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CELEBRATION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary
 of the United Nations

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the introduction of his annual report on the work of the Organization, issued in September 1968, the Secretary-General called attention to the need "to renew our efforts to promote the cause of international understanding and rededicate ourselves to the principles of international order and morality set out in the Charter". ^{1/} He added: "It seems to all that such an occasion for rededication will present itself to all Member States as we approach the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations". The Secretary-General hoped that the Assembly would be able to adopt recommendations which would make it possible to celebrate, in a most fitting manner, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

2. In a letter dated 30 October 1968, ^{2/} the representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Peru, the Philippines, Somalia, Sweden, Togo and Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations requested the Secretary-General to include an additional item entitled "Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations" in the agenda of the twenty-third regular session of the General Assembly. In an explanatory memorandum accompanying the letter, the representatives referred to the statement of the Secretary-General quoted above and said that they welcomed his initiative. They suggested that the President of the General Assembly might establish a small committee to report to the General Assembly on the measures to be taken for an appropriate celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

3. At its 1709th meeting, on 1 November 1968, the General Assembly decided to include the foregoing item in the agenda of its twenty-third session. On 7 November 1968, the President of the Assembly announced that, should the Assembly agree to the establishment of a committee for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary, he intended to announce the composition of the committee by the following week. The President stated that he also intended to request delegations which were not members of the committee to submit to the committee any suggestions they might have regarding the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary. The Assembly agreed with the President's proposal. Subsequently, at the 1714th meeting on 12 November 1968, the President announced that, after having held consultations, he believed that it would be best to entrust the subject of the twenty-fifth anniversary to the General Committee. This proposal was accepted by the General Assembly without objection.

4. In a note dated 5 December 1968, ^{3/} the Secretary-General proposed to the General Committee that it recommend that the General Assembly decide

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 1A (A/7201/Add.1), para. 205.

^{2/} Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 97, document A/7225 and Add.1.

^{3/} Ibid., document A/BUR/72.

that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be commemorated in an appropriate manner at Headquarters and at other United Nations offices as well as at the national level in all Member States. He suggested that the General Committee might wish to recommend that the General Assembly appoint a preparatory committee for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, designated by the President on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to be entrusted with the task of preparing recommendations and plans for the anniversary. The Secretary-General said he would spare no effort in assisting the preparatory committee if it were to be established. The preparatory committee might, inter alia, be asked to explore the possibility of preparing, for the General Assembly's approval, a declaration of historical importance which would reflect the progress made by the United Nations in its various fields of activity, indicating the major remaining problems in each field and the prospects for their solution.

5. At its 1749th meeting on 19 December 1968, the General Assembly had before it the recommendation of the General Committee that the twenty-fifth anniversary should be commemorated in an appropriate manner and that the Assembly should in this connexion appoint a preparatory committee for the anniversary, consisting of all the Member States represented in the General Committee at the twenty-third session. The preparatory committee would be entrusted with the task of preparing recommendations and plans for the anniversary and would be requested to report to the Assembly in the very early part of its twenty-fourth session. The Assembly adopted these recommendations without objection.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

6. The Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations ^{4/} held its first meeting on 20 January 1969. The Secretary-General made a statement, in which he expressed the conviction that everybody present shared the common desire to make the silver jubilee of the United Nations something more than a mere customary festivity. The anniversary should, in his view, be a solemn occasion for reflection and stocktaking in the middle of the long pilgrimage for consolidation of the progress already made by the Organization, and for renewed dedication to the achievement of the ideals the membership set out to attain twenty-five years ago at San Francisco.

7. At the second meeting of the Committee held on 27 January, the following officers were elected unanimously: Chairman - Ambassador Richard M. Akwei of Ghana; Vice-Chairmen - the Permanent Representatives of Bulgaria, Guyana and India; Rapporteur - Mr. Mario Franzi of Italy. Both Mr. Akwei and Mr. Franzi were elected in their personal capacity, whereas the Vice-Chairmen were elected as representatives of their respective countries.

^{4/} The members of the Committee are: Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Mauritania, Peru, Philippines, Somalia, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States.

III. CORRESPONDENCE INITIATED BY THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

8. In a note dated 14 February 1969, the Secretary-General informed the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the decision of the General Assembly to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in an appropriate manner and to appoint a preparatory committee to be entrusted with the task of preparing recommendations and plans for the anniversary. As requested by the Preparatory Committee, the Secretary-General invited Governments of Member States to transmit any views or suggestions which they considered would be of assistance to the Committee in formulating its recommendations to the General Assembly. He also stated that he had been requested by the Committee to inquire of Governments what activities they might consider undertaking at the national level in pursuance of the above-mentioned decision of the General Assembly.
9. In a letter dated 14 February 1969, Mr. Richard M. Akwei, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, informed the Permanent Representatives that the Preparatory Committee had begun its work and that he would be grateful to receive any further information or suggestions they wished to communicate with regard to the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.
10. In a note of the same date, the Secretary-General informed the heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of the decision of the General Assembly concerning the twenty-fifth anniversary. He stated that he had been requested by the Committee to inquire of the specialized agencies and IAEA what activities they might consider undertaking within the framework of the foregoing decision of the General Assembly, as well as to invite them to transmit any views or suggestions they considered might be of assistance to the Committee in formulating its recommendations to the General Assembly. In a letter dated 25 February 1969, Mr. C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet and Secretary of the Preparatory Committee, wrote to the heads of UNDP, UNICEF, UNCTAD, UNIDO, WFP and UNRWA as well as to UNHCR informing them of the creation of the Preparatory Committee. He transmitted the request of the Chairman of the Committee that the Committee would be interested to know what activities these bodies and agencies might consider undertaking within the framework of the celebration.
11. On 27 February, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee informed the President of the Economic and Social Council of the establishment of the Committee and the election of its officers, and requested the President of the Council to communicate to the non-governmental organizations in consultative status A and B with the Economic and Social Council the above information with a view to facilitating their participation with programmes of their own in commemoration of the anniversary. He added that it was hoped also that the national branches of the non-governmental organizations, where they existed, would be advised appropriately to co-operate fully with the national Governments concerned for this purpose.

IV. SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED

12. So far forty-five replies have been received from Governments in response to the above-mentioned notes. ^{5/} Fourteen specialized agencies and other organizations in the United Nations system have also replied. In addition, suggestions have been received from numerous non-governmental organizations. The Secretary-General and several members of the United Nations Secretariat have also made suggestions concerning the anniversary. The Preparatory Committee wishes to record its appreciation to all the Governments, organizations and individuals concerned for their willing co-operation in submitting information and suggestions regarding the manner in which the anniversary might be observed.

Themes and objectives of the commemoration

13. Most of the suggestions emphasized that substantive aspects of the work of the United Nations should be highlighted, without ignoring ceremonial aspects. Several stated that, while due regard should be paid to the past achievements of the United Nations, the anniversary should stress the present and future tasks. In the view of some delegations, the celebration should be a stimulus for further efforts to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations and to expand political, economic and social co-operation among its Members on the basis of equal rights.

14. It was suggested that a well-defined theme for the anniversary was needed and that 1970 might be declared a "year of peace" or a "year for peace" in order to make it a starting-point of an endeavour to establish a durable peace. The question of youth in relation to the United Nations and the strengthening of the Organization were among the themes proposed. Several delegations as well as the Secretary-General have suggested that the anniversary should be an occasion for reaffirming faith in the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter. Some suggestions concerning the objectives of the commemoration referred to the growing necessity to adjust the United Nations principal bodies and their activities to present and future realities, in order to reflect the development in the world community and the rapid progress in the field of science and technology.

Levels of commemoration

15. International. A special meeting or session of the General Assembly was proposed by many delegations with the participation of as many heads of State and Government as possible. It was also proposed that all the specialized agencies in the United Nations system should be informed about the anniversary and should be requested to co-operate in the commemoration. Replies from these agencies indicated that they were quite willing to co-ordinate their commemorative activities with the United Nations. A suggestion was made that there should be an appropriate staff under an anniversary co-ordinator, reporting to the Secretary-General.

^{5/} See annex I for the suggestions received from Governments.

16. Regional. The view was expressed that regional organizations in formal association with the United Nations should be invited to commemorate the occasion in an appropriate manner. On the other hand, one delegation suggested that the commemoration at the regional level should involve only United Nations bodies. It was also proposed that the regional economic commissions of the United Nations should participate in activities related to the celebrations, and that regional and local bodies and offices of the specialized agencies might also be utilized as appropriate. Some delegations were in favour of the convening of regional conferences of States to discuss questions of peace and security as well as of co-operation among the countries in each region.

17. National. It was suggested that Governments might organize appropriate national ceremonies with the co-operation of local organizations created in support of the United Nations, especially with the co-operation of United Nations associations; these ceremonies might be attended by national figures of the highest rank, if possible. Governments might also wish to consider the establishment of national committees or the designation of persons responsible for co-ordinating all national activities relating to the anniversary in their respective countries. Where possible, a day or a special meeting might be devoted during the sessions of national legislative bodies to the celebration of the anniversary.

Categories of programmes and activities envisaged at the international level

18. Measures relating to the organization and activities of the United Nations. A number of suggestions indicated that the twenty-fifth anniversary should be an occasion for serious studies on the United Nations, including selected problems facing the Organization, such as: disarmament; peace-keeping; collective security and peaceful settlement of disputes; peaceful uses of outer space and the sea-bed; economic development; decolonization; human rights, particularly apartheid and racial discrimination; friendly relations among nations; universality of the United Nations; youth: education and world problems; reappraisal of the structure, procedures and the working methods of the United Nations; co-operation in science and technology; elimination of all discriminatory measures and other obstacles in international trade; definition of objectives for the decade 1970-1980; the role of the Secretariat of the United Nations. In the course of the discussion other suggestions were made, such as the preservation of the human environment and population.

19. According to some suggestions, the study of these problems could be undertaken by a committee of international experts or "wise men" appointed by the Secretary-General. Such a committee could examine the development of the United Nations over the past twenty-five years, consider its present effectiveness and make recommendations for the future. Questions of procedure and organization were felt to be an area where the need for reform was recognized by many delegations. An alternative proposal was to ask Member States to organize a series of optional national studies similar to the suggestions above. Such national studies might include an inquiry into the contribution which each country has so far made to the United Nations, and the contribution which it could make in the future, together with proposals on how to improve the effectiveness of the Organization. These national reports could then be considered at a conference at the United Nations during the celebration of the anniversary. It has also been

suggested that the Secretary-General might be asked to set up, through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), a small study group which could commission a number of studies in various countries representing all geographical, cultural and political systems.

20. UNITAR has made arrangements for convening a series of advisory panels to discover what subjects are suitable for research and studies in areas of importance to the United Nations. Apart from indicating research in different areas to be undertaken by UNITAR itself, it was hoped that the recommendations of these panels would stimulate studies by research institutions, individual scholars and various non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world. Further UNITAR suggestions included organizing an international symposium and preparing a volume on the growth of the United Nations in the first quarter century of operations of the United Nations system.

21. Another important suggestion was that the twenty-fifth anniversary should coincide with the proclamation or adoption of some important declaration, treaty or convention. Such a proclamation could be based on the work of the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States. A number of suggestions favoured the idea that the twenty-fifth anniversary should be an occasion for appealing to Governments to expedite the ratification of various international instruments adopted by the United Nations, or to hasten compliance by all States with earlier decisions of the United Nations, particularly in the area of human rights. It has also been suggested that encouragement should be given to a wider acceptance of some international agreements such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and the Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Chemical and Bacteriological Weapons, etc.

22. Some delegations expressed a desire that during the anniversary year an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons be concluded. It was stated that in the interests of peace and the maintenance and consolidation of peace throughout the world, it was urgently necessary that the main effort should be concentrated on the adoption of effective measures to put an end to the nuclear armaments race and to bring about nuclear disarmament. In the same manner, it was proposed that the General Assembly take steps to complete by 1970 the drafting of a declaration on the principles of peaceful coexistence, to mark the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and that it take decisions aimed at the complete elimination of colonialism in 1970. Some delegations considered it equally urgent to complete the drafting of a definition of aggression and eliminate aggression everywhere. The rededication of membership to the United Nations Charter might take the form of a solemn declaration to be carefully prepared and agreed upon in the course of 1969. Since 1970 has been designated as International Education Year, education might be highlighted in the economic and social section of the proposed declaration. The impact of science and technology on international relations could also be mentioned in a very prominent place.

Measures directed at making the United Nations better known

23. A number of suggestions emphasized the need to mobilize all information media in order to make the anniversary a vehicle for impressing the importance of the United Nations on public opinion. Government information services as well as the United Nations information centres might concentrate on these objectives. It was suggested furthermore that the Office of Public Information might establish a special unit to initiate and co-ordinate information activities through United Nations information centres, and also to plan and publish works regarding the United Nations. June 1970 might be designated "the month of the United Nations", in which special activities would be organized. Several delegations suggested that model General Assembly sessions, painting competitions, essay contests, etc., should be organized on an international basis.

24. The Office of Public Information made a number of suggestions concerning the possible public information activities relating to the twenty-fifth anniversary. These suggestions consisted, inter alia, of issuance of special Press releases, preparation of periodicals, booklets and pamphlets and radio, television and other visual programmes, the holding of special contests and events and organizing seminars and meetings. There was also a suggestion that a simultaneous broadcast to all parts of the world should be made of the ceremonies to take place on 24 October 1970.

Commemorative measures

25. A special session of the General Assembly has been suggested, with the participation of as many Heads of State or Government as possible. Some suggestions referred to the possibility of holding such a celebration in San Francisco on 26 June 1970, but the majority favoured United Nations Headquarters in New York. Some delegations suggested that these commemorative ceremonies could be held at Headquarters just before the Assembly's twenty-fifth session or during the regular session. Some delegations proposed that the commemorative ceremonies might last from three days to a week and, apart from the ceremonial aspects, might consist primarily of addresses by the Secretary-General, the President of the International Court of Justice, heads of the specialized agencies and representatives of Member States. One delegation suggested that the special session might be in two parts - the first to be held some days before 26 June 1970 at the level of Foreign Ministers, and the second part some days before 24 October at the level of Heads of State or Government, to adopt suitable declarations. According to one delegation, a General Assembly resolution could invite every Member State to display the United Nations flag, beside the national flag on all public buildings on the day of the anniversary. Moreover, the establishment by the United Nations of silver jubilee awards was proposed, with the suggestion that the highest award should be bestowed upon a statesman who had consistently contributed towards the advancement of the aims and purposes of the United Nations. There was a further view that the week ending 26 June 1970 might be proclaimed United Nations Week. Another suggestion was that the week ending 26 June 1970 should be called the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Week and not United Nations Week, in order to avoid possible confusion with United Nations Day, which is observed every year in many countries on 24 October. The issuance of special United Nations postage stamps was proposed, and a number of Member States have indicated their intention to issue commemorative stamps in the course of 1970.

Suggestions concerning youth

26. A number of suggestions emphasized the importance of associating youth in some way with the celebration of the anniversary. The participation of youth, according to these suggestions, might be on the national as well as the international level. One suggestion was for organizing an international symposium of youth representatives with a view to exposing them to present and future world problems and another for holding a world youth assembly at United Nations Headquarters on the lines of a regular session of the General Assembly, to be attended by delegations made up of five young people, born in 1945 or after, from as many Member States of the United Nations as possible. It was also suggested that a certain number of delegations to the twenty-fifth commemorative session of the General Assembly might be composed of university students and other youth representatives of Member States. There was a further view that the anniversary might afford an opportunity to arrange for a certain number of young people from various countries to work as trainees at United Nations offices. A further suggestion favoured organizing an international essay competition for young people on a theme connected with the United Nations.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

27. The Preparatory Committee is of the view that the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should take place at three different levels - international, regional and national.

28. After having carefully considered the various suggestions which have been put forward concerning the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the Preparatory Committee recommends to the General Assembly the programmes and activities set out in the following paragraphs. These recommendations should be considered against the background of the generally shared feeling in the Preparatory Committee that the anniversary should be an occasion to strengthen the Organization and make it more effective by reaffirming the faith of Governments and peoples in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and renewing their endeavours "to maintain international peace and security ... to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples ... and to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion".

29. The theme of the anniversary: The Preparatory Committee decided to recommend "Peace and progress" as the theme of the anniversary. In this connexion it was felt that the General Assembly might consider declaring the year 1970 "Year for Peace". Furthermore, the Preparatory Committee was in agreement with a large number of suggestions that the objectives of the commemoration should be the highlighting of substantive matters before the United Nations, but without ignoring ceremonial matters; that in pursuit of these objectives emphasis should be placed upon the present and future tasks of the Organization, due attention being given, however, to an assessment of its past record. It was also agreed that in adopting such a forward-looking theme and in preparation for the challenges ahead, involvement of world youth in the commemoration was most desirable.

A. Programmes and activities at the international level

30. Commemorative stamps. The Preparatory Committee decided to recommend that the United Nations and the Member States of the Organization might issue postage stamps in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary. It was felt that the period from 26 June to 24 October 1970 might be a suitable time for such stamps to be issued. The theme of these stamps would be "Peace and progress", but the choice of design and colour of the stamps would be left to the Governments. It was hoped that mention would be made in these stamps of the United Nations as well as of its twenty-fifth anniversary. In his letter to the Director-General of the International Postal Union dated 28 February, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee asked him to inform Member Governments of the United Nations through their national postal authorities of this recommendation so that they

might consider taking appropriate steps. On 4 March 1969 the Chairman addressed a note to the Permanent Representatives referring to the recommendation of the Committee concerning commemorative stamps to be issued by the United Nations as well as by Member Governments in connexion with the anniversary. He expressed the hope that Permanent Representatives would bring this matter to the attention of the postal authorities of their Governments.

31. Commemorative medallions^s. The Committee decided to recommend that commemorative medals be struck in connexion with the anniversary. Sterling silver medals would be given to Heads of State or Government present at the commemoration. On one side of the medal would appear the United Nations emblem and the inscription "United Nations" in the five official languages; on the reverse side a reproduction of the United Nations Headquarters building might appear surrounded by the words "Peace and Progress" in the five official languages. There would be a symbolic design on the medal evoking the theme "Swords into ploughshares". A smaller medal would be struck for sale to the public. Such commemorative medals would be self-financing and would in fact be expected to produce a small profit. Member States would be invited to place orders for similar medals with the inscription "Twenty-fifth anniversary" in French, Spanish, Russian or Chinese, or in any other language they wished for distribution in their countries.

32. Awards to staff members. The Committee decided to recommend that suitable awards should be given to staff members who had served the Organization for a requisite number of years. Suitable scrolls might be given by the Secretary-General to those staff members who had entered the service of the United Nations before or during the year 1946 and were still with the Organization during the commemoration.

33. Commemorative session of the General Assembly. The Committee decided to recommend that there should be a commemorative session of the General Assembly in which major activities relating to the commemoration of the anniversary might be concentrated. It would be the hope that as many Heads of State or Government as possible would be able to participate in this session. In this connexion the Committee recommended that a short period prior to 24 October 1970 might be designated as the commemorative session in order that it should not be so long as to detract from its impact nor so short as to inconvenience Heads of State or Government who might wish to attend. Heads of State or Government who might wish to participate in the debate before the commemorative session should also be regarded as having participated in the commemoration. The same period should also provide an opportunity for implementing the programmes which the Preparatory Committee for the Tenth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples might recommend. The commemorative session might be opened with statements by the President of the General Assembly and by the Secretary-General.

34. Final declaration or declarations. Among the suggestions received from Governments there is a wide area of agreement that the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be a stimulus for further efforts to increase the effectiveness of the Organization and to expand political, economic and social co-operation among its Members on the basis of equal rights. In this connexion the possibility might be explored, as suggested originally by

the Secretary-General, of preparing for approval by the General Assembly during the commemorative session a historic document, which would reflect the progress made by the United Nations in its various fields of activity, indicating the major remaining problems in each field and the prospects for their solution. There was a general feeling in the Committee that a number of topics should be the subject of serious studies with a view to their forming a basis for a final document or documents (conclusions, declarations, resolutions, final acts, goals, objectives, guidelines, etc.). It was felt that six subjects - decolonization, human rights, particularly apartheid, principles concerning friendly relations among nations, world economic development with special reference to the Second United Nations Development Decade, disarmament and peace-keeping - might be highlighted in this regard. Some members considered, however, that this list although significant, was not fully representative of the major problems confronting the United Nations. These members suggested, therefore, that the following topics might also be considered: collective security and peaceful settlement of disputes, peaceful uses of outer space and the sea-bed, universality of the United Nations, education, youth and world problems, reappraisal of the structure, procedures and working methods of the United Nations, including the role of the Secretariat, co-operation in science and technology, elimination of obstacles in international trade, population, preservation of human environment. It was felt, at the same time, that it was not desirable to lengthen the list of topics unduly. Some members expressed reservations on some of the latter subjects. The Preparatory Committee considered that the relevant organs and committees of the United Nations might be requested to contribute material relating to the above-mentioned matters. In addition to such contributions by any relevant United Nations organs and committees, the Secretary-General might be invited to submit, if he found it expedient, suggestions which could contribute to the greater effectiveness of the United Nations within the framework of the Charter, particularly with reference to the above subjects recommended by the Committee.

35. The General Assembly might be requested to reappoint the present Committee or establish a new committee, for the observance of the anniversary, during the twenty-fourth session and to authorize it to ask for contributions of material from the various United Nations organs and committees concerned. This committee might, inter alia, be charged with the responsibility of co-ordinating, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, such material for the purpose of producing a suitable text for consideration by the Assembly during the early part of its twenty-fifth session with a view to its adoption during the commemorative session.

36. Ratification of or accession to international instruments. The Preparatory Committee has noted that international instruments adopted, endorsed or under consideration by the United Nations could be grouped into the following three categories:

(a) Instruments which have not entered into force for lack of sufficient ratifications or accessions;

(b) Instruments which have entered into force but could be strengthened by additional ratifications or accessions;

(c) Important conventions still to be arrived at.

The Committee recommends that in order to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations an appeal should be made at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly to ensure that increased ratifications or accessions to instruments falling into (a) above are forthcoming, that a larger number of signatures are added or ratifications made to instruments under (b) above and, finally, that appropriate United Nations organs are urged to complete as early as possible consideration of important conventions referred to in (c) above. In making this appeal the desirability of universal adherence to these instruments should be kept in mind, it being understood that certain conventions can be subscribed to only by those States which according to the terms of the conventions are eligible to do so. The Preparatory Committee recommends that an appeal should be launched by the General Assembly to the States concerned for the effective implementation of instruments which have been adopted, endorsed or supported by the United Nations, as such an appeal might help foster the development of United Nations law and jurisprudence.

37. Youth participation

(a) World youth assembly.^{6/} The Committee was in principle in favour of the convening of a world youth assembly in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary. While there was a large measure of agreement on the broad framework of a youth assembly, some members felt that the programme of such an assembly, the views of youth organizations on it and some important aspects of this question were still not clear enough, and they expressed doubts about its effectiveness. One view was that a world youth assembly should provide opportunities for participation of youth representatives from all over the world - from Member States as well as from non-member States. The agreement to hold a youth assembly was subject to the understanding that the larger part of its expenses could be met by voluntary contributions, the Organization itself having to assume minimal responsibility, if any, in financing it. Such an assembly would be held under United Nations sponsorship for the purpose of (a) drawing the attention of youth to the principal problems before the United Nations; (b) providing opportunities for youth to give expression to their views on the problems concerning peace and progress; (c) inviting the young to indicate the ways in which they would wish to support the United Nations.

38. It was proposed that the United Nations might maintain final responsibility for the guidance of the youth assembly, while assuring youth of the possibility of reflecting their views concerning its preparation and conduct; the assembly might be held for approximately ten days from June to August 1970. New York appeared to be the preferred site for the assembly, although other sites, including the headquarters of some specialized agencies, were also considered. Member Governments might be asked to send up to five youth delegates and urged to give every chance to youth organizations in the countries concerned for selecting their delegates on the basis of their participation in the major youth organizations of the given country; in some instances it might be appropriate to

^{6/} The note by the Bureau on the world youth assembly appears as annex II.

create a non-governmental national committee to designate representatives; youth representatives should also be invited from Namibia and the major Non-Self-Governing Territories; some members proposed to invite for participation in the assembly youth representatives from all over the world - from Member States as well as from non-member States of the United Nations (see annex II, paragraph 4); the programme of the world youth assembly, including the detailed agenda, would be worked out in due course in consultation with a planning committee, composed of representatives of major international youth organizations, due regard being paid to equitable geographical distribution; the proposed planning committee would be a non-governmental consultative body for the purpose of reflecting the views of youth on the planning, preparation and execution of the assembly; the youth assembly would concentrate on problems under the general theme of "peace, progress and international understanding" and the delegates would attend the meeting as representatives of the young people of their lands as a whole and not as representatives of their specific youth groups or as delegates from their Governments; they would not be under the instructions of their Governments; the age-limit of representatives should normally be twenty-five, but appropriate national bodies would exercise due discretion in this matter; the assembly might be organized in such a way as to have an appropriate combination of briefings, discussions and the consideration of conclusions or reports; such conclusions or reports by the youth assembly might be transmitted to the General Assembly at its commemorative sessions for its consideration; cultural and social activities might also be planned.

39. Normal conference and other Secretariat services could be provided without additional cost from the regular budget; it is hoped that a voluntary fund for the youth assembly would be established to meet other expenses; the Secretary-General might be requested to appeal widely for contributions to the fund from Governments or non-governmental organizations or both, including youth organizations. The great majority of members of the Committee, therefore, felt that the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session should take a decision to convene a world youth assembly on the above basis to enable the Secretary-General to launch his appeal for financial contributions early.

40. (b) Inclusion of youth in national delegations. The Committee decided to recommend that Member Governments might consider the inclusion of young people in the delegations to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly. As to the number, level and the ratio of young people to be included in the delegations, the Committee felt that this should be left to the judgement of each Government. It was felt that the age-limit should normally be twenty-five, although Member States might exercise some discretion in this regard.

41. 26 June 1970. It appeared to the Preparatory Committee that Member States might wish to consider the desirability of establishing a tradition by which 26 June, the date of the signing of the United Nations Charter, would be observed in an appropriate manner. In 1970 the starting point for the celebrations of the anniversary might be 26 June. On that date, the twenty-fifth anniversary stamp issue would be released by the United Nations. In addition, it was suggested that a cultural event might be staged at United Nations Headquarters, to be introduced by the Secretary-General, who would make a brief statement. The President of the Security Council might also be asked to address

the audience. Some other bodies or committees of the United Nations which were in session at the time might in their turn be invited to devote a part of the day's proceeding to the commemoration of the anniversary.

42. Celebration at the United Nations Office at Geneva. In conjunction with the summer session of the Economic and Social Council in 1970, on the morning of the opening day of the session a formal celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations might be held in the United Nations Office at Geneva. It was suggested that the ceremony be presided over by the Secretary-General. Those invited might include all the Permanent Missions of Member States accredited to the United Nations Office at Geneva 7/ and, in respect of those not so accredited, their Permanent Missions in New York, the delegations to the Economic and Social Council, the executive heads of specialized agencies, IAEA, UNCTAD and UNHCR and the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions, all senior United Nations officials present in Geneva at that time, and the Swiss federal, cantonal and municipal authorities representing the host country. Special arrangements might also be made for the representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which are based in Geneva and members of the public to be invited to the celebrations. The Secretary-General might call upon the President of the Council, the executive head of one of the specialized agencies speaking on behalf of all the agencies, and a representative of the host Government to speak on the occasion. It was suggested to the members of the Economic and Social Council that their delegations be headed either by the Foreign Minister or by a minister of cabinet rank to lend greater prestige to the occasion.

43. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 2445 (XXIII). The Preparatory Committee recommends that the General Assembly should remind Member States as well as the specialized agencies to implement General Assembly resolution 2445 (XXIII) on "Teaching in schools of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the structure and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, with particular reference to human rights".

44. Public information activities. A number of activities are planned by the Office of Public Information in connexion with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (see annex III).

7/ An excerpt from the Preparatory Committee's record of conclusions (A/AC.139/RC.15, p. 8) reads as follows:

"The representative of the Under-Secretary-General said that according to the information received from the Legal Counsel the position of Permanent Observer Offices at Geneva was essentially the same as that in New York, with the difference that the offices listed in protocol publications at Geneva were also the offices of representatives accredited to one or more specialized agencies, and consequently had full diplomatic immunity and privileges under Swiss law.

"The Chairman suggested that in that case the Committee should adopt the same principle for the issue of invitations at Geneva as in New York.

"It was so agreed."

B. Suggestions concerning the commemoration at regional and national levels

45. With regard to regional programmes of commemoration, the Preparatory Committee suggests that the regional economic commissions of the United Nations and the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut prepare their own appropriate programmes and activities in order to mark the occasion. In addition, regional offices of the specialized agencies might be invited to participate in the commemoration. Furthermore, the Preparatory Committee decided to request the Secretary-General to inform the three regional organizations with which the United Nations has official relations on the basis of General Assembly resolutions that arrangements were being made to commemorate the anniversary and to invite them to bring that fact to the attention of the Member States.

46. At the national level, consideration might be given by Governments to organizing appropriate national programmes and activities with the co-operation of local organizations created in support of the United Nations, especially United Nations Associations. The Preparatory Committee suggested that Governments might wish to consider the establishment of national committees for the purpose of co-ordinating all national activities relating to the anniversary in their respective countries. Where possible, national legislative bodies might devote a part of their proceedings on a particular date during 1970 to the commemoration of the anniversary. The Preparatory Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it invite the Governments of Member States to observe 26 June in 1970 and in subsequent years in a special and appropriate manner in commemoration of the signing of the United Nations Charter on this day in 1945.

47. The Preparatory Committee was of the view that the following suggestions concerning the participation of youth in the commemoration of the anniversary at the national level might be considered appropriate: active involvement of youth in the preparation of national programmes for the celebration of the anniversary; the setting-up of a model general assembly of youth; youth conferences on topics relating to the United Nations; special information on the United Nations to be made available in schools, universities and other centres of youth activities.

ANNEX I

EXCERPTS FROM COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

[Original: Spanish]

Arrangements have been made for the preparation of a plan, the initial draft of which envisages that a message might appropriately be issued, at the highest level, inaugurating "United Nations Week" to coincide with the date of the anniversary. In addition, a committee of officials from the General Policy Administration, the General Cultural Relations Administration and the Department of International Organizations will be set up to make plans for the eventual establishment of the 'National Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations', which will be composed of representatives of interested governmental and private circles.

It has also been decided to request the competent authorities to issue a commemorative stamp.

AUSTRIA

[Original: English]

(1) On the national level, the establishment of a National Committee for the co-ordination and implementation of the programme is being prepared. The Austrian League for the United Nations which has, ever since its inception, contributed considerably to furthering the ideas of the United Nations in manifold ways, will also play an important part in all efforts connected with the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary in Austria.

The Federal President has agreed to honour the main anniversary event in Austria by his presence.

The national programme will undoubtedly take into account the suggestions presented, studied and worked out within the Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary and the recommendations which may be expected to be formulated by the General Assembly.

It will be the principal goal of all Austrian efforts not only to strengthen the role of the United Nations in the consciousness of the Austrian people but also to offer an opportunity for the public to discuss Austria's work in the United Nations on as broad a basis as possible, particularly with youth participating in this debate. The Austrian radio and television has already promised its full support for these endeavours. It may, therefore, be expected that a wide public will be involved in these discussions. Austrian television intends to organize forum discussions with politicians, commentators on foreign

policy, experts and representatives of various organizations. The participation of institutions of higher learning, of the Austrian League for the United Nations, the Austrian Society for Foreign Policy and International Relations, the Austrian College Alpbach and others, will contribute to the level and thoroughness of these debates.

The international organizations with headquarters in Vienna intend, furthermore, in close co-operation with the Austrian National Committee, to organize an "open house", intended to give the people and especially youth an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the work of these organizations.

(2) On the international level, the Austrian Government feels that more than by mere celebrations the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Charter should be marked by a rededication of the international community to the goals of the Charter. On this occasion, it is believed, that United Nations should take stock and assess its past functioning with a view to improving and expediting its future work.

In this connexion it would seem necessary to appraise the changes that have occurred within the United Nations family, many of them obvious but perhaps not always seen in their full context and considered with all their implications: the increasing number of Member States, the shift in the functions of the various organs, the tendency to move from political confrontation toward co-operation, the wider use of the consensus principle in the work of some important committees, the ever-growing role of the developing countries, etc.

Attempts should be made to analyse those basic changes that, during the last decades, have profoundly affected the international scene as the developments in the technical, economic, military and cultural fields, the process of decolonization and the attainment of independence by countries formerly under colonial rule, the growing disparity not only between the developing and industrialized countries but also the ever-increasing technology gap between the great Powers and the smaller nations.

Finally, the correlation existing between the evolution of the United Nations and the international scene should be assessed.

We therefore suggest that studies be prepared on these three different sets of questions in an appropriate way. These studies would not only contribute to the work of the Organization but would at the same time automatically underscore the significance of two other historic events in 1970: namely the launching of the Second Development Decade and the Tenth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

These studies would also highlight the continued relevance of the Charter in the rapidly changing world of today and we therefore think that a solemn declaration, reaffirming the principles contained in this document would be the most appropriate tribute that can be paid on the occasion of the United Nations Twenty-fifth Anniversary.

[Original: Russian]

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic feels that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations can best be marked not merely by taking stock of the Organization's activities over a quarter of a century but also by solving as speedily as possible the urgent international problems confronting the United Nations, strictly observing the United Nations Charter and the principle of universality, and giving effect to measures aimed at preserving and strengthening peace, solving the problem of general and complete disarmament, completely eliminating the shameful system of colonialism and its effects, and creating conditions which promote the social and economic advancement of peoples.

Of paramount importance for this purpose would be United Nations action to bring about the earliest possible entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the earliest possible signing and ratification by all States of the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity.

The United Nations could call upon all States to make 1970 a year in which positive steps were taken to settle existing international issues by such means, inter alia, as the holding of regional conferences of States to discuss questions of security and peaceful co-operation.

Particular attention should be given to compliance by all States with such important international instruments as the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Chemical and Bacteriological Weapons, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples and other instruments designed to protect peace and the rights of peoples.

In addition, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic proposes that the Preparatory Committee should recommend the General Assembly to take the following steps in connexion with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations:

(1) To complete work in 1970 on the conclusion of an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons; the adoption of such a convention would be an important step towards eliminating the threat of nuclear war and towards the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons and their removal from the arsenals of States.

(2) To instruct the Special Committee of Twenty-Four to prepare, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and submit for consideration at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly a report summing up the situation with regard to the implementation by States of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; to hold meetings at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly to mark the tenth anniversary of the Declaration, to adopt decisions providing ways and means of effecting as speedily as possible the complete elimination of the remaining colonial régimes, and to set a date for the final elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.

To take steps to protect the interests of the developing countries against increasingly active neo-colonialism.

(3) To complete, in time for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations the drafting of a declaration on the principles of peaceful coexistence and of a programme for the celebration in 1971 of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

In the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, plans have been made to take measures in connexion with the anniversary of the United Nations and to analyse the results of the Organization's activities and the tasks which face it.

The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic reserves the right to make additional proposals in connexion with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

CANADA

[Original: English]

At the present time the Canadian authorities are considering, as part of national celebrations within Canada, the holding of a national essay contest for the twenty-fifth anniversary; such a contest would be held in close collaboration with the United Nations Association of Canada. The national winners of such a contest, and possibly winners from individual Canadian provinces, might be sent to New York to watch the General Assembly in action, tour United Nations Headquarters and, if possible, be presented to the Secretary-General.

The Preparatory Committee for the twenty-fifth anniversary might, on its part, wish to consider the idea of holding an international essay contest; Member States could set up their own selection committees and send the winners to visit the United Nations. If such an international essay contest were to be held, it might be appropriate for a special award presentation to take place at the United Nations, at which the Secretary-General might preside.

The Canadian authorities are also considering the publication of a special book "Canada and the United Nations - 1945-1970".

The United Nations Association of Canada is planning to establish a National Co-ordinating Committee and to develop ideas for commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary which will be conveyed to the Preparatory Committee when available.

CYPRUS

[Original: English]

The Government of Cyprus submits the following proposals:

(1) To organize mock United Nations assembly debates at secondary school level;

(2) To organize a painting competition on the role of the United Nations with a view to using the best for UNICEF greeting cards;

- (3) To organize a youth essay competition on the role of the United Nations;
- (4) To organize a poster competition regarding the role of the United Nations;
- (5) To hold public meetings in order to project in public opinion the contribution of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in various sectors vital to humanity; whenever possible this to be done in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme experts;
- (6) The legislative bodies to hold special commemorative sessions on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary and to be urged to ratify in 1970 as many as possible of the international conventions relevant to the role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies;
- (7) On the twenty-fifth anniversary day official celebrations to take place at the highest possible level;
- (8) Wide radio and T.V. publicity should be made in relation to the work of the United Nations and its agencies; in this connexion, competitions may be organized regarding the preparation of suitable radio and T.V. material;
- (9) Issue of special commemorative stamps;
- (10) To organize visual exhibitions illustrating the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies;
- (11) United Nations Associations should be assigned leading roles in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Original: English

The Czechoslovak Government has been and continues to be of the opinion that the United Nations is an important factor in the sphere of international life and has responsible tasks of ensuring international peace and security as well as of alleviating international tension. Therefore, it is of the opinion that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Organization would be best celebrated mainly by the attainment of certain concrete results in some of the fields of its activities.

Proceeding from this conviction the Czechoslovak Government believes that the celebrations of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Organization will offer among others a suitable opportunity for confirming in the first place the binding character of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations in relations among States. In this connexion the Government expresses its hope that by the date of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations it will be possible to terminate successfully the work relating to the declaration on the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among nations and to adopt the declaration in a ceremonious way. The termination of activities on this declaration which has been already for several years the subject of General Assembly deliberations and its proclamation in the anniversary

year of the Organization's foundation would contribute, in the opinion of the Czechoslovak Government, to the efforts aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations as well as international understanding.

The anniversary year of 1970 is also the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Consequently efforts must be made in order that in the anniversary year the Declaration be brought to life and the existing last vestiges of colonialism be liquidated.

DENMARK

[Original: English]

The Government of Denmark is of the opinion that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should not merely be an occasion for formal celebrations but also, and primarily, for careful consideration as to how the role of the United Nations in the international community can be consolidated to make the Organization a truly effective instrument for peace and progress.

As for activities at the international level, the Government of Denmark supports the idea of holding a commemorative meeting attended by Heads of State, Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers. In conjunction with such a meeting the General Assembly could adopt a solemn declaration taking stock of the past accomplishments of the United Nations, pointing to major problems that remain unsolved and expressing the firm resolve of Member States to seek a solution to these problems and to reinforce the position of the United Nations as an international organization for peace, security and progress for all mankind. The meeting should be held at United Nations Headquarters in connexion with either the opening of the general debate or the celebration of United Nations Day.

The Government of Denmark suggests that a pamphlet be published, telling in simple language the history of the United Nations, its past achievements and its future tasks. Moreover, it might be useful to hold a high-level symposium with participation of outstanding scientists in the United Nations field. Specialized studies on United Nations problems should, on the other hand, be commissioned to individual experts representing differing geographical regions and political systems.

In the view of the Government of Denmark, special emphasis should be placed on bringing the United Nations closer to youth. To this end, an international competition could be organized, inviting seventeen to twenty-year-olds to write an essay about the United Nations. Among the prizes should be invitations to visit the United Nations Headquarters in New York in connexion with the opening of the twenty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly.

Denmark will set up a committee to co-ordinate national programmes for observance of the anniversary. The Government will endeavour to activate the organizations which already concern themselves with United Nations questions.

In present plans, the following national programmes will be examined.

1. A seminar on the role of the United Nations in international politics for opinion leaders.

2. The publishing of a student teachers' textbook on United Nations methodology. This textbook should contain directives on optimum methods for teaching subjects relating to the United Nations.

3. An essay competition for school children attending junior and senior secondary school and a high-level competition among university students for gold medal awards.

4. Radio and television broadcasts on the United Nations, including a United Nations hearing.

5. A Gallup poll to ascertain how public opinion views the role of the United Nations in international politics.

It is intended to carry out several joint Nordic programmes in connexion with the anniversary celebrations.

ETHIOPIA

[Original: English]

As has already been suggested by His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I in his telegram to the Secretary-General, the Minister for Foreign Affairs considers that the presence of Heads of State at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly will be both appropriate and propitious. Appropriate in that it will provide additional dignity to the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the founding of the Organization. Propitious, because it will afford an opportunity for consideration of, and the search of solution to those pressing world problems which persist in plaguing international peace and security.

The establishment and bestowal of Silver Jubilee awards by the Organization should contribute towards the enhancement of the prestige of the United Nations and the achievement of its aims and purposes. While the type, form and number of the awards should be subject to consideration by the Preparatory Committee, the Ethiopian Government would suggest that the highest award should be bestowed upon a statesman who has consistently contributed most towards the achievement of the aims and purposes of the United Nations.

The compilation of an official publication which concisely sets forth, inter alia, the achievements and failures of the Organization would, in Ethiopia's view, be appropriate for the occasion and invaluable as an authentic reference material for succeeding generations.

For celebrations of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations at the national level, the Ethiopian Government is, for its part, considering organizing special programmes as appropriate.

FINLAND

[Original: English]

Conscious of the importance of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security and in promoting the economic and social

advancement of peoples, the Finnish Government attaches particular significance to the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. At this stage the Finnish Government has the following preliminary observations to offer on some aspects relating to the celebration of the anniversary.

The Finnish Government concurs with the suggestion of the Secretary-General that a commemorative meeting attended by Heads of State and Government should be arranged during the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly or immediately before the opening of the session. The commemorative meeting might wish to consider the adoption of a declaration of a general character reaffirming the faith of the Member States in the purposes and principles of the United Nations and pledging the efforts of their Governments towards a further strengthening of the Organization in the fulfilment of its aims.

The twenty-fifth anniversary coincides with the launching of the Second Development Decade and also with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. It would therefore be fitting to give special emphasis to these questions. Similarly, disarmament and arms control as well as the strengthening of the United Nations machinery for peace-making and peace-keeping warrant special attention in connexion with the anniversary. In both fields further advance is crucial for the United Nations in order to maintain international peace and security.

The Finnish Government considers that the anniversary offers a unique opportunity to engage the interests of the youth of all nations in support of the ideals and activities of the United Nations, so as to focus attention on the challenges that our Organization will have to face in the years to come. To give effect to this idea the Preparatory Committee may wish to consider inviting representatives of youth to attend a meeting specially arranged at United Nations Headquarters. The representatives to such a meeting could be chosen on the basis of national essay competitions.

It is understood that in the context of the twenty-fifth anniversary, the Office of Public Information will intensify its continuous efforts to spread knowledge and information about the Organization and its activities. It would be useful to prepare an historical survey covering the past twenty-five years of its existence. At the same time it would be desirable to initiate major studies of problems and tasks that the Organization may have to deal with in the future.

The Permanent Representative of Finland will revert at a later date to the celebrations in Finland and to plans for joint arrangements of the Nordic countries in connexion with the anniversary.

FRANCE

[Original: French]

The French Government considers that the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be the occasion for an appraisal of the activities of the Organization and for the preparation of realistic guidelines for future action. This pause to take stock of the situation was the main justification, in its view, for the observance of this anniversary and the ceremonies connected with it should be given serious preparation and kept within reasonable limits.

(1) It would be fitting if the commemoration of the anniversary imparted a certain solemnity to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly which should be reflected not only in the speeches and celebrations but in a reaffirmation of the common resolve to intensify the efforts of the Organization to ensure respect for the law throughout the world.

The French Government considers that, if the majority of Member States agree, the commemorative period should consist of the two weeks prior to 24 October 1970. During that period, the most modern techniques of our century should be used in order to broadcast simultaneously to all parts of the world and in all languages and account of the ceremonies. The reasons for the celebration, the spirit in which this anniversary is being celebrated and, in particular, the faith which Member States retain in the ideals of the United Nations should be widely publicized outside the Organization.

(2) The French Government considers that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations might provide an occasion for Member States solemnly to reaffirm their allegiance to the Charter and to approve the text of the declaration on the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States which is currently in course of preparation.

A number of studies might also be undertaken by United Nations organs, provided that there is wide agreement on the subjects with which they are to deal and that the expenditure involved remains within reasonable limits.

(3) The French Government considers that it would be appropriate to associate young people in the commemoration in order to instil the principles of the Charter firmly in the minds of future generations. It would be fitting if universities and schools throughout the world endeavoured to discuss subjects relating to the United Nations with young people in seminars and lectures.

On the national level, the French authorities will co-operate with private associations in order to ensure that the twenty-fifth anniversary is observed in proper style. They are already planning celebrations in which members of the Government and of Parliament would participate, lectures in universities and schools and the distribution of pamphlets on the work of the United Nations to the general public.

GHANA

Original: English

The Government of Ghana regards the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations as a fitting occasion not merely for the celebration of the past achievements of the Organization but also, what is more important, for reappraisal of the Organization's set-up and procedures in relation to its objectives in order to plan its future activities better and make it more effective. While any such reappraisal might of necessity include all the areas of the Organization's activities, greater attention should be focused on those easily identifiable areas of its activities which stand in urgent need of new approaches and rethinking and which are most likely to yield generally acceptable solutions in the light of the prevailing international climate. This, in the view of the Ghana Government, would form an appropriate objective of the commemoration, although appropriate ceremonial events should also mark the occasion.

Regarding its own national preparations, the Ghana Government would consider carefully any suitable suggestions that the Preparatory Committee would wish to make. It will, however, undertake appropriate commemorative activities of its own. In co-operation with any appropriate non-governmental bodies existing in Ghana, the Government of Ghana will establish a National Co-ordinating Committee under the aegis of the Ministry of External Affairs, to undertake preparations at the national level for the commemoration of the anniversary. The National Co-ordinating Committee would ensure the active participation of all levels of the population, in particular the National Parliament, the ministries of information, education, culture and the arts, the mass communication media (radio, television and Press), the universities, the Ghana Academy of Science, the schools and all other educational institutions. In co-operation with the Ministry of Information pamphlets, publications and photographs will be issued to promote a better understanding of the role and activities of the United Nations family of organizations. On 26 June 1970, the Government will issue a national proclamation on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Organization.

The Government of Ghana would suggest that the Preparatory Committee might consider recommending the commemoration of the anniversary at the national, regional and international levels as follows:

(1) NATIONAL COMMEMORATION

While many Governments would no doubt undertake appropriate preparations of their own for the national commemoration the Ghana Government considers that many States would, however, appreciate any suggestions that the Preparatory Committee might wish to make in this regard. Consequently the Committee might consider suggesting to national Governments of Member States the possibility of setting up as early as possible a suitable national co-ordinating committee to undertake all preparations for the commemoration at the national level. In co-operation with appropriate local organizations such as United Nations Associations and any others which support or fulfil United Nations principles and purposes this Committee would prepare and undertake appropriate activities designed to involve as much of the population as possible and in terms of the culture of the country. Special events or features might be arranged through such mass communication media as radio, television and Press; the publication, in major national languages, of books, pamphlets, and brochures and of photographs about the United Nations might be considered. Sports competitions, cultural displays and special curriculum courses in the educational institutions of national States might form part of such programmes. Thus the active participation of both government and non-governmental bodies in the fields of education, culture, the arts, sports and information would be useful. It would be worth considering if a United Nations week or month, to coincide with the week of 26 June or month of June 1970 respectively could be proclaimed for these activities to take place in. A special meeting of the National Parliament or legislative body, attended by national dignitaries to debate United Nations activities in relation to the particular country concerned would be appropriate as a means of focusing national attention on the United Nations and rededicating the nation concerned to the United Nations. Such a special session of Parliament might adopt a solemn declaration for the occasion. Similar debates, public lectures or seminars in colleges and universities all over the country could also be considered.

In order that national commemorations do not become merely ceremonial it may be suggested that in each Member State a study (or studies) in depth of the

various aspects of the United Nations be undertaken with the participation of representative groups of scholars, publicists and officials or ex-officials who have served with the United Nations or specialized agencies with a view to considering ways and means by which each Member State can make more effective its contribution to the United Nations.

(2) REGIONAL COMMEMORATION

Under this category could be grouped the activities of the various appropriate regional organizations such as the OAU, the OAS, the Arab League, etc. It may be suggested that these regional organizations should on 26 June, issue proclamations or declarations, subscribed to by their members at a special meeting, reaffirming their dedication to the objectives and principles of the United Nations Charter, more particularly to those of Chapter VIII of the Charter.

The regional economic commissions of the United Nations (ECA, ECAFE, ECLA, ECE) as well as the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut might undertake commemorative activities to highlight the role which can and should be played by the United Nations in the economic and social development of the developing countries.

Also the regional branches of specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies might participate in such regional commemorative activities.

(3) INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATION

At this level there could be envisaged two sub-levels of activities namely, (a) those activities to be undertaken by the specialized agencies and international institutions affiliated with the United Nations and (b) those to be planned by the United Nations at its Headquarters.

(a) The specialized agencies and other international institutions affiliated to the United Nations will be expected to organize appropriate activities, within the scope of their respective roles, to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. It may be emphasized here that a suggestion could be made to those organizations to highlight the need for co-ordinating and harmonizing their functions with those of the United Nations. In this connexion a high level representative of the Secretary-General and the Chairman of an appropriate Main Committee of the preceding year of the General Assembly could usefully attend one of such celebrations to emphasize the United Nations connexion.

(b) United Nations Headquarters: The climax of the commemoration should be at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. There should be organized major events which should be spread over the period immediately preceding 26 June 1970 (the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Charter in San Francisco) and that preceding 24 October 1970 (the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Day).

It may be recommended that June 1970 might be proclaimed United Nations Anniversary Month within the context of a more general declaration of 1970 as United Nations Year of Peace and Progress.

It would be useful to plan a Conference or a special session of the United Nations at the United Nations Headquarters where a full-fledged exchange of views could take place on the reappraisal mentioned in paragraph 2 above.

The areas of the Organization's activities which could form the subject of discussion at the special session would involve such questions as:

- (a) Decolonization (the intractable colonial problems of southern Africa, and the future of small independent islands and territories such as those in the Pacific and Caribbean Ocean;
- (b) Human rights (particularly apartheid and racial discrimination);
- (c) Collective security (disarmament; peace-keeping operations and peaceful settlement of disputes);
- (d) World economic development;
- (e) World youth and world problems;
- (f) Universal membership of the United Nations;
- (g) Reappraisal of working methods and procedures of the United Nations.

The Ghana Government considers that appropriate opportunity could be taken of the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations to review the Charter, especially since world conditions have changed greatly since the inception of the Organization and since almost two thirds of its membership have acceded to it after the adoption of the Charter. If the Organization is to be a true reflection of the world as well as a guiding light to specific objectives it is only reasonable that the newer members of the Organization be enabled to contribute freely their ideas of what the structure and goals of the world community should be. The Ghana Government is not unaware, however, of the difficulties which have so far stood in the way of such a review but we consider that a fresh effort in this direction is urgent, at least in respect of these parts of the Charter which are patently out of tune with modern international life. It is the hope of the Ghana Government therefore that the Preparatory Committee will give serious consideration to this matter so that even if the conference/special session is, for one reason or other, unable to consider this matter fully, at least it will set in train measures for a Charter review soon thereafter.

The conference/special session may be divided into two parts - the first to take place in June 1970 at the Foreign Ministers' level and the second part in October 1970. This conference/special session could benefit from review statements to be made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Heads of specialized agencies and international institutions affiliated to the United Nations, the President of the International Court of Justice, and the Secretaries-General of appropriate regional organizations like the OAU, OAS and the Arab League, etc. The first part of this conference or special session could start a week before 26 June as a serious working session on the subjects mentioned above on the basis of detailed studies, researches, documentation and recommendations which will have been prepared in advance by the Secretary-General. The method of preparing such documentation should be left to the discretion of the Secretary-General who should be free to use both the resources of the Secretariat as well as any outside the Secretariat which he felt would give to his final recommendations such stamp of expertise and representativeness as would command

the serious attention of the special session. The Preparatory Committee for the twenty-fifth anniversary might be requested to review and comment on the recommendations of the Secretary-General. Such review as well as the Secretary-General's recommendations should be presented to the special session or conference. The review by the Preparatory Committee should be completed before the end of May 1970 in order to give the Member Governments sufficient time to study its views on the Secretary-General's recommendations before the Foreign Ministers' meeting in June.

It may be useful to envisage a final declaration to be issued in October 1970 at the end of the second part of the conference (special session) highlighting those problems to which the United Nations and its family of organizations should address themselves in planning their future activities and possible solutions. This Declaration would set the future course of the Organization towards actual eventual solution of those problems.

Simultaneously with the adoption of the final declaration of the special conference it would be a significant contribution to the purposes of the United Nations if the occasion could coincide with the adoption of other declarations, conventions or instruments on which the United Nations has been engaged for some time but which have not yet achieved finalization. In this connexion it is well-known that a number of conventions/treaties, etc., have been adopted by the United Nations but have not yet come into force because of lack of the requisite number of ratifications. An urgent appeal could be made by the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee, for all Member States to seriously consider ratifying these instruments in sufficient time to enable them to enter into force some time in June 1970, in coincidence with the twenty-fifth anniversary month.

Since the Heads of State or Governments could not be expected to stay away from their capitals too long any necessary follow-up action arising from the adoption of the final declaration may be specifically remitted by the special conference/special session to the twenty-fifth regular session for completion.

On 24 October 1970 a solemn ceremony might be held in the General Assembly to highlight the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary and to serve as the occasion for the adoption of the final declaration. Invitations should be extended to Heads of State or Governments of all Member States to be present for the occasion. At the ceremony, statements should be made by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, Heads of State or Government and one representative of each geographical region, drawn from among living ex-Presidents of the General Assembly. Apart from the publicity value of such a ceremony, there would be considerable value in the consultations that can take place on the occasion of such a concourse of Heads of State or Governments with their Foreign Ministers invariably in their retinue. In view of the universal ferment among the youth of the world today it would be of value if, for example, one-fourth of each delegation to the special session could be drawn from university students and/or other youth groups of Member States and exposed to the session's active work and with a specific item on the agenda (e.g. world youth and world problems) to engage their special attention.

In planning the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations the Preparatory Committee should take due account of and co-ordinate its own programmes with those for the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, for the International Education Year and for the launching of the Second Development Decade.

GREECE

[Original: English]

The Permanent Mission of Greece feels that lectures on the United Nations should be given throughout the world in primary and secondary schools, universities and other educational and cultural centres. This would have the effect of inculcating into the hearts and minds of young people the importance and profound significance of the ideals of the United Nations Charter. Where appropriate, these lectures could be delivered by the Resident Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme or by the local heads of the United Nations Information Services.

A similar idea would be to organize a United Nations essay competition in secondary schools. As the first prize the United Nations might offer a visit to Headquarters in New York. Other prizes might also be envisaged.

In many countries of Europe and the Americas important cultural events, such as musical and theatrical festivals, are held every year. It might be agreed to use certain of these to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. If it should prove impossible to devote the whole of the festival to this topic, at least a part of the programme could include commemorative ceremonies.

The same policy could be followed with the main sporting and athletic events scheduled for 1970. Some of them could be declared as commemorative and, in order to bring out this fact, the United Nations might offer the winners of such events a special cup representing the United Nations symbol of peace.

The Permanent Mission of Greece considers that the idea already put forward of issuing commemorative stamps is excellent. In our opinion, the design of these stamps should bring out the accomplishments of the United Nations in favour of peace during the last twenty-five years.

Finally, the Permanent Mission of Greece is glad to inform the Secretary-General that a series of appropriate celebrations commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations will be held in Greece.

GUYANA

[Original: English]

The Government of Guyana has found it useful to consider the question of the anniversary from two aspects: the commemorative aspect, which includes celebrations and activities aimed at developing a greater awareness among peoples of the principles and purposes of the United Nations, such activities to be undertaken by Governments as well as by the United Nations and its specialized agencies; and the substantive aspect, which includes a reappraisal in depth of the structure and functioning of the United Nations in relation to its ability to achieve its objectives.

"(1) The Government of Guyana considers that the commemorative aspect of the anniversary should be dealt with at the international level by the United Nations and its agencies and does not consider it appropriate that political regional organizations be involved officially in these activities. At the international level the Government of Guyana suggests that the Secretary-General of the United Nations be requested formally to initiate action on the recommendations put forward by the Preparatory Committee to the General Assembly at the twenty-fourth session. Such recommendations might include:

"(a) A request to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to broadcast internationally on 26 June 1970, a statement which might have as its theme 'The State of the World' and the continuing vital role to be played by the United Nations;

"(b) The holding of a special commemorative session of the General Assembly during the regular twenty-fourth session of the Assembly for the purpose of adopting, on 24 October 1970, a declaration reaffirming the principles of the Charter, rededicating the membership of the United Nations to the objectives of world peace and human progress and reassessing the means by which these objectives may be achieved;

"(c) The publication of special anniversary issues of United Nations and specialized agency magazines and periodicals during the period June-October 1970;

"(d) The issue of commemorative stamps by the United Nations and of commemorative medals by the Secretary-General;

"(e) The use of the Office of Public Information to give as much publicity as possible to the forthcoming anniversary and the commemorative events which may be scheduled.

"At the national level the Preparatory Committee's suggestions to Governments on the commemorative aspect of the anniversary might include:

"(a) The declaration of United Nations Week to culminate on 24 October 1970;

"(b) The emphasis throughout this week upon radio and television programmes with, inter alia, the general themes of 'Youth and the United Nations', 'X Country at the United Nations' and 'The United Nations Contribution to national development';

"(c) The publication on 24 October 1970 of special newspaper supplements dealing as widely as possible with the organization and activities of the United Nations;

"(d) Recognition of the role of the United Nations by way of resolutions of national assemblies reaffirming support for the Charter;

"(e) The active involvement of the youth of the country in commemorative and celebrative events in schools throughout the country culminating in national celebrations in capital cities on 24 October 1970;

"(f) The issue of commemorative stamps.

"(2) The Government of Guyana believes that the substantive aspect of the anniversary merits the most serious consideration and suggests that the anniversary be viewed as an occasion for a far-reaching appraisal of the present structure and functioning of the United Nations system. Such an appraisal might usefully be approached by way of expert studies of the structure and procedure through which the Organization functions. These studies might be commissioned by a small Committee appointed by the Secretary-General which would be responsible for submitting a report and recommendations to the General Assembly.

"The general areas for study might include:

"(a) The functioning of Committees of the Assembly with respect to the duplication of items among Committees and the growing importance of technological issues;

"(b) The functions of the Trusteeship Council now and in the future;

"(c) The structure and procedures of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, with particular attention to the role of the Commission on Human Rights;

"(d) The question of criteria for membership of the United Nations and the concept of associate membership for very small States;

"(e) New procedures for the peaceful settlement of disputes which would lay emphasis on the preventative aspect of peace-keeping operations in contrast to the enforcement measures contemplated in Chapter VII of the Charter.

"(3) The Government of Guyana suggests that the financial implications of any plans adopted by the Preparatory Committee be put forward to the Committee as soon as possible."

HUNGARY

[Original: English]

The Hungarian People's Republic is of the opinion that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations can be commemorated in the most appropriate manner by taking effective measures to settle the most important problems of mankind awaiting solution for a long time.

The most burning issue of our age is the prevention of the danger of wars, especially of a nuclear world war. As long as there is a war conflict, like that in Viet-Nam, or a threat of war, like that in the Middle East, as long as influential circles of certain States endeavour to proliferate nuclear weapons, and as long as no effective steps are taken to pave the way to general and complete disarmament, an increasing possibility exists also for a nuclear war to threaten the future of all mankind.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations is an excellent opportunity for this large community of nations to initiate definite and comprehensive measures to do away with the existing hotbeds of war, to stave off the danger of nuclear war, and to realize general and complete disarmament as soon as possible.

These measures should aim, first of all, at promoting the earliest possible coming into force of the non-proliferation treaty as well as other important arrangements in the interest of disarmament.

The Hungarian People's Republic considers it desirable for States to conclude an international convention for the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations it would add to the significance of this commemoration if it were possible to make considerable progress in the preparation of certain agreements relating to the problems of disarmament.

(1) It would be necessary on this occasion to conclude also an international treaty on the prohibition of underground nuclear weapon tests.

(2) A further important measure would be the adoption of a draft agreement banning the use of the sea-bed for military purposes, containing the most comprehensive provisions possible and covering as large geographical areas as possible.

(3) The Hungarian People's Republic holds the view that with regard to the problems of disarmament the situation has become ripe also for a confirmation of the arrangements made thus far for the prohibition of the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons. It would be a good start in this respect if the States which have not yet done so would accede to the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925.

(4) The solution of the problems of disarmament would be promoted by the conclusion of an agreement on the liquidation of foreign military bases, on the prohibition of the flights over foreign territory of aircraft delivering nuclear weapons, and on regional arrangements to be made in the interest of disarmament.

The Hungarian People's Republic, now as before, is ready to support any initiative aimed at thwarting the danger of nuclear war and at realizing general and complete disarmament.

The United Nations activity in the furtherance of international peace and security would be effectively demonstrated if the Organization, on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary, would promote the solution of other burning international problems, too. The Hungarian People's Republic supports any noble motion made on this occasion for the total liquidation of the vestiges of the

colonial system, for the complete enforcement of the universality of the Organization, for the advancement of the developing countries, for the general assertion of human rights.

The Hungarian People's Republic deems it necessary that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations be commemorated in a festive manner at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It would be desirable for the Member States to make themselves represented there by Heads of State or Government. At the start of the session in the framework of the general debate, the Secretary-General as well as representatives of Member States might make solemn declarations on the occasion, analysing the activities of the Organization, and documents promoting the maintenance of world peace and the solution of burning international problems might also be adopted.

The major United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, might also devote a meeting to the memorable event during their session next in time to the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

The Hungarian People's Republic agrees with the idea that the commemoration of the anniversary by Member States on a national scale should take place on 26 June. On this occasion it would be well if the communication media, of Member States, the Press and television, would deal with the activities of the United Nations made for a quarter of a century for the sake of mankind. It would seem useful to encourage the publication of works on the subject in the various national languages. The national United Nations associations of Member States of similar societies concerned with the work of the United Nations might hold festive meetings on the occasion of the anniversary. The Hungarian Association for the United Nations has already started to work out a programme to this end.

The Hungarian People's Republic is convinced that the national and international acts of commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the realization of the arrangements proposed above, will enable this respectable Organization, by giving emphatic expression to the interests of mankind, to continue working effectively towards the solution of important international problems and the promotion of the creation of a peaceful and happier future of all mankind.

INDIA

[Original: English]

The Prime Minister of India, when she addressed the General Assembly in October 1968, suggested that 1970 might be declared as the Year of Peace. She said:

"Two years hence, in 1970, the United Nations will complete twenty-five years. Can we make it a year of peace? A starting point of a united endeavour to give mankind the blessings of a durable peace? To this end let us devote ourselves."

A proclamation of that nature, Year of Peace, will catch the imagination of world public opinion. We would like to submit this as a formal proposal.

Secondly, we would propose that the twenty-fifth anniversary year should coincide with the proclamation of some important declarations, or the adoption of some important treaties or conventions. Such a proclamation could commemorate the occasion and stress the importance of the work of the United Nations. As far as the Sixth Committee is concerned, we have the important work carried on by the Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States since its first meeting in Mexico in 1964. Out of the seven principles entrusted to the Special Committee for study, this Committee has almost completed its work on five principles and further work remains to be done only on two principles. If the Special Committee completes this work in time, the proclamation of a declaration on the seven principles of international law embodied in the United Nations Charter can be made to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

Thirdly, in addition to taking action as suggested by the Secretary-General in his note of 5 December 1968 (A/BUR/172) on the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the Preparatory Committee might wish to recommend that the Secretary-General should undertake a programme of studies on subjects of substantial interest to the United Nations. In the opinion of India, this would facilitate in bringing to the attention of the world community the concrete achievement of our Organization during the last twenty-five years and would also bring to light problems which the United Nations has faced and will continue to face in the discharge of its main functions relating to the maintenance of peace and security and the promotion of economic and social development.

The Preparatory Committee may also consider asking the Secretary-General to set up through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research a small study group which could commission a number of studies in various countries representing all geographical, cultural and political systems. While leaving the decision regarding the different themes to the expert knowledge and judgement of the study group, which can be set up in UNITAR, it would be appropriate if these studies are devoted to the structure, functioning and operation of the United Nations in the field of peace and security and the field of economic and social development.

The studies to be thus organized in a number of countries would, in addition to making a substantial contribution to the scholarly literature on the United Nations, promote the purposes and principles of the United Nations in a concrete and substantial way, and would have a permanent value and influence. It might also be possible to use such studies in the preparation of the declaration of historical importance suggested in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's note. It is, therefore, the submission of India that the Preparatory Committee should request the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of UNITAR to make the necessary arrangements in examining this proposal and take appropriate action.

IRAN

/Original: English/

The Iranian Government, as a Member of the United Nations, considers the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Organization to provide an

excellent opportunity for a serious evaluation of its past achievements as well as its weaknesses. The commemoration should also be used to lay down appropriate plans for the future with a view of transforming the Organization to enable it to meet future requirements, taking into consideration the consequences of the scientific and technological developments. While doing so, we should not lose sight of the principal aims of the Charter, that is, the promotion of international understanding and the maintenance of peace and security in the world.

As a Member of the United Nations, Iran has made and will continue to make whatever contributions necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the Organization and to discharge of its responsibilities on the basis of universally recognized principles of international law, which necessitate the respect for the independence and sovereignty of nations, the equality of States, and non-intervention in the internal affairs of others.

The celebration should, therefore, be conducted on both international and national level.

On the international level, the Iranian Government would like to suggest that the following views may be taken into consideration on the occasion of the commemoration:

(1) The twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly should be called "A Special, Commemorative Session" during which a declaration in respect of important subjects could be issued.

(2) The anniversary should be an occasion to reaffirm the faith in the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

(3) The adjustment of the United Nations to present and future realities, as determined by the rapid development of science and technology.

(4) Participation of youth who should be given an appropriate role in the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary.

(5) The mobilization of all information media to acquaint the people better with United Nations activities and to give them the feeling of meaningful involvement and participation.

On the national level, the Government of Iran intends to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary in an appropriate manner. An inter-ministerial committee will be established to co-operate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in establishing an appropriate programme in which professors, universities, as well as members of Parliament will participate. Plans are going ahead for lectures in universities and schools and the distribution of pamphlets on the work of the United Nations. The Iranian Association for the United Nations in co-operation with the United Nations Information Service will prepare a varied programme of activities aimed at disseminating information about the United Nations and the role played by Iran in international organizations.

The Government of Ireland fully endorse the observations contained in the concluding paragraph of the introduction to the annual report of the Secretary-General for 1967/1968 that the approach of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations presents all Member States with a good occasion to rededicate themselves to the principles of international order and morality set out in the Charter. They share the hope there expressed that the Assembly will be able to adopt recommendations which will make it possible to celebrate, in a most fitting manner, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. To that end they wish to submit for the consideration of the Preparatory Committee the recommendations contained in the attached annex.

The Government of Ireland are also giving consideration to planning a national programme for the observance of the anniversary and will communicate further with the Secretary-General on this matter in due course.

...

ANNEX

Disarmament

- (a) Strong appeal for widest possible ratification of non-proliferation treaty by anniversary date;
- (b) Firm commitment by nuclear-weapon powers to make available to non-nuclear weapon States, and above all the developing States, nuclear technology and technological training programmes on most liberal terms possible;
- (c) Early implementation undertaking Article VI Non-Proliferation Treaty regarding disarmament;
- (d) In the spirit of Article 26 of the Charter, commitment to devote to development purposes, especially in developing countries, major part of resources released from military expenditure according as disarmament achieved.

Peace and security

- (a) Reaffirmation of dedication to purposes and principles of the United Nations as outlined in Articles 1 and 2 of Charter;
- (b) Reaffirmation of sovereign equality of all Member States and of the applicability to them without distinction of the obligations of the Charter;
- (c) Reaffirmation of principle of collective financial responsibility for all United Nations activities under the Charter;

(d) Greater recourse to fact-finding, conciliation, mediation, arbitration and judicial settlement in relation to international disputes; and recognition of Secretary-General's role in such matters particularly in mediation and despatch of conciliators or special representatives to disturbed areas;

(e) Formal recognition vital role peace-keeping in preventing or containing local conflicts which could endanger international peace;

(f) Elaboration of system for reliable financing of peace-keeping operations;

(g) Elaboration of standard agreement between the United Nations and States applying for a peace-keeping corps, on lines indicated at the 570th meeting of the Special Political Committee on 7 December 1967, (final paragraph, pages 18-20, and first paragraph, page 21, A/SPC/IV.570).

Administrative

(a) Implementation of recommendations of Ad Hoc Committee on the Improvement of the methods of work of the General Assembly as outlined in operative paragraphs (b), (c) and (f) of resolution 1898 (XVIII);

(b) Consideration of other methods of expediting work of the Assembly, having regard to the growth in membership;

(c) Strict observance of advance notice rule for circulation of proposals and possible extension to forty-eight hours of notice in case of proposals submitted directly to the Assembly.

Public opinion

(a) Production of short popular booklet indicating United Nations aims and achievements in past twenty-five years.

ITALY

/Original: French/

1. The Italian Government shares the widely-held opinion that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations would be most appropriately commemorated, not by mere celebrations of the event, but by the reaffirmation of the principles of the Charter and by the express commitment of the Member countries to the building of an international order inspired by those principles.

There is therefore no reason why the Italian delegation should be opposed to the principle of a solemn commemoration. It considers, however, that the importance of the event would be more fittingly demonstrated by reaffirming the indispensable role of the United Nations and by drawing up a programme of practical action for the years to come than by the signing of individual declarations, treaties or conventions or the convening of ad hoc conferences. It can therefore agree, in principle, with the Secretary-General's idea of a

declaration, which, on the twenty-fifth anniversary, would confirm the principles of the Charter in a manner which illustrated as clearly as possible their application to the present historical and political situation. Such a declaration would, however, be desirable only if it embodied the explicit political will of all Member countries to observe the principles of the Charter, solemnly reaffirmed, and to make the United Nations system more effective; it should not merely commemorate a date and an event, constitute an end in itself, or awaken hopes which cannot be realized.

2. Once these premises are accepted, it is clear that the preparations for the twenty-fifth anniversary should be mainly concerned with the drawing up of guidelines, for approval by the General Assembly, for the gradual strengthening of the defence and peace-building functions of the United Nations.

All the work of the Organization can be summed up in this essential task. World peace is indivisible: it must not be defended solely by strengthening the international authority, by the more efficient operation of the statutory machinery for preventing or settling regional crises, by agreements on disarmament or arms limitation, or by just, democratic solutions to decolonization problems: it must also be built by eliminating poverty and the glaring disparities which give rise to instability in international life, by civic and social progress in the developing countries and by systems for the equitable utilization and rational conservation of the major natural resources for the benefit of all mankind.

The strengthening of the United Nations consequently implies not just structural and functional improvements, but a complete review of the political, economic and social work of the Organization. It is a task which raises institutional problems and questions of organization and methods, and one which must be tackled on a world-wide basis. As to the selection of the most suitable organ or organs to carry out a general review of these problems and to prepare coherent guidelines for action which would be studied by Governments, the Italian delegation has no special preference. The requirements could be satisfied either by setting up a single "Committee of Wise Men" or by utilizing existing or new organs within the present framework of the Organization, with systematic co-ordination by the Secretariat or the Preparatory Committee.

The important requirement, whatever organ is selected, is that the work should be done according to a global plan which takes into account all the aims and responsibilities of the United Nations, as an instrument for peace.

The Italian delegation is therefore putting forward a number of subjects which might be discussed as the basis for proposals on the lines described above. These subjects, which relate to various types of problems, do not, of course, cover the whole of the field with which we are concerned; they are merely examples of certain basic ideas and could be associated, in a plan of wider scope, with other subjects different in content but similar in inspiration.

The subjects are:

- I. Correlation among aims and activities within the United Nations;
- II. The constitutional organs of the United Nations, with special reference to:
 - (a) The Security Council;
 - (b) The General Assembly;
- III. Economic development.

*
* *

I. Interrelationship of aims and activities within the United Nations

Here we might consider the possibility of establishing - through the systematic co-ordination of the activities of the competent organs - general research and operating guidelines which take into account the interrelationships between certain fundamental aims of the United Nations, namely: (a) between disarmament and the strengthening of peace-keeping machinery on the one hand; and between disarmament and development assistance, on the other hand; (b) between the peaceful uses of outer space and the sea-bed, on the one hand, and the organization and financing of peace-keeping operations and development, on the other; (c) between the solution of water resources problems, on the one hand, and disarmament and the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, on the other; (d) between the solution of the problems of global pollution and disarmament.

Reciprocal relationships could, in fact, be established among all the activities mentioned above and they could be co-ordinated more systematically, with the result that the gradual achievement of aims in a given sphere would also bring about substantial progress in other spheres.

Reference is frequently made to the connexions between various spheres of the Organization's work; they have in some instances (such as the connexion between disarmament and development) been the subject of General Assembly resolutions. In the opinion of the Italian delegation, however, the establishment of these relationships should not be merely a theoretical process: it should take the form of a general guideline for research and operations which would commit the competent organs to undertaking, wherever possible, permanent co-ordination of the various sectors.

II. The constitutional organs of the United Nations

(a) The Security Council. Despite recent positive developments in its capacity to take action, this organ, to which the main responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security has been entrusted, has not so far lived up to expectations. One of the main reasons for its inadequacy is that - twenty-five years after the end of the Second World War - its organizational and functional attributes no longer correspond to the real international situation,

which has changed with increasing rapidity, especially over the past few years. One problem to which we should give our full attention is how to adapt the Council's powers to the "new dimension" which the very concept of peace is acquiring in the modern world. This concept, as we have said above, embraces not only the elimination and prevention of armed conflicts and the political antagonisms likely to give rise to them, but also the permanent solution of economic and social problems, which, while they have taken a long period of time to develop, have nevertheless come into international prominence only recently. Clearly, some countries are particularly well qualified by their political experience, by their ability to contribute to the balanced development of the world's economy and trade and to the advancement of the Third World, and by their social maturity to assume a special responsibility for carrying out the new tasks involved in "building" peace. There are also in the regional groups some other countries whose potential in natural and human resources is so great that they should within a relatively brief space of time be able to attain a high level of production and considerable political and economic importance. Clearly, it would be to the interest of the international community if all these forces could contribute to the exercise of the functions specifically conferred upon the Security Council by Chapters V, VI, VII, VIII and XII of the Charter.

In other words, if we want to give the Security Council a moral force and the political and military balance and prestige necessary for it to perform its function of guaranteeing international peace and security, States which have the capacity and the means to assume certain well-defined responsibilities in this field must be associated with the Council. Moreover, recent political trends clearly show that the international community is evolving in this direction. It is precisely the States able to assume those responsibilities that are taking an active part in the disarmament process. This is one of the basic aspects of the problem of maintaining international peace and security and hence is directly related to the basic function of the United Nations.

The requirements referred to above can be met essentially by constitutional amendments which would give the Security Council a composition and a structure that would ensure its adaptation to a constantly changing world situation. Consideration might be given to a limited increase in the number of permanent seats without necessarily extending the so-called right of veto. This increase could be based on a number of different criteria which should be studied: for example, account should be taken of the importance and representative nature of every country within the context of the regional group to which it belongs and of the amount of its financial contribution to the United Nations budget. In the meantime, until the above-mentioned reforms are carried out, it might suffice at the present stage to ensure the strict application of Article 23 of the Charter. This provides that the General Assembly shall elect the non-permanent members of the Security Council "due regard being specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution... to the maintenance of international peace and security".

(b) General Assembly. Among the reasons often advanced for the diminishing effectiveness of some of the General Assembly's resolutions, two stand out: (a) their excessive length, which deprives them of the force and incisiveness normally implicit in a small number of operative paragraphs relating to the purposes to be immediately achieved; (b) recommendations whose adoption is frequently accompanied by many abstentions.

These are two problems which could probably be solved by simple procedural measures designed to enhance the authority of certain recommendations from which the prestige of the General Assembly would surely benefit. In order to stimulate a fruitful exchange of ideas on this subject, the Italian delegation believes that some procedural formulae could usefully be studied. It therefore suggests:

With regard to point (a), consideration might be given to limiting the number of sponsors of a draft resolution in the Main Committees to five or ten countries for each regional group. This would not only check the tendency to make drafts too long but might also lead to more intensive consultations between the regional groups and thus to a better harmonization of the "actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends", in the words of Article 1 (4) of the Charter, before a resolution is submitted for the Assembly's consideration in plenary.

With regard to point (b), consideration might be given to procedural measures related to those under point (a) and having the purpose indicated in Article 1 (4) of the Charter. For example, it might be stipulated that a resolution should be finally adopted by a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly, as well as by a two-thirds majority in each regional group, representing a minimum percentage - to be established by consultation among groups - of contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations. It should not be difficult to modify the electronic system used in plenary meetings to give simultaneously the final result of the vote recorded and the percentage which the States voting in favour contributed to the regular budget of the United Nations.

The above suggestions are submitted as a basis for discussion rather than as formal proposals; their purpose is to facilitate conclusions which will have wide support and which would ensure that the General Assembly's recommendations would have a better chance of being applied.

III. Economic development

The unsatisfactory results of the First Development Decade have given special urgency to the need for a general review of United Nations policy for the development of the economically backward countries. Such a general review has already been begun under the name of an "international development strategy". What has not, however, been sufficiently brought out is the close link that exists between disarmament and economic and social development, between the strengthening of peace and economic progress; the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary should remedy that omission.

Three organs in the United Nations family have been given the task of reviewing the policy and administration of United Nations economic assistance: the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade, Sir Robert Jackson's Group, which has been given the task of studying the capacity of the United Nations system to carry out and expand the development programme, and the Pearson Committee set up by the International Bank.

The results of the work of these three organs can hardly fail to affect the activities of the United Nations for many years to come. Before we lay down any guidelines in the matter, we should await the conclusions of these three bodies.

3. While the celebrations should not be the main feature of the anniversary, they could be used to supplement other initiatives, particularly if they could help to create an "atmosphere" which might make people more aware of the ideal of a peaceful and ordered international community and to increase the interest taken by world public opinion in what the United Nations is doing to achieve that ideal.

In this regard, the following steps might be taken:

(a) A General Assembly resolution inviting every Member State to display the United Nations flag beside the national flag on all public buildings on the day of the anniversary, beginning with 1970;

(b) A meeting of public information experts (radio, television, Press) to study the best means for keeping world public opinion continually informed of the tasks of the United Nations;

(c) An undertaking by Member States to take specific measures to carry out General Assembly resolutions 2445 (XXIII) and 2446 (XXIII) concerning education, in particular in the secondary schools, in the principles and objectives of the United Nations;

(d) Seminars, youth conferences, national and international competitions on topics relating to the United Nations.

The Italian delegation wishes to confirm its intention of participating fully in the celebrations to be decided upon at United Nations Headquarters and hopes that these celebrations will be based mainly on the educational and training criteria mentioned above. With regard to its domestic celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary, the national committee expressly set up for this purpose will prepare a programme which will be transmitted by the Italian delegation in due course.

IVORY COAST

[Original: French]

The Ivory Coast makes the following suggestions for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations:

The issuance of a postage stamp (item adopted by the Ivory Coast Government);

Theatrical performance or gala, the receipts of which would be paid into the United Nations Fund for Refugees;

Television and radio programmes dealing with United Nations aims and achievements;

Films about the United Nations in cinemas.

JAPAN

[Original: English]

The Government of Japan considers that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations will give a good opportunity to review the possibility of improving the organization of the United Nations, including the amending of its Charter, so that the United Nations may be able to function in a more effective manner. The Government of Japan is prepared to welcome it if the United Nations would address itself to this problem.

The following activities on a national level are being considered to commemorate the anniversary:

(1) The United Nations Association of Japan will hold a commemorative mass meeting on 26 June (United Nations Charter Day), 1970 on the compound of the Japan World Exposition, Osaka '70, where the United Nations Pavilion is going to be built.

The Government of Japan will extend to this meeting its full support.

(2) The Government will make everything possible to disseminate knowledge on the United Nations among its people, through issuance of commemorative postage stamps, sale of commemorative cigarettes, broadcasting of special programmes on radio and educational television by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), and propagation of raising the United Nations flags.

(3) The United Nations Association of Japan will carry out such activities as commemorative publication, contests of compositions, posters and speeches, through its branches in the country. The Association also plans to send a group to observe the celebration activities to be held here at the Headquarters.

MALDIVES

[Original: English]

With regard to activities that are being contemplated by the Maldivian Government for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, at the national level, special broadcasts on the radio and articles in the local papers on the significance of the occasion are being considered among other measures.

With regard to commemoration of the event at the Headquarters, the Maldivian Government ventures to suggest an appropriate pageant, which could cover the important events in the twenty-five-year history of the United Nations, enlisting the participation of as many Member States as possible.

NORWAY

[Original: English]

The Norwegian Government considers that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations offers every opportunity for emphasizing in words and in action the crucially important role of the Organization in the world of today. It may be natural on such an occasion to look to the past, and consider historical perspectives. However, it is the view of the Norwegian Government that it would be more appropriate to look forward, and seek ways and means of strengthening the Organization for future tasks.

Norway will support the Secretary-General's suggestion of arranging a special meeting of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters, either on United Nations Day, or in connexion with the opening of the general debate. Member States should be represented by persons of prominence at such a meeting. On the occasion of the anniversary, the General Assembly might also consider adopting a declaration setting out guidelines for the Organization's activities in the years to come.

In Norway's view, it is important to engage the interest of young people in the celebration of the anniversary. In this connexion, it might be worthwhile exploring the idea of arranging an international essay competition for young persons between the ages of e.g. seventeen to twenty years, over a theme dealing with the work of the Organization. The prize for national winners of such a competition might be a journey to United Nations Headquarters, and participation in a Conference that might discuss the views of the younger generation with regard to the United Nations and the Organization's role in reaching solutions for current problems.

Norwegian authorities are actively considering several arrangements during 1970 to commemorate the anniversary. It is envisaged that a National Co-ordinating Committee will be established, and that the United Nations Association of Norway will act as the Committee's secretariat. A special effort will be made to enlist the co-operation of private bodies and organizations in the work of the National Co-ordinating Committee. Among the specific plans that are being discussed is the possibility of arranging a model United Nations

General Assembly of Youth, with participants acting out the parts of all Member States. The authorities are also considering the encouragement of academic studies as well as popular expositions of the work of the United Nations, especially with a view to the future activities of the Organization. Attempts will be made to engage mass media such as television and radio broadcasting in the commemorative activities, and the authorities will seek to organize a meeting to celebrate United Nations Day. The question of issuing a special commemorative stamp has been submitted to the Norwegian postal authorities.

The Governments of the Nordic countries are maintaining close contact with a view to investigating the possibility of joint arrangements in connexion with the anniversary.

PAKISTAN

[Original: English]

The purpose of the celebrations would be to promote a broader and fuller understanding of, and more active support for, the objectives of the United Nations. The emphasis should be placed on the future rather than the past. The United Nations is a living organization. While due attention should be paid to its record of achievement, the celebration should have a forward-looking theme.

A special celebration of the anniversary should be held at the site of the adoption of the United Nations Charter on 26 June 1970 with some keynote speakers, besides the Secretary-General.

An attempt might be made to add excitement and glamour to the occasion by obtaining participation of leading artists on a truly international basis in an appropriate cultural event.

A special United Nations postage stamp, commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary, might be issued at United Nations Headquarters.

Appropriate staff, under an anniversary co-ordinator, reporting to the Secretary-General, should be assigned at an early date to initiate, co-ordinate and carry through to their conclusion, plans for the celebrations. In addition to co-ordinating suggestions for activities at the national level, this staff unit might begin at an early date consultations with regional organizations in all parts of the world and with intergovernmental organizations.

A small intergovernmental committee, constituted with due regard to geographical representation, might also be established. The anniversary co-ordinator would work closely under the guidance of this committee.

The decision of the General Assembly to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be communicated by the Secretary-General to the Governments of all Member States, with a request for full co-operation on the national level.

The Governments of Member States may be asked to arrange, with the co-operation of local organizations created in support of the United Nations, especially with United Nations associations, appropriate national ceremonies in the course of the anniversary year, if possible on the date of the anniversary. These ceremonies should, if possible, be attended by national figures of the highest rank, to commemorate and draw attention of their people to their membership in the United Nations.

Where possible, a day during the sessions of national legislative bodies might be devoted to the celebration of the anniversary.

Governments may wish to consider the designation of a person responsible for co-ordinating all national activities in their respective countries relating to the anniversary.

The decision to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary should also be communicated to all the specialized agencies by the Secretary-General with a request for their co-operation in the celebrations.

The specialized agencies should serve as important forums and be requested to mark the anniversary at their own general conferences. High level representation from the United Nations should attend these celebrations by the specialized agencies. Regional and local bodies and offices of these organizations should also be utilized, as appropriate.

To ensure that the activities undertaken during the anniversary year have the greatest possible impact, a mobilization of all information media would be necessary to use the anniversary as a vehicle for impressing the importance of the United Nations on public opinion. Government information services should take the lead in this. The United Nations information centres should also concentrate on these objectives, with direction from the United Nations Office of Public Information. Steps should be taken at an early date to secure the co-operation of government information services, and to begin the programming of these activities.

A special unit might be established within the United Nations Office of Public Information to initiate and co-ordinate information activities to be carried out through United Nations information centres, and to plan, produce and publish works about the United Nations oriented to the general public.

Programme and budget proposals for the anniversary celebration should be prepared at the earliest possible date.

PHILIPPINES

[Original: English]

Achievements of the United Nations

The Philippine Government believes that the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be a meaningful one in

relation not only to the past achievements of the Organization but also and more important, to its future effectiveness in carrying out the principles and objectives for which it was established. The anniversary celebration should afford an opportunity to identify its more significant activities in the past twenty-five years. These activities should be spelt out with maximum objectivity giving both the achievements and the weaknesses of the Organization.

Publicity

There exists a serious information gap on the United Nations especially with respect to the great mass of common people. While it may be true that leaders of government, education, science and business and industry may be acquainted with what the United Nations has been doing in the promotion of international peace and security and in the fields of international economic and social co-operation, the vast majority of the people are aware only in a very superficial manner of the United Nations and of the way it touches their lives and fortunes.

It is recalled in this connexion that General Assembly resolution 2445 (XXIII) adopted on 19 December 1968 was on the subject of teaching in schools the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the structure and activities of the Organization and specialized agencies with particular reference to human rights. This is a specific means which if properly implemented will bring the United Nations closer to the people, but efforts should be exerted to discover other ways of publicizing every important aspect of United Nations activity. The United Nations should make available to Member States facilities, including information materials, to enable them to conduct massive publicity on the Organization in their respective jurisdictions.

Participation of youth

The Philippine Government strongly supports the idea of giving youth an appropriate role in the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. Young people all over the world have demonstrated a heightened awareness of the contemporary scene and a desire to relate themselves and influence the course of events even beyond their immediate circles. It will be fitting that they be asked to participate actively in the anniversary celebration of the United Nations.

The Secretariat

The Philippine Government suggests that the anniversary celebration should be an occasion to focus attention also on the Secretariat of the United Nations, taking into account not only its important role in the over-all context of the functions and operations of the Organization but also the question of further enhancing its effectiveness and maintaining its independence and integrity.

Activities on national level

The Philippine Government has under active consideration plans for the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations on a national level and the Preparatory Committee will be duly informed of the decisions that may be taken in this respect.

Original: English

The Government of the Polish People's Republic considers that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be especially observed not only in the United Nations itself but also on a regional and national level.

The Polish People's Republic, admitting the great importance of the United Nations in the cause of peace, security and progress all over the world, considering that this outstanding role of the United Nations should find its confirmation in the way the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary will be organized, submit the following measures on an international scale:

- An anniversary session of the General Assembly should be held at the end of September 1970. This session is not supposed to be protracted and should be devoted only to the most urgent problems. The anniversary session should be closely connected with the regular twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The twenty-fifth session, if well prepared, can adopt several decisions, concerning concrete questions, at which all the Organization has been working for a long time. The anniversary session could adopt a declaration in which vital tasks of the future United Nations activity will be defined. From the Polish People's Republic's point of view these are those questions which were presented by the Polish Delegation to the President of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in letter of 29 November 1968, namely:

(1) To ensure promptly truly universal character of the United Nations as the basic prerequisite for its real effectiveness;

(2) To strengthen efforts towards disarmament with particular emphasis on the banning of weapons of mass destruction including bacteriological and chemical weapons;

(3) To ensure the elimination of all discriminatory measures and other obstacles in international trade;

(4) To ensure undiscriminated and widest world co-operation in scientific and technological development in the service of humanity;

(5) To strive for the realization of equal rights of all nations and peoples to freedom and independence and to strengthen measures for the full and urgent implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as to ensure the elimination of obstacles on the way to the full emancipation of newly independent nations;

(6) To strengthen measures for the full implementation of existing international instruments against racial discrimination, in particular against apartheid and neo-nazi ideology.

The Anniversary Session will emphasize the fact that the United Nations was born out of alliance against fascism and nazism as these inhuman ideologies still threaten mankind.

(7) To define the role and the tasks of the United Nations in the cause of development of a young generation.

The organization of regional measures, which should have universal character is of great importance in the Polish Government's opinion. These measures should be devoted to the vital problems of a given region. The Polish Government will present concrete suggestions on this problem in the nearest future.

It would be advisable to co-ordinate the measures planned by specialized agencies within the United Nations family. The specialized agencies can make a valuable contribution to the decisions of concrete questions which will be considered in connexion with the twenty-fifth anniversary.

Measures on a national level play a very important role in popularizing the ideas and tasks of the United Nations. It has a great influence on the implementation of the United Nations decisions.

A detailed and extensive programme is being prepared by the Polish Government as well as by political youth, cultural and scientific associations and institutions.

At present, the following activities on a national level are being considered to commemorate the anniversary:

(1) To set up the National Committee of Observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. Polish persons famous for their activity in the United Nations, the representatives of the Government and Polish Institute of International Relations, the Polish Committee of World Federation of United Nations Associations will be members of this National Committee. The Premier or the Minister of Foreign Affairs would take the protectorship over this Committee. The main task of it will be the co-ordination of the observance, organized by different national institutions. The aim of this observance will be the popularization of the United Nations among the broad public of our country;

(2) To hold a scientific session devoted to the United Nations, initiated by the Polish Institute of International Relations under the protectorship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Scientists of different research centres will participate in it;

(3) To publish a joint collection of reports made by outstanding Polish and foreign specialists on the United Nations;

(4) To issue a special volume of a monthly "International problems", which will be devoted to the United Nations and tasks with a special accent on the Polish activity in this Organization;

(5) To emit commemorative stamps and to publish books popularizing the United Nations, including OPI editions in the Publishing House, Book and Knowledge;

(6) To use means of mass media such as radio, television and press for specially extensive information on the United Nations activity;

(7) To organize a commemorative meeting on the eve of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in which the Polish authorities will participate.

The Polish Government wishes to express its hope that the Preparatory Committee will work out recommendations for the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly taking into consideration all the suggestions submitted by the Member States.

While submitting these few general ideas, the Polish Government wishes to reiterate its readiness to co-operate in the elaboration of a detailed programme of the celebrations of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

ROMANIA

[Original: French]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania submits the following suggestions to the Preparatory Committee for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations:

(1) In order that the documents which will be adopted by the General Assembly on that occasion may have the greatest possible authority on the international level - if the Member States agree - it would be appropriate for the delegations to any special jubilee session which may be held, or to the first part of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, to be led by Heads of State or Government.

(2) The General Assembly should adopt in 1970 a broad declaration solemnly reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, defining the basic objectives of the United Nations for the years to come - such as the elimination of under-development, the implementation of practical measures of disarmament, the observance of human rights, the liquidation of colonialism and the encouragement of multilateral co-operation between States - and prescribing measures for improving the work and functioning of the organs and institutions of the United Nations and for making them truly universal in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations in promoting peace and co-operation between nations.

(3) A resolution of the twenty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly should contain an appeal to the United Nations Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States to redouble its efforts with a view to completing its task of codifying the principles concerning friendly relations among States in accordance with the Charter either during 1969 or in the first half of 1970.

The Declaration on the Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter could thus be formally adopted at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

The Romanian Government considers that that step would be an important contribution both to the development of relations among all States on the sound basis of international law and to the solution of international problems exclusively by peaceful means.

(4) An increase in the number of public events expressing support for European co-operation and security would have considerable impact on the establishment of an atmosphere of détente in Europe and throughout the world. In the course of 1970, when twenty-five years will have passed since the end of the Second World War, action to promote peace, co-operation and security in Europe could be undertaken both at the governmental level and at the non-governmental level, emphasizing the desire of the European peoples to live together in peace and to develop bonds of good-neighbourliness, understanding, co-operation and friendship.

To celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in Romania, a National Committee is to be set up with the help of the Romanian Government. In addition to the Romanian United Nations Association, all Romanian institutions and civic organizations which take part in the activities of the United Nations and its organs will be represented in the Committee.

The National Committee will prepare a varied programme of activities and events (lectures, scientific symposia, exhibitions of United Nations documents and stamps, publication of volume of the basic documents of the United Nations, etc.), aimed at disseminating information about the United Nations and about the part played by Romania in international organizations.

SWEDEN

[Original: English]

I. Suggestions regarding arrangements which the Organization may wish to make

1. There seems to be widespread agreement that a serious attempt should be undertaken to make the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations into something more than an occasion for perfunctory eloquence and for self-congratulation. The anniversary should be used as a means to strengthen the Organization as a dynamic instrument for peace and progress and to allow it to respond to the challenge of a rapidly changing international situation. The preparations for the celebration of the anniversary should, therefore, be focused as far as possible on concrete ideas on how to further this general purpose. It is hoped that all Member States will participate in the discussion. For its part, the Swedish Government wishes to put forward the following tentative suggestions.

2. As a reminder of what the United Nations has achieved, and failed to achieve, a historical survey should be prepared of certain international problems and the United Nations involvement in them (e.g. West Irian, Korea, Kashmir, Middle East, Greece, Congo, Dominican Republic and Cyprus). The purpose would not be to work out detailed academic monographs but rather, in a fairly brief book or a small number of brochures, to describe the basic facts of each situation, to indicate why and how a given situation came before the United Nations and to try to assess

in what manner the United Nations involvement influenced the course of events.

Incorporated in the survey should also be chapters on the United Nations role in some chosen fields like decolonization, development and disarmament. Again, the ambition should not be to cover in full the history of these problems but to try to clarify in what way and to what extent developments were determined by action in the United Nations.

The survey might be prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of special consultants from various countries. The procedure followed in the preparation of the studies on the effects of the possible use of nuclear weapons and on the problems connected with chemical and bacteriological weapons might serve as a model.

Whatever form a survey of the indicated nature may take it seems recommendable that the services of UNITAR should be enlisted on as wide a scale as possible in its preparation.

Studies of a similar character, undertaken at the national and regional levels, should also be encouraged.

3. In the view of the Swedish Government, the anniversary might also be used as an occasion for initiating studies on the relevance of the United Nations, the principles as well as the institutions, to the requirements of the contemporary international scene.

It is by no means certain that such studies would indicate a need for amendments to the Charter. Its fundamental principles, which are deeply rooted in man's experience during many centuries, will probably continue for a long time to provide the guidelines for international behaviour. But the emphasis may change. Those principles which stress the obligations to collaborate and to live as good neighbours and to use the United Nations for mediation, for conciliation and for harmonizing the actions of nations may have to be recognized as particularly important in this era of increasing interdependence.

Similarly, formal changes in the competence and composition of the principal organs of the United Nations may not be immediately required. But the practical working of these and other organs will no doubt have to be adjusted to give the United Nations a meaningful role in the context of crisis management, peaceful settlement of disputes, transfer of resources from rich to poor, etc. in the new world situation.

Studies of this character cannot be expected to be ready before the anniversary. It is the hope of the Swedish Government, however, that the time until then will be used to prepare the terms of reference for such studies and to work out proposals for their appropriate institutional framework. A decision to initiate the studies could then be taken at the commemorative meeting which will no doubt be one of the features of the anniversary celebration.

4. From one point of view the United Nations Charter can be described as merely an international treaty setting out certain principles for international behaviour and providing for certain institutions for international collaboration. But the United Nations is more than this. It is also the symbol and the

incarnation of the hopes of mankind for a better future, for peace and progress. As such the United Nations is a living organism which draws its nourishment from the interest, concern, fears and expectations of all peoples. Without such nourishment the United Nations would wither and die. This idea has recently been stated by the Secretary-General when he said "The ultimate strength of the Organization and its capacity to promote and achieve the objectives for which it has been established lie in the degree to which its aims and activities are understood and supported of the peoples of the world."

In view hereof a primary purpose of the anniversary celebration must be to increase the knowledge about the United Nations and to broaden support for it in public opinion everywhere. Or, to quote again the Secretary-General, to bring "the Organization closer to the people in whose name the Charter was written so that they might better appreciate both its potentialities and its limitations."

In this context it should be noted that, already in 1965, 54 per cent of the world's population was below twenty-five years of age. More than three-quarters of these young people live in the developing parts of the world.

It is thus obvious that if the anniversary is to serve the purpose indicated by the Secretary-General a major effort should be made, when preparing for its celebration, to focus on the attitudes of young people, those that were born after or shortly before the creation of the United Nations. Only if we succeed in showing to these young people that the Organization is relevant to the cause of peace and progress and therefore, worthy of enthusiastic and continuous support, can the foundation be laid for the effective functioning of the United Nations in the decade to come.

There are many ways in which youth could be associated with the celebration of the anniversary. Some preliminary suggestions can be listed as follows.

A. Member Governments might be encouraged (a) to arrange for the active involvement of youth in the preparation of national programmes for the celebration of the anniversary, (b) to shape these programmes so as to attract maximum interest and participation on the part of the young, (c) to provide for courses, lectures, discussions, etc., related to the United Nations in schools and other educational institutions in connexion with the anniversary.

B. Intergovernmental organizations might be invited to consider ways and means to engage youth in their programmes for the celebration of the anniversary.

C. The United Nations itself might make special efforts, in consultation with the specialized agencies directly concerned, to prepare the programme for the celebration of the anniversary in such a way as to attract serious interest amongst the younger generation and to arrange for the active participation of young people in at least some aspects of the programme. A study should be made, in particular, of the possibility of enabling a number of young people from all Member States to meet at United Nations Headquarters in New York for a brief period of discussion, preferably in June of 1970. Such a meeting, if well prepared and given proper attention by the communications media all over the world, could serve a most useful purpose by giving expression to the concern of young people for peace and progress and by building support for the one Organization which is designed to further both these ideals on a global scale, the United Nations.

The occasion of the anniversary may also be used to arrange for a certain number of young people from various countries to work as trainees in United Nations offices such as those of the Headquarters in New York, resident representatives, regional economic commissions or United Nations information centres.

5. The Swedish Government supports the idea of a Commemorative Meeting to be attended, whenever possible, by Heads of State, Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers. The venue should be the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The time might be immediately before the opening of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly or round 24 October 1970.

It is suggested that the General Assembly, at its twenty-fourth session, decide to indicate a general theme to which the delegates at the Commemorative Meeting are invited to address themselves. Such a theme might be: "What would make the United Nations better serve the cause of peace and progress in the decades to come?"

Thought should also be given to the possibility of preparing certain declarations or resolutions to be adopted at the Commemorative Meeting and, thereby, given special significance. Appropriate subjects for such declarations or resolutions would be decolonization (the tenth anniversary of the General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)), fight against racism (the fifth anniversary of the convention on racial discrimination), the Second Development Decade (it is hoped that in the autumn of 1970 preparations will have advanced so far as to allow the drawing up of a general declaration of principles on the matter) and disarmament (hopefully the announcement of some new step such as a complete test-ban treaty).

II. National manifestations in Sweden

1. It is envisaged that a National Preparatory Committee will be constituted shortly. The Committee will be chaired by a member of the Cabinet using the headquarters of the Swedish Association for the United Nations as its Secretariat.

2. A commemorative ceremony will be organized on 24 October 1970 (perhaps also on 26 June).

3. A commemorative stamp will be issued on 24 October, bearing the inscription "The United Nations - Peace and Progress" in Swedish.

4. News media will be provided with background material and encouraged to devote considerable attention to the anniversary.

5. The universities, the Swedish Institute for International Affairs, the Swedish International Development Authority, private publishers and various organizations, including the political parties, will be encouraged to prepare new studies on United Nations achievements and activities and organize round-table discussions.

6. Exhibitions and conferences on United Nations activities in museums, libraries and schools will be organized.

7. Particular emphasis will be laid on youth participation in these programmes; model general assemblies and essay writing competitions will be included.

8. Wherever possible, these manifestations will be organized in close co-operation with the other Nordic countries and in consultation with the United Nations Information Centre in Copenhagen.

UGANDA

[Original: English]

The Republic of Uganda fully supports the idea of holding a world youth assembly to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

The Uganda Government feels that youths from all parts of the world should be invited to participate in the assembly and debate and deliberate on problems facing this generation and how they should deal with them when their turn comes to take over.

It is the wish of the Uganda delegation that the question of the universality of the youth conference should be stressed. We also feel that the question which faces the Committee is, on whether, to pass on to youths, impasses that this generation faces in this world body or, make it possible for them to hold a world youth assembly in the true sense of the term.

The delegation feels that despite the possibilities and futilities of extending invitations to youth belonging to certain countries where the metropolitan Power would never allow them to participate, invitations should nevertheless be extended.

The Uganda Government believes that instead of deciding in the Preparatory Committee on whether there should be a world youth assembly or a United Nations youth assembly, the report from the Bureau to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly should reflect various points discussed by the Committee and let the General Assembly decide on it.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic accordingly feels that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations could best be marked by the earliest possible solution of the most important and urgent problems which have long confronted the United Nations, by the transformation of the United Nations into a truly universal organization and by the strict observance of the spirit and letter of the United Nations Charter by all Members of the Organization without exception.

The United Nations could best observe its anniversary by carrying out effective measures to strengthen peace among peoples, to put an end to the armaments race and to achieve general and complete disarmament.

Another major problem which calls for an urgent solution is the rapid and total elimination of colonialism.

One of the most important tasks of the United Nations is also the creation of the conditions essential for the social and economic advancement of all peoples.

In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations gives the General Assembly the opportunity to call upon all States to make the anniversary year a year for taking new positive steps to promote the effective peaceful settlement of existing international problems, to relax international tension, to strengthen peace and security, and to develop mutual assistance and co-operation among peoples. In this connexion, a positive role could also be played by regional conferences of States, particularly on questions of security, peaceful neighbourly co-operation and regional disarmament, including the establishment of nuclear-free zones.

Foremost among the various problems whose solution would facilitate the attainment of the above-mentioned objectives are the need to increase to the fullest possible extent the number of parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to bring about its entry into force at the earliest possible date, the need for all States to sign and ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity as soon as possible, the need for all States to accede to the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Chemical and Bacteriological Weapons and the need to ensure its implementation.

Particular attention should also be given to compliance by all States with earlier decisions of the United Nations, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenants on Human Rights, international instruments directed against apartheid and neo-nazi ideology, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all other instruments designed to achieve peace and security, to protect the rights of peoples, and to promote the development among them of mutual assistance and co-operation.

The Ukrainian SSR considers that the United Nations could also take important new decisions with a view to attaining the above-mentioned objectives, particularly in the field of disarmament.

One such decision would be the conclusion during the United Nations anniversary year of an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. That would be an important step towards the elimination of the threat of nuclear war and the complete prohibition and liquidation of nuclear weapons, and would facilitate the settlement of the problem of general and complete disarmament.

The Ukrainian SSR also proposes that the Preparatory Committee should recommend the United Nations General Assembly to take steps to complete by 1970 the drafting of a declaration on the principles of peaceful coexistence, to celebrate at special meetings of the General Assembly's twenty-fifth anniversary session the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and to take effective decisions designed to eliminate colonialism completely as soon as possible.

The Committee of Twenty-Four should be instructed to prepare and submit to the anniversary session a special report summing up the situation with regard to the implementation by States of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The Ukrainian SSR proposes the adoption of further steps to protect human rights, including the completion - in time for the anniversary session - of the drafting of a programme for the celebration in 1971 of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

Another urgent task is that of completing the drafting of a definition of aggression.

It is essential to strive for the development of economic co-operation between all States on a basis of equality, to take effective measures to protect the interests of the developing countries from the machinations of neo-colonialism, and to ensure the elimination of all discriminatory measures and other obstacles to international trade.

In the opinion of the Government of the Ukrainian SSR, measures at the national level should play an important part in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations; accordingly, plans for such measures are now being made in the Ukrainian SSR.

In submitting the above proposals, the Ukrainian SSR reserves the right to submit additional considerations if necessary.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

The following are some views of the Soviet Government on the approaching twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

This anniversary will unquestionably be a significant event for the United Nations and for all mankind.

During its existence, the United Nations has made a useful contribution to the strengthening of international peace, the elimination of the shameful system of colonialism and the development of international co-operation. The activities of the United Nations confirm that, with goodwill and a constructive approach based on the strict observance of the United Nations Charter, the States Members of the Organization can successfully solve international problems.

As one of the founders of the United Nations and a permanent member of the Security Council, the Soviet Union naturally supports the General Assembly's decision that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be commemorated in an appropriate manner. This could be done, for instance, by taking some special measures during the General Assembly's twenty-fifth session.

In the Soviet Government's view, the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations should be a stimulus for further efforts to increase its effectiveness and to expand political, economic and social co-operation among its Members on the basis of equal rights.

The most important task of the United Nations under the Charter is to maintain international peace and security. This task must constantly be at the centre of the attention of States Members of the Organization.

In the interests of peace and the maintenance and consolidation of peace throughout the world, it is urgently necessary that the main effort should be concentrated on the adoption of effective measures to put an end to the nuclear armaments race and to bring about nuclear disarmament. It is high time that nuclear weapons were outlawed. It is the imperative duty of all States to make the United Nations anniversary year a turning point in the practical solution of the problem of prohibiting nuclear weapons and of other problems in the field of disarmament.

The Soviet Government is also prepared to support efforts designed to make 1970 the year of the final elimination of the last remnants of colonialism - in particular, to make it the year for putting an end to the Portuguese colonial domination of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea (Bissau), for liberating Namibia and for liquidating the racist régimes in the Republic of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

It is also necessary in the interests of peace to put an end to aggression in all its manifestations and to extinguish hotbeds of tension in all parts of the world.

The Soviet Union also considers that it would be useful during this anniversary year, for the United Nations to make a solemn affirmation of its faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter and to call upon its Members to strive for the strict implementation of these principles.

With regard to national celebrations of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, the Soviet Union is intending to take steps to commemorate the anniversary of the United Nations, with the participation of various academic and social organizations in the Soviet Union.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

[Original: English]

The delegation of the United Kingdom will wish to support proposals which are being put forward for the association of youth organizations with the anniversary. It seems to this delegation that, since we wish to take the opportunity of this anniversary to look more to the future than the past, it is important that we should welcome and encourage the participation of youth in this celebration.

...
...

Observations of the United Kingdom Government on arrangements for the
twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations

The anniversary should be used not for pomp and circumstance, but to stimulate serious thought about the Organization and the part it should play in international affairs. The United Kingdom Government believes that proposals put forward for the anniversary should be judged on this basis, in the hope that the programme of activities adopted will encourage serious examination both internationally and within individual countries of the United Nations' role, thus resulting in a renewed determination to give effect to the principles and purposes of the Charter.

At the national level the United Kingdom Government intends to use this occasion to hold a national debate on the theme of internationalism, in order to promote a knowledge of the principles and purposes of the United Nations and their application to the principal international problems of the day.

The United Kingdom Government is presently considering the most appropriate ways at the national level of pursuing these aims.

At the international level the United Kingdom Government is in favour of a special meeting at United Nations headquarters, as proposed by the United Nations Secretary-General. In settling the details of such a meeting, the governing considerations should be that it should take place at as high a level as possible, and that it should not become involved in the regular or routine business of the General Assembly.

In pursuing the objectives set out above, it is considered that some form of international studies should form an integral part of the discussions. The United Kingdom Delegation looks forward to discussing in the Preparatory Committee how such studies might best be undertaken. At this preliminary stage it does not wish to make specific proposals.

Youth participation

Purpose:

To welcome and encourage the participation of representatives of world youth in dealing with world-wide problems of the next twenty-five years.

Method:

A world youth assembly to be held at United Nations headquarters, New York, on the lines of a regular session of the General Assembly.

The session to take place in August 1970 and to last two weeks.

The youth assembly to be attended by representative delegations of five young people born in 1945 or after from as many States Members of the United Nations as possible.

Substantive work:

The agenda for the world youth assembly to be the discussion of problems facing mankind in the next twenty-five years which the generation born since 1945 will have to tackle.

The Assembly to aim at identifying the problems and defining lines of action to deal with such problems.

The subjects to include:

- (i) World security (disarmament, peace-keeping, peaceful settlement)
- (ii) Race relations
- (iii) The safeguarding of the human environment
- (iv) Trade and development aid
- (v) Youth in the service of peace and development: United Nations youth volunteer service.

In addition to the youth assembly there would be opportunities provided by universities, foundations and other organizations for those attending the assembly to undertake travel and study courses.

Cost:

In many countries the sponsoring youth organization will be able to meet the cost of its national delegation. Voluntary contributions towards the general costs would be sought from governments, trade unions, and private sources.

Accommodation:

Hospitality to be arranged in the host country through private organizations and universities.

Transport:

Airlines flying international routes to be approached to provide transport to and from United Nations headquarters at nominal cost; governments to authorize and support this through ICAO/IATA or otherwise as appropriate.

Meetings:

The United Nations headquarters to provide accommodation and services for a two-week conference (including interpretation); and staff and accommodation to co-ordinate arrangements with accredited international youth groups in preparing the Assembly.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Original: English]

In present circumstances, and at this juncture in the preparations, it is the United States' view that the commemorative ceremonies could most appropriately be held at United Nations Headquarters just prior to the beginning of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly. A large number of Foreign Ministers are normally present in New York for part of the regular session of the General Assembly, and holding the commemoration at that time would therefore assure high level attendance, as well as substantially reduce the costs both to the Organization and to Member States.

The commemorative ceremonies of the United Nations itself might last from three days to a week and, aside from the ceremonial aspects, might consist primarily of addresses by the Secretary-General, the President of the International Court of Justice, heads of specialized agencies, and representatives of Member States. The United States considers that both the special significance of the anniversary and the imperative needs of the United Nations and its Members warrant treating this occasion more as a dedication to the future than as a celebration of the past.

The United States therefore believes it might be appropriate to define in advance of the twenty-fifth anniversary, and in as clear terms as possible, some principal objectives for the United Nations in the decade 1970-1980. These would naturally take into account any decisions and conclusions of the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Once formulated, these could serve, in whole or in part, as themes for the commemoration. Responsibility for drawing up such objectives for the next decade might be assigned to the Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary, with the understanding that it would work closely not only with the United Nations Secretariat but also with interested permanent missions not represented on the Preparatory Committee. In addition, certain topics related to increasing the effectiveness of the United Nations might be selected for special emphasis during the commemoration, taking into account the findings of studies currently under way or that may be undertaken by Member States officially or privately as part of their individual contributions to the commemoration.

For its part, the United States intends this year in its customary proclamation of 24 October as United Nations Day, to address itself to preparations for commemorating the Organization's twenty-fifth anniversary. In addition to urging commemoration of United Nations Day in 1969, the United States proclamation will call upon the people of this nation and its citizen groups to anticipate the Organization's twenty-fifth anniversary in 1970 by planning such community and organizational programmes as will contribute both to an appreciation of the accomplishments of the United Nations and to a realistic understanding of its aims, its limitations, and its potentialities.

YUGOSLAVIA

[Original: English]

Recognizing the great importance of the role of the United Nations in the safeguarding and promoting of world peace and in advancing friendly international co-operation, the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia attaches particular significance to the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

The anniversary observance should serve as an encouragement to initiate new actions and to undertake additional efforts having as their aim to reaffirm and strengthen the role of the United Nations in the contemporary world as well as to realize the principles and objectives of the Charter.

In this spirit the Yugoslav Government is of the opinion that in the months preceding the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly additional efforts should be made to expedite the work on outstanding issues and documents on the agenda of the United Nations. Activities undertaken by all United Nations organs

in the ensuing period should comprise an integral part of the preparations for the celebration, with an understanding that the main results of such activities would be solemnly proclaimed on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary.

For example, the following recommendations might come into consideration:

A document embodying the seven principles of international law concerning friendly relations and co-operation among States could be formulated as a declaration of the General Assembly, provided that additional efforts are exerted with a view to having this work completed in time to be considered by the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

In conformity with resolution 2411 (XXIII), the programme of work of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Development Decade and activities of other United Nations bodies, a Final Act of the United Nations on the Second Development Decade should be prepared for a solemn proclamation at the time of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. This would have particular meaning and significance for mobilizing world public opinion for the purpose of assisting the United Nations to successfully cope with the challenge posed by the Second Development Decade.

Noting that a primary feature characterizing the activities of the United Nations in recent years has been an increasing application of science and technology in economic development, and in view of the fact that questions falling within the domain of human environment, sea bed and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, are more and more being considered within a broader context of science and technology and their application in the solution of these problems, it would be beneficial to have the General Assembly advance suggestions as to the further activation of the United Nations in the field of science and technology.

In the field of decolonisation it would be desirable for the Preparatory Committee to propose the adoption of a document formulating the programme of work of the United Nations for the 1970s, taking into consideration the preparations of the Preparatory Committee for the Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the Adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

It would also be useful, in the opinion of the Yugoslav Government, to adopt appropriate resolutions in the field of disarmament, collective security and peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The General Assembly might wish to initiate research or to analyze activities having as their aim peace-making and peace-keeping.

Likewise it would be advisable to examine, during the special session, problems and the implementation of United Nations documents in the field of human rights, particularly, to pay special attention to the problems of apartheid and racial discrimination.

Also to consider the problems of youth in the contemporary world.

In addition to these documents perhaps it would be practicable to examine the possibility of issuing a general appeal for the re-affirmation and further strengthening of the United Nations.

In case that the work on some documents already before the United Nations is not completed by the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Yugoslav Government deems that it would be opportune to have the substance of these documents brought to the attention of the General Assembly in a form of recommendations for the future work of the Organization.

The Yugoslav Government also supports the proposal of some countries to have the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly address an appeal to Member States of the United Nations to expedite the process of ratification of specific international agreements and conventions with a view to having, on the occasion of the jubilee of the world Organization, the largest possible number of these documents enter into force.

II

The central celebration, in the view of the Yugoslav Government, should be held prior to the opening of the twenty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly. The Yugoslav Government, like some of the other Governments, deems that the most suitable form for this would be a special session of the General Assembly with its own agenda. Insofar as the preparations for the celebration and the formulation of appropriate documents are successfully completed, that is to say, provided that the international political situation is such that the adoption of major and generally acceptable documents is possible, in the opinion of the Yugoslav Government, it would be desirable to have Member States represented on the highest possible level at the special session of the General Assembly.

The Yugoslav Government attaches special importance to the preparations and to the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary at the national level as well. The Yugoslav Government supports the idea of appointing national committees for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and in doing so to stress that the jubilee should be used for the affirmation and popularization of the aims and achievements of the United Nations within the broadest possible area of the international community.

It is the feeling of the Yugoslav Government that the anniversary observance at the national level should enlist the widest possible popular support, with the participation of individuals as well as cultural, educational and scientific associations and institutions.

The Yugoslav Government welcomes the idea of a month or a week of the United Nations and the formulation of a special programme of work. Furthermore, the proposal of some Member States to convene a special session of national parliaments to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations merits support and full consideration.

The Secretary-General and the Secretariat of the United Nations, as well as specialized agencies and regional institutions, have a special role in organizing and executing the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary. The Yugoslav Government greatly appreciates and fully supports the efforts of the Secretary-General in initiating a series of significant questions having direct relevance to the commemoration.

Also, in the view of the Yugoslav Government, it would be opportune to request all specialized agencies and regional economic commissions to make their contributions to the general concept of the anniversary observance as well as to suggest specific elements to be incorporated in documents which are expected to be adopted during the commemoration, having in view their own fields of responsibility.

The Yugoslav Government also considers that it would be beneficial, should the Preparatory Committee be called upon to prepare on the basis of ideas and recommendations advanced by Member States a draft proposal of activities concerning the celebration, to have the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly adopt pertinent decisions regarding the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

ANNEX II

WORLD YOUTH ASSEMBLY

NOTE BY THE BUREAU

1. A world youth assembly may be held under United Nations sponsorship in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. Its basic purposes will be:

(a) To draw the attention of youth to the principal problems before the United Nations;

(b) To provide opportunities for youth to give expression to their views on problems concerning peace and progress; and

(c) To invite the younger generation to indicate the lines on which they would wish to support the United Nations.

2. The United Nations will maintain final responsibility for the guidance of the youth assembly, while assuring youth the possibility of reflecting as much as possible their views on the content of both the preparation and the execution.

3. Such a youth assembly may take place for approximately ten days in the period from June to August 1970. New York appears to be the preferred site for the assembly, since in this city youth may have the advantages of being able to see at first hand the proceedings of some of the United Nations organs. Geneva was also considered. Although the Bureau generally agreed on New York, there was a suggestion that the seat of a specialized agency might also be considered as the venue of the assembly.

4. Member Governments may be asked to send up to five youth delegates to such an assembly. In this connexion, Member States may consider merely conveying the names of youth representatives selected by appropriate national bodies. An appeal to Governments might urge them to give every chance to youth organizations in the country concerned to select their delegates on the basis of participation of all major youth organizations of the given country. In some instances it may be appropriate to create a national committee outside the government to designate delegates. In this connexion Governments may consider national essay contests on the United Nations as one of the means of selecting qualified youth. In addition to the delegates from the Member States, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which deal with youth may be invited to send observers to the assembly. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Committee that youth representatives from Namibia and the major non-self-governing territories should also be invited to participate. One member of the Bureau felt that youth of all States, whether Members of the United Nations or not, as well as representatives of major international youth organizations, should be invited to participate in the assembly.

5. The guidance of the United Nations over the world youth assembly may be exercised by an advisory board, composed of the members of the Bureau of the

Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations, reporting as appropriate to the Preparatory Committee. The advisory board may alternatively be elected by the General Assembly or appointed by the Secretary-General. The United Nations Secretariat will be in charge of servicing the youth assembly within the guide-lines set out by the advisory board. Within the Secretariat a technical supervisory group will be established, with representatives from OCS, OGS, ESA and OPI under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Preparatory Committee. Closely working with the technical supervisory group will be a planning committee, composed of representatives of major international youth organizations, due regard being paid to their geographical distribution. The planning committee will be a non-governmental consultative body for the purpose of reflecting the views of youth on the planning, preparation and execution of the assembly.

6. The programme of the youth assembly, including the detailed agenda, should be worked out in due course in consultation with the planning committee. It is expected that the youth assembly will concentrate on general problems under the theme of peace, progress and international co-operation rather than on any specific questions. In order to familiarize themselves with the subjects to be dealt with and to facilitate their maximum participation, the representatives should be given sufficient background documentation, consisting largely of relevant official records of the United Nations, prior to the assembly.

7. The youth delegation will attend the meeting as representatives of the young people of their land as a whole, and not as representatives of either their specific youth group or as delegates from their Government. They would not be under the instructions of their Governments but would be expected to have widely consulted youth organizations and appropriate government ministries before the assembly. The age-limit of representatives should normally be twenty-five, but appropriate national bodies would exercise due discretion in this matter.

8. The assembly may be organized in such a way as to have an appropriate combination of briefings, discussions and the consideration of conclusions or reports. Briefings whenever necessary may be arranged by the planning committee. Conclusions or reports by the youth assembly may be transmitted to the United Nations General Assembly at its commemorative session for consideration. Cultural and social activities may be planned.

9. Normal conference and other Secretariat assistance for the world youth assembly will be met within the regular budget of the United Nations. A voluntary fund for the youth assembly may be established to meet other expenses. The Secretary-General may be requested to appeal widely for contributions to the fund from Governments or non-governmental sources, or both, including youth organizations, etc. It is the conviction of the Bureau that if early action is taken in this regard, whatever cost (if any) remains as a possible charge to the United Nations budget will be minimal. The Committee might therefore recommend that the General Assembly, at its twenty-fourth session, take a decision to convene the world youth assembly to enable the Secretary-General to launch his appeal for financial contributions early.

ANNEX III

PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

Press and publications - All meetings and other activities of the United Nations in connexion with the twenty-fifth Anniversary will be reported in press releases and in the UN Monthly Chronicle.

A special 100-120 page illustrated booklet will be issued as a "souvenir" volume, recording the highlights in the life and activities of the Organization during its twenty-five years. The subject-matter will be treated on a year-by-year basis and will be intended for the general public. While commemorative in nature, it is hoped to make the treatment sufficiently substantive and meaningful to serve educational purposes at the junior school level. It is planned to produce this booklet in the five official languages.

A revised and up-dated version of Everyman's United Nations will be issued, presenting an account of the activities and evolution of the United Nations during its first twenty-five years. This volume will be intended for reference purposes.

It is proposed to increase the size of the UN Monthly Chronicle during 1970 in order to accommodate a series of signed articles on major topics such as peace-keeping, decolonization, human rights, international law, economic and social development, etc. It is planned to solicit such articles from Chairmen and other elected officials of United Nations bodies and/or from heads of substantive departments of the United Nations. These articles would attempt to present in a free flowing and readable form a picture of the major involvements and achievements of the United Nations in these broad themes during the last twenty-five years.

A fifty-page booklet entitled A Decade of Decolonization will be produced in the official languages and in others of areas directly concerned.

Radio and visual. All events to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary will be given full coverage in television, film, radio and photo and distributed as appropriate through the world-wide television news agencies, through United Nations radio news programming, and through United Nations information centres.

Six or eight half-hour programmes will be produced in the International Zone television series, dealing with various activities of the United Nations and its related agencies affecting or involving "the United Nations generation".

A series of fifteen-minute documentary radio programmes will be produced in some thirty languages on the above themes and made available to broadcasting organizations in 120 states and territories which carry United Nations radio programmes.

A twenty-minute film on the role of the United Nations in the process of decolonization will be prepared and distributed through United Nations information centres and other United Nations offices for television broadcast and for showing to educational and other groups.

The photo display set produced each year by OPI will in 1970 be enlarged in scope and in number of copies produced and also improved in attractiveness by production in colour instead of in black and white. The theme will relate to the twenty-fifth anniversary.

Three pictorial wall sheets will be produced on the role of the United Nations in decolonization and on the activities of the United Nations affecting or involving youth.

A special choral work has been commissioned by the Secretary-General for the twenty-fifth anniversary. Composed by Krzysztof Penderecki, the work will be performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic under the direction of Zubin Mehta. The concert will be offered for simultaneous live broadcast, by television and radio, in North America, Europe, Latin America and other regions reached by satellite.

Other activities. The annual Editors' Roundtable will be held in 1970 at United Nations Headquarters and timed so as to coincide with the projected special meeting of the General Assembly or meetings of Heads of State and Government. Participants will be chosen from all regions of the world representing the most influential media of mass communication. They will have an opportunity not only of participating in the Headquarters celebration but also of seeking interviews with leaders of delegations and with senior Secretariat officials which, it is expected, should lead to considerable in-depth reporting on the United Nations.

Directors of information centres will be asked to seek the co-operation of national governments in organizing and holding one-day seminars of local journalists.

Efforts will be made both through the External Publications Units of OPI at Headquarters and through information centres, to encourage the production of independent booklets and other printed material relating to the United Nations, in as many languages as possible. Similar efforts for the production of independent television and radio material will be made through the available machinery.

Advertisers in various Member States will be encouraged to devote advertisements or radio and television commercials to the twenty-fifth anniversary.