Day of Prayer for Peace at Assisi, and the session of the International Committee for European Security and Co-operation at Vienna. They commented also on the international symposium on nuclear-weapon-free zones held at Sofia, the seminar on disarmament and development for peace at Mexico City, the disarmament meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the Helsinki meeting of representatives of international and national umbrella youth organisations from 17 European States and the International Peace Relay which was started when the forty-first session of the General Assembly was being opened.

6. The visit of Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the SED Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China and the Mongolian People's Republic was a media highlight during Disarmament Week. The media focused on Erich Honecker's talks with his partners, in which much attention was given to the struggle for peace and for the cessation of the arms race. The media also informed the public about domestic events and initiatives of the German Democratic Republic during Disarmament Week, such as the declaration of intent issued by the German Democratic Republic People's Chamber to enter into discussions with the European Parliament on different aspects of a disarmament programme and

peace meetings held in various local enterprises and institutions. In this context, they referred to the special importance of this year's United Nations Disarmament Week after the Reykjavik meeting and the proposal put forward by the Soviet Union at that summit meeting.

7. The week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament in the International Year of Peace once again showed that the people and the Government of the German Democratic Republic undertake bold and imaginative initiatives expressing their dedication to the cause of peace and that they are working perseveringly for the world-wide success of the World Disarmament Campaign.

#### HUNGARY

[Original: English]

[1 May 1987]

1. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic and Hungarian public opinion are resolutely for the establishment of international peace and security, the dismantling of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and the utilization of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes. They stand for the prohibition of the development of new types of weapons, a just settlement of regional conflicts and the reduction of armed forces, conventional armaments and military expenditures to a minimum level justified by defence. They support the achievement of disarmament under effective control, the improvement of confidence- and security-building measures and the efforts to increase the role of the United Nations in the solution of all these questions.

2. While supporting the Hungarian peace movement and the activities of other mass organizations for the maintenance of peace, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is doing all it can to ensure that public opinion exercises a greater influence on the quest for solutions to the questions of international peace and security and of disarmament, the major issues of our nuclear and cosmic age, and is better informed about the related activities of the United Nations.

3. With these ends in view, the following events were organized in the Hungarian People's Republic during the Disarmament Week held in observance of the International Year of Peace:

(a) The Disarmament Commission of the Hungarian Peace Council held an enlarged meeting at Budapest on current questions of security policy and disarmament with the participation of experts from abroad who came to Hungary to attend the meeting of the Palme Commission;

(b) October 24, United Nations Day, was commemorated in several Hungarian towns; former United Nations officers gathered at a meeting organized by the Hungarian United Nations Association; a United Nations Day was held in the UNESCO-associated schools of Hungary; on that day, Hungarian television broadcast the international UNICEF gala, which also included a Hungarian block;

(c) At a press conference, the National Council of Hungarian Women announced its adherence to the world appeal launched at the women's peace movements meeting in the Netherlands;

(d) The Peace Club of Journalists held a meeting in the National Association of Hungarian Journalists about questions of the international peace movement;

(e) The Hungarian United Nations Association and the Society for the Dissemination of Knowledge organized lectures on the theme "The United Nations and disarmament";

(f) The Hungarian daily Magyar Hírlap published a series of interviews on Hungarian participation in disarmament talks; the Central Press Service praised the importance of Disarmament Week in an editorial;

(g) At the invitation of the Soviet Peace Committee, a delegation of the Hungarian peace movement left for Moscow to take part in the events of Disarmament Week in the Soviet Union;

(h) On the occasion of Disarmament Week, the Hungarian Peace Council published a booklet that included an analysis of the Stockholm Conference.

4. In the view of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic, the aforementioned events of Disarmament Week have contributed effectively to acquaint broad segments of public opinion with questions of international peace and security and of disarmament, to a fuller development of related activities by the general public and to a manifestation of mass support to increase the role of the United Nations.

#### MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[5 May 1987]

1. On the occasion of the second summit meeting of participants in the Peace and Disarmament Initiative, held at Ixtapa, Mexico, on 6 and 7 August 1986, the Government of Mexico organized an international meeting of experts who analysed problems related to the urgent need to reverse the arms race and bring about general and complete disarmament. The meeting, the main object of which was to alert Mexican and world public opinion to these issues, was held from 2 to 4 August 1986 at the National Museum of Anthropology and History in Mexico City. The following round tables were organized:

(a) The nuclear debate in contemporary society:

Date: 2 August 1986

Speakers: Jorge Illueca  
Flora Lewis  
Giuseppe Boffa  
Caran A. Jachaturov  
Olafur Grimsson  
Jorge Carpizo

Moderator: Javier Wimer

(b) Peace and security in the modern world:

Date: 2 August 1986

Speakers: Rodrigo Carazo  
P. C. Jersild  
Thomas Cochran  
Aleksander Gvlichkov  
Karen Mulhauser  
Silvia Hernández

Moderator: Teodoro Cesarman

(c) Pacifist movements in the struggle for disarmament:

Date: 3 August 1986

Speakers: David McTaggart  
William Reynolds  
Meg Beresford  
Alan Boesak  
Edgardo Mercado Jarrín  
Keith Best

Moderator: Cinna Lomnitz

(d) Disarmament and development:

Date: 4 August 1986

Speakers: John Kenneth Galbraith  
Reius Ter Beck  
Carlos Andrés Pérez  
Cristovam Buarque  
Stanley Sheinbaum  
Philippe Villiers

Moderator: Miguel Wionczek

(e) What is to be done? Alternatives for peace:

Date: 4 August 1986

Speakers: Pablo González Casanova  
Yoshikazu Sakamoto  
Randall Forsberg  
Sandro Viola  
Warren Almand

Moderator: Richard Rathburn

(f) Scientists' responsibility in the nuclear age:

Date: 4 August 1986

Speakers: Carl Sagan  
José Goldenberg  
Bernard Lown  
M. K. Menon  
Nickolai I. Plate

Moderator: Manuel Velasco Suárez

2. Radio and television programmes were broadcast on the dangers posed to mankind's survival by the arms race, emphasizing the importance of the activities in favour of international peace, disarmament and security carried out both by the United Nations and by the six leaders involved in the Peace and Disarmament Initiative. Most of these programmes consisted of news reports and interviews with top officials of the Mexican Foreign Ministry, and international scientists, intellectuals, statesmen and political analysts who spoke of the need to free the planet from the threat posed by the arms race, particularly the nuclear-arms race.

3. The Office of the President of the Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published books and leaflets on topics related to the need to take effective action to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and end the arms race on earth and prevent its extension to outer space. Posters were also produced alluding to the peace and disarmament objectives pursued by the Group of Six and the United Nations and bearing the slogan "Long live peace, Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania".

4. To commemorate United Nations Day, the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) for Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic organized a round table on the topic "The United Nations and Multilateralism". The round table, which was held on 24 October 1986 at the headquarters of the Mexican Foreign Ministry at Tlatelolco, consisted of the following participants:

Speakers: Ambassador Jorge Montaña  
Director in Chief for Multilateral Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ms. Rosario Green  
Director-General, Mateus Romero Institute for  
Diplomatic Studies  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Jamal Shemirani  
UNIC Director

Senator Hugo B. Margáin  
Senator of the Republic, member of the Group of  
High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review  
the Efficiency of the Administrative and  
Financial Functioning of the United Nations

Moderator: Ambassador Victor Flores Olea  
Assistant Secretary for Multilateral Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

5. The round table analysed such topics as the financial and administrative problems faced by the United Nations, the situation of human rights, the international economic situation and political and disarmament questions.

#### MONGOLIA

[Original: Russian]

[25 March 1987]

1. In preparing for and marking Disarmament Week, the Government of Mongolia took into account the proposals and ideas contained in the model programme for the Week prepared by the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/34/436) and also paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 40/152 E.

2. The observance of Disarmament Week in Mongolia was based on the activities for the International Year of Peace. This year, Disarmament Week coincided with the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mongolia's admission to the United Nations.

3. The major activities for the Week were designed to promote even deeper public awareness of the danger of the arms race, especially the nuclear-arms race, and its extension into outer space, and to give wide publicity to United Nations efforts in this vital sphere.

4. To mark the beginning of the Week, the Mongolian United Nations Association and the Mongolian Peace Committee issued a joint appeal calling on the Mongolian people and the peace-loving forces of the world to intensify their collective efforts in behalf of nuclear disarmament, the halting of nuclear tests and the



curbing of the arms race. In the appeal, they stressed the urgency of taking decisive measures to rein in the arms race once and for all, particularly the nuclear-arms race, prevent the militarization of outer space and bring about disarmament with a view to averting a nuclear war and ensuring comprehensive security. It reaffirmed the Mongolian people's full support for the peace initiatives of the USSR and other socialist countries, especially the proposals for a comprehensive system of international security and for the universal elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000, and also the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions. The appeal also noted that the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik showed that there was a genuine opportunity to reach a turning-point in the arms race on earth and prevent its extension into outer space, provided all States possessed the necessary political will.

5. On 23 October a press conference was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, attended by representatives of the central press organs and foreign journalists accredited to Ulan Bator, at which information was provided about Mongolia's participation in United Nations activities and about events being planned in Mongolia to mark Disarmament Week.

6. On 24 October a mass meeting devoted to Disarmament Week was held in the Palace of Peace and Friendship in Ulan Bator. Public figures who spoke at the meeting, after expressing misgivings about the complex and tense international situation, made a decisive appeal to the public to intensify its efforts for the adoption of measures that would avert the threat of nuclear war and halt the arms race on earth and in outer space. They stressed the importance of strengthening peace and security and developing good-neighbourly relations in Asia and the Pacific and welcomed the constructive proposals of the socialist and other countries in that region. The participants unanimously supported the peace-loving proposals of the socialist and other States as an effective contribution to the goals of the International Year of Peace and disarmament.

7. Meetings of representatives of Mongolian jurists, women and youth to mark Disarmament Week were also arranged.

8. A "peace flight" on the domestic airlines was organized.

9. During the observance of the Week, a number of articles and commentaries were published in the press concerning questions of disarmament and United Nations activities in that field. For example, a leading article in the newspaper Unen, the central organ of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Government of Mongolia, was devoted to the purposes and tasks of Disarmament Week.

10. The press also carried the appeal by the Mongolian United Nations Association and the Mongolian Peace Committee, as well as an appeal by the participants in the sixth session of the People's Deputies' Khural of Ulan Bator.

11. The radio and television carried round-table discussions on disarmament and regularly broadcast information about the activities held in the country and abroad on the occasion of Disarmament Week.

12. The Mongolian Society for the Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge organized lectures on disarmament issues throughout the country.

13. The Ministry of National Education, the State Committee on Higher and Specialized Secondary Education of Mongolia and the Central Committee of the Mongolian Revolutionary Youth Union organized a seminar on bringing up the younger generation in the spirit of peace.

POLAND

(Original: English)

[9 May 1987]

1. It has been a constant, fundamental aim of Polish foreign policy, stemming from the constitutional principles of Poland's social system and the experience of many generations of Polish people, to build a lasting system of international security. Therefore, the Government of the Polish People's Republic lends particular support to all those initiatives in the international forum which seek to promote international peace and security, disarmament and peaceful co-operation between nations. This attitude was reflected, inter alia, in an initiative proposed by Poland and other States parties to the Warsaw Treaty at the forty-first session of the General Assembly, concerning the establishment of a universal system of international peace and security.

2. In 1986, Disarmament Week was an integral part of a broad programme of nation-wide celebrations of the International Year of Peace, widely reported on in the press, radio and television in Poland, which offered a special opportunity to disseminate in Polish society the United Nations ideals of peace and international co-operation.

3. The events that marked Disarmament Week offered an opportunity for meetings and exchanges of views between the older generation, which experienced the atrocities of the Second World War, and the young, bringing together people of different occupations, professions, education, political convictions and ideological outlooks, workers, farmers, those living in towns and in the countryside. The debates and resolutions that they produced were dominated by concern and hope that joint efforts by people all over the world, irrespective of political and economic divisions, would succeed in holding back the threat of nuclear destruction and that financial resources now spent on armaments would in the future be invested in the elimination of underdevelopment, starvation and diseases plaguing mankind. In that connection, the socialist States' concept of a universal system of international peace and security, presented at the forty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly, received the broad support of society.

4. The lectures, conferences, exhibitions and mass rallies staged during Disarmament Week, between 24 and 30 October under the auspices of the Polish Government as well as social organizations and trade unions, helped to make the Polish public aware of the full scale of threats posed by the arms race. The

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Polish society has been particularly concerned over the strategic defence initiative (SDI) programme. Its implementation may mean opening a new plane of technical arms race of incalculable consequences for all humanity. During Disarmament Week, the Polish public unequivocally manifested its opposition to plans for the militarization of outer space as a factor that heightens the threat of the outbreak of a nuclear conflict. Polish society also expressed firm protest against the increasing of tensions in various parts of the world and appealed to leaders and nations, especially in Western Europe, to prevent further acceleration of the arms race on the European continent. In that connection, the Polish society welcomed the results of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

5. Disarmament Week in Poland was inaugurated on 24 October at Warsaw by a popular scientific session entitled "Youth and peace go together", staged under the auspices of the All-Polish Peace Committee and the Union of Socialist Polish Youth (ZSMP). It focused on issues pertaining to the activity of the United Nations in promoting peace, security and disarmament. Similar events were held at Krakow, Racibórz and several other towns. Events on an international scale were also organized as part of Disarmament Week. The Polish Peace Committee, in co-operation with the Finnish Peace Committee, staged a philatelic exhibition entitled "Pasofila" at Helsinki, devoted to the defence of peace, while the Polish United Nations Student Association held an international seminar on disarmament and security at Warsaw.

6. The Government of the Polish People's Republic is of the opinion that annual celebrations of Disarmament Week are an effective contribution to the deepening of the understanding by societies of the threats posed by the arms race and the possibilities of the outbreak of a nuclear conflict. Thus they help mobilize public opinion of all States behind efforts promoting the struggle for peace, general and complete disarmament and implementation of the lofty ideals of the Charter of the United Nations. Considering Poland's traditional commitment to international peace and security as well as disarmament, the Polish Government will continue to attach due importance to the annual celebrations of Disarmament Week.

#### ROMANIA

[Original: French]

[3 November 1986]

1. On 24 October 1986, a celebratory meeting was held at Bucharest under the auspices of the Romanian United Nations Association (ANUKOM) and the Romanian United Nations Youth and Students Association (ATSRNU). At the meeting, the President of ANUKOM, Professor Alexandru Balaci, gave a presentation on the topic "Ideas and initiatives of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania concerning expansion of the role of the United Nations in solving major contemporary problems and promoting disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament".

2. The Romanian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra dedicated one of its October concerts to United Nations Day and heads of diplomatic missions and United

Nations agencies in Bucharest were invited to attend. The concert was recorded and a copy of the recording will be sent to the United Nations Secretariat.

3. The People's Council of the City of Bucharest publicized United Nations activities on the special notice board located on United Nations Square in Bucharest.

4. Romanian press, radio and television published or broadcast reports on the two events and news about activities organized on these occasions in Romania.

5. The Acting Director of the United Nations Information Centre at Bucharest gave a short speech on Romanian television.

#### UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[6 January 1987]

1. United Nations Day and Disarmament Week were widely celebrated in the Ukrainian SSR. Both events, which are already a tradition, were celebrated this year in the context of the International Year of Peace proclaimed by the United Nations.

2. A grand public meeting to mark United Nations Day, the International Year of Peace and the beginning of Disarmament Week was held on 24 October 1986 in the capital of the Ukrainian SSR, Kiev. It was attended by representatives of industry, scientific establishments and institutions of higher learning, members of the Ukrainian Republic and Kiev Peace Committees, the Soviet Committee for European Security and Co-operation and activists from the Soviet Peace Fund.

3. Opening the meeting, the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, Mr. P. G. Kostyuk, commented that the founding of the United Nations was indivisibly linked to the great victory of the peoples of the anti-Hitlerite coalition in the Second World War, a victory to which the Soviet Union had made a decisive contribution. Our country also played an enormous role in the foundation of the United Nations; from the first days of its existence, the land of the Soviets has worked doggedly to enhance the effectiveness with which the Organization is used to buttress international peace and security and avert the threat of nuclear war. The Ukrainian SSR, one of the founding Members of the United Nations, takes an active part in the Organization's activities.

4. The keynote speaker - the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR, Mr. V. N. Lipatov - described the long, hard past that the United Nations had travelled during its existence. He stressed that the United Nations had become an indispensable component of the system of multilateral relations between States and an important mechanism for resolving severe international problems. Its accomplishments included many responsible political decisions on curbing the arms race, eliminating the hotbeds of military conflict and colonial and racist

repression, and reorganizing international economic relations. The world Organization had also done a great deal to ease the process of international détente.

5. It was deeply symbolic, Mr. Kostyuk stressed, that the International Year of Peace had been marked not only by new and important foreign policy initiatives from the USSR but by concrete efforts and results.

6. Clear confirmation of our country's constructive approach to the problems of disarmament and efforts to secure a turn for the better in Soviet-American relations and the world as a whole could be found in Mr. Gorbachev's initiative of arranging a meeting with the President of the United States in Reykjavik. At the talks, the Soviet Union had presented an exceptionally bold programme that would permit a breakthrough in efforts to halt the arms race and make deep cuts in nuclear weapons.

7. The public representatives who spoke at the meeting said that united efforts by the peoples of the planet would be successful in reining in those who kept planning for further wars and nudging the world towards the nuclear abyss. The workers of the Ukraine could draw that assurance from the coherent peace-loving course mapped out at the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and they fully endorsed and supported the new USSR peace initiatives presented at Reykjavik.

8. A message was read out from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. J. Pérez de Cuéllar, concerning the forty-first anniversary of the United Nations.

9. Those attending the meeting approved the text of a letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

10. A complete range of activities took place in the Republic as part of Disarmament Week.

11. Demonstrations, political meetings, gatherings, peace vigils, lectures, round-table discussions, exhibitions of posters and paintings, topical functions and concerts, peace celebrations, solidarity fairs and so forth were held in conjunction with union, Komsomol and other public organizations in the Ukraine, and were attended by 11.5 million people.

12. Anti-war demonstrations, processions and political meetings attended by many thousands of people took place in Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk and Krivoy Rog, the Zaporozhye, Bogorodchany (Ivano-Frankovsky Region), Skvira (Kiev Region), Simferopol, Borislav (Lvov Region), Kremenchug, Kherson, Khmetnitsky and other cities.

13. Political meetings were held at the workers' collectives of major industrial enterprises in the Republic: the plant in Vinnitsa, named in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the October revolution, the silk combine in Lutsk commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the Soviet Ukraine, the Parkhomenko plant in Voroshilovgrad, the Kirov metal-working combine in Makeevka, the Zhitomir

machine-tool plant, the S. M. Kirov aluminium plant at Dneprovsk (Zaporozhye), the First of May factory in Berdyansk, the Kremenchug carriage works, the Malyshev plant in Kharkov, the "Azot" manufacturing conglomerate in Cherkassk, the "Vatra" manufacturing conglomerate in Ternopolsk, the nuclear power stations in Voroshilovgrad and Rovanky, and many other places.

14. The political meetings held throughout the Republic adopted resolutions, appeals, letters and telegrams to the United Nations and to the President of the United States, Mr. Reagan, calling on him to follow the example of the USSR and end all nuclear explosions, halt preparations for "Star Wars", and stop the deployment of the first-strike Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles.

15. During Disarmament Week, the workers of the Republic embarked on a number of patriotic initiatives. The Sector 110 Collective of the "Aleksandr-Zapad" mining division at the "Artemugol" production conglomerate, led by Valentin Nikolaevich Burtovoi, undertook on 29 October to mine double the standard daily quota of coal; they bought an extra 300 tons to the surface and contributed the 1,000 roubles they earned to the Soviet Peace Fund.

16. Valery Streltsov's Komsomol and youth brigade from the mechanical assembly shop in the Simferopol television plant proposed working throughout the week at maximum productivity and donating one day's wages to the Soviet Peace Fund. The brigade's proposal was backed by everyone at the plant.

17. The workers at the Rovenky non-woven fabrics plant, the "Rovnoselmash" factory and the "Pravda" collective farm in the Mlinov Region suggested that the first 10 days of January 1987 should be declared days of peace, that productivity should be kept to the maximum, and that the money earned should be paid into the Peace Fund.

18. During the Week the railway workers of the Slavyansk locomotive depot ran 100 "peace trains" on conserved electric power. Over 1,000 roubles were contributed to the Peace Fund.

19. A characteristic feature of the recent Disarmament Week was the active participation by overseas guests and foreign students studying in the Republic's educational institutions.

20. Faced with impending nuclear destruction, the peoples of the planet must unite their efforts to ensure a lasting peace on earth. Such was the unanimous opinion of those attending international meetings in the towns of Zhdanov (Donets Region) and Izmail (Odessa Region).

21. Joint meetings of Soviet and foreign citizens took place aboard 15 vessels of the Black Sea and Soviet Danube Steamer Lines (4,500 participants addressed an appeal to the President of the United States).

22. Students from 75 countries studying in the educational institutions of the "metallurgists' city" of Zaporozhye gathered at a political meeting devoted to Disarmament Week and angrily condemned the actions of the United States

Administration which, despite insistent demands by the world's peoples and all peace-loving forces, is continuing to conduct nuclear tests.

23. In Yalta, activists from the Soviet peace movement met tourists from Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany and Czechoslovakia. In the appeal to the United Nations they adopted, the participants unanimously declared: "the Soviet Union bears the banner of peace, the United States wields a nuclear sword". They demanded that all the nuclear Powers should respond favourably to the Soviet peace initiatives and direct their efforts to halting the arms race and concluding an agreement on the complete prohibition of nuclear tests.

24. The campaign for peace was the main topic of a conference at the Polytechnical Institute of foreign students (450 in all) attending institutions of higher learning in Odessa.

25. Performing companies from Bulgaria and Poland took part in a competition of peace songs staged as part of the Week in the Zhitomir Region.

26. As part of the Disarmament Week observances, an anti-war rally was held in Kiev on the square by the memorial buildings of the Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945); it was attended by tens of thousands of people from Kiev and guests of the city. The participants unanimously endorsed a letter to the President of the United States, Mr. Reagan, calling upon him to renounce his mindless plans for "Star Wars", and voted to endorse the "Copenhagen appeal" adopted at the World Congress on the International Year of Peace.

27. The public anti-war activities staged in the Republic during Disarmament Week convincingly demonstrated the mass character of the peace movement and its active commitment to the defence of peace.

28. The mass media in the Ukrainian SSR gave extensive coverage to the entire range of activities devoted to United Nations Day and Disarmament Week. Great attention was paid to efforts by the United Nations to bring about stable peace and international security, to the work of the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR to the forty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly, and to activities by peace advocates in foreign countries during Disarmament Week.

#### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[16 April 1987]

1. In 1986, as in past years, the observance of Disarmament Week received a great deal of attention in the Soviet Union. Activities for the Week focused on the major priorities of our times: the prevention of the spread of weapons into outer space, the elimination of nuclear weapons and the banning of nuclear tests. Soviet

citizens expressed their whole-hearted support for the co-ordination of universal efforts to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world.

2. The opening of Disarmament Week was marked by meetings and rallies devoted to United Nations Day, held in Moscow, Kiev, Minsk and many other Soviet cities. At those meetings, messages and appeals to the United Nations were adopted which expressed the conviction that the principal purpose of the world Organization is to ensure a lasting peace and international security.

3. On 25 October, 28,000 Muscovites attending an anti-war rally adopted an appeal to the General Assembly at its forty-first session and to the Secretary-General, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

4. The same day was marked by a peace march of 28,000 Leningrad workers, ending in an anti-war rally at which an appeal to the United States Administration to stop the arms race was unanimously adopted.

5. On 26 October, 60,000 inhabitants of Belgorod - men, women, mothers with children, war veterans, young people - took to the streets to protest against the United States Administration's irresponsible arms build-up.

6. Mass anti-war marches and demonstrations took place also in Kiev (29 October; over 15,000 participants), Tbilisi (26 October; 20,000), Volgograd (29 October; 20,000), Vladivostok (22 October; 20,000), Krivoy Rog (24 October; 15,000), Simferopol (24 October; 10,000), and in Baku, Vladimir, Lipetsk, Gomel, Krasnodar, Armavir, Omsk, Kirov and many other cities.

7. On 25 October alone, in the towns and district centres of the Stavropol Territory about 1 million people participated in anti-war rallies.

8. In all, more than 60 million people representing all social groups and strata in the Soviet Union took part in the Week's anti-war activities.

9. For example, besides participating in anti-war demonstrations and rallies, women held activities such as the meeting of women in Volgograd, the meeting in Nizhne-Vartovsk of mothers active in the peace movement, the city demonstration of the women of Barnaul under the slogan "Women for peace, against war", and the women's anti-war rally in Tallin.

10. During the Week, young people's anti-war activities took place throughout the country. Youth demonstrations and marches with slogans demanding an end to the nuclear-arms race and prevention of the militarization of outer space took place in Alma-Ata (15,000 participants), Grodno (20,000), Astrakhan (12,000), Novosibirsk (12,000), Dnepropetrovsk, Tambov, Kolomna and a number of other cities.

11. Aside from demonstrations and rallies, young people also engaged in such anti-war activities as anti-war poster competitions in the schools of Daugavpils, solidarity fairs in Chapaevsk, an exhibition in Minsk of drawings entitled "A peaceful sky for the planet", days of volunteer labour in the Cheliabinsk Region to raise money for the Peace Fund, and many other diverse activities.



12. Young artists and performers from more than 30 countries gathered during the Week in Kiev for the First International Youth Festival entitled "Songs in the struggle for peace". Held as part of the International Year of Peace, it was scheduled to coincide with Disarmament Week.

13. The artistic and academic community also took part in anti-war activities during the Week. A Theatre Week of Peace in Georgia; a dramatized anti-war rally "Cultural workers' call for peace" in Riga; film festivals for peace in Kalmykia, Kaliningrad and Uzbekistan; an evening of poetry with the theme "Poets of the Fergana Region in the struggle for peace"; and an exhibition "Young poster-designers for peace" in Tashkent are just a few of the activities held.

14. The country's religious leaders also took an active part in the events of the Week. In his prayer for peace, Pimen, Patriarch of Moscow and All the Russias, appealed to all people of good will not to slacken their efforts to achieve a world without weapons or wars. The prayer service was held on 26 October in the Cathedral of the Epiphany in Moscow. As Patriarch Pimen observed, this prayer "is offered to mark the approaching conclusion of 1986, which the United Nations has proclaimed the International Year of Peace".

15. Representatives of foreign anti-war organizations and movements, participants in the Copenhagen Congress, and foreign students and tourists took part in many of the anti-war activities held by Soviet peace supporters. Thus, 250 delegates to the World Peace Congress from the United States, Japan, the Philippines, Australia, India, Nepal, Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Uruguay and other countries participated in anti-war activities held in Moscow, Leningrad, Minsk, Tallin, Riga and Volgograd.

16. Peace advocates from Great Britain attended the opening in Minsk of an exhibition of posters by English peace supporters from Birmingham. On 31 October, foreign tourists took part in an anti-war rally in Khatyn. More than 600 foreign students took part in a young people's anti-war rally held on 24 October in Zaporozhye.

17. Disarmament Week received wide coverage in the Soviet media. Many Soviet television and radio reports and programmes were devoted to that subject, and newspapers and magazines published many articles and reports on activities in support of disarmament.

18. The anti-war speeches of Soviet peace supporters made during Disarmament Week demonstrated the desire of the Soviet people for peace, removal of the nuclear threat and the creation of genuine security for all people.

## VIET NAM

[Original: English]

[1 March 1987]

1. Activities staged by the Vietnamese people to observe the annual Disarmament Week in 1986 were part of their national peace campaign in response to the proclamation by the United Nations of 1986 as the International Year of Peace and the Declaration of the Right of Peoples to Peace. Under the auspices of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and various Vietnamese non-governmental organizations, diversified activities were launched to mobilize the peace movement and promote information and education on peace. More and more fully and deeply established among the Vietnamese people is the awareness that the maintenance of peace and prevention of nuclear war is the primary task of our time and their cause for peace, national construction and defence is organically linked with the cause for peace, friendship and co-operation in South-East Asia, Asia and the Pacific and the rest of the world.
2. Big rallies were held throughout the country during Disarmament Week. His Excellency Mr. Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, made a statement to the people of the capital city of Hanoi, in which he expressed Viet Nam's strong support for numerous important peace initiatives by the socialist and non-aligned countries to curb the arms race on Earth and to prevent it from extending into outer space.
3. On this occasion, the Ministry of Culture and the Peace Committee of Viet Nam jointly organized a national musical festival with the participation of singers and musical groups from 23 cities and provinces in the country. The theme of the festival was peace and national construction.
4. During the week, Viet Nam's newspapers and television stations carried special articles and programmes on disarmament topics.

## III. UNITED NATIONS

A. United Nations Headquarters

1. Every year, Disarmament Week is widely observed at United Nations Headquarters and elsewhere in the world by the organization of the United Nations system. In particular, both the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Public Information endeavour to involve as many segments of the public as possible in the observance of Disarmament Week. In this connection, the network of United Nations information centres plays an essential role in stimulating and/or supporting activities undertaken by concerned constituencies around the world.
2. At United Nations Headquarters, two major events traditionally take place to mark Disarmament Week: the observance in the First Committee of the General Assembly, and the NGO Forum co-sponsored by the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Public Information. In 1986, the observance in the First

Committee took place on 28 October, at its 23rd meeting, during which statements were made by the Chairman of the Committee, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the chairmen of the five regional groups.

3. The NGO Forum focused on the topic "What hope for the future? An assessment of recent developments in the field of disarmament". A panel discussion moderated by the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs had the following speakers: Ambassador V. I. Issraelyan (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Ambassador D. S. Lowitz (United States) and Ambassador M. B. Theorin (Sweden). Some 200 representatives of non-governmental organizations, members of the diplomatic community and staff members of the Organization attended the meeting.

#### B. United Nations Office at Geneva

1. At Geneva, Disarmament Week was observed, highlighting, inter alia, the International Year of Peace. Two exhibits were organized, one by the Geneva Branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the other by the United Nations Information Service. In the first case, panels with information on various aspects of multilateral disarmament agreements and displaying samples of United Nations disarmament information materials were featured. The exhibit sponsored by the Information Service covered issues relating to the International Year of Peace and the relationship between disarmament and development.

#### C. United Nations information centres and services

1. The observance of Disarmament Week, 1986, was widely marked throughout the world by a great variety of commemorative events organized by United Nations information centres and services (UNICs/UNISs). 1/ The activities held by United Nations information centres included issuance and distribution of information material, public meetings, rallies, peace marches, symposia, round tables, seminars, conferences, United Nations film screenings, photographic and art exhibits, musical performances and other relevant events stressing the increased role of the United Nations in disarmament issues and the significance of the Disarmament Week objectives.

2. UNIC directors and staff members lectured on various aspects of disarmament and spoke to government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations and media, student/youth groups and socio-political organizations. In addition, they organized and addressed special ceremonies and provided articles and interviews for the local media. They showed, notwithstanding the current financial difficulties of the United Nations, many commendable initiatives for a wide celebration of the Week.

3. In order to encourage wider publicity of Disarmament Week, UNICs/UNISs worked closely with the print and audio-visual media, with foreign ministries of Member States, government agencies and offices, United Nations associations, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations.

4. As a result of the initiatives undertaken by UNICs, an effective media campaign took place with extensive use of United Nations documentation, including the information material provided by the Department of Public Information. The main dailies, radio and television carried prominently the Secretary-General's message, which was often translated into different local languages. On the whole, all disarmament-related activities during the observance were covered extensively by the media.

5. Arrangements were also made to accentuate the International Year of Peace, celebrated in 1986, through various meetings, seminars, symposia and special events in close relation with the Disarmament Week observances.

#### IV. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. In paragraph 7 of resolution 41/86 D, the General Assembly invited international non-governmental organizations to take an active part in Disarmament Week and to inform the Secretary-General of the activities undertaken in that connection.

2. The following international non-governmental organizations have informed the Department for Disarmament Affairs of activities that they carried out in observance of Disarmament Week, 1986:

Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization

Bahá'i International Community

Center of Concern

Christian Peace Conference

International Committee for European Security and Co-operation

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

International Federation of Social Workers

International Union of Family Organizations

Women's International Democratic Federation

World Federation of Trade Unions

#### Notes

1/ They are as follows: Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, Baghdad, Bogotá, Bucharest, Brussels, Bujumbura, Cairo, Copenhagen, Dar es Salaam, Dhaka, Geneva, Harare, Islamabad, Jakarta, Kabul, Kathmandu, Lagos, La Paz, Lisbon, Lomé, London, Madrid, Maseru, Mexico City, Moscow, Nairobi, New Delhi, Panama, Port of Spain, Prague, Rabat, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Santiago, Sydney, Tokyo and Washington.