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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 5 September 1989 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement issued on 2 September 1989 by the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China on the adoption of a resolution relating to China by the forty-first session of the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and the full text of its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 12 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) LI Luye
Permanent Representative of
the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

* A/44/150.

ANNEX

STATEMENT BY THE SPOKESMAN OF FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION RELATING TO CHINA
BY THE 41ST SESSION OF U.N. SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION
OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

September 2, 1989

On August 31, engineered and instigated by a few Western members, the 41st session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities under the U.N. Commission on Human Rights held in Geneva adopted a resolution relating to China. The resolution brazenly interfered in China's internal affairs, attempting to exert pressure on China. The Chinese government is firmly opposed to the so-called resolution which runs counter to the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter and violates the norms governing international relations, and deems it illegal and null and void.

The incident which took place in late spring and early summer in Beijing this year was a planned, organized and premeditated political turmoil stirred up through student unrest by a very small number of people working hand in glove with anti-China forces in foreign countries, a turmoil which further developed into a counter-revolutionary rebellion aimed at overthrowing the government of the People's Republic of China and the constitutional socialist system by resorting to violence and terrorist means. Driven beyond the limits of forbearance, the Chinese government adopted resolute measures to quell the rebellion, in order to maintain law and order and protect the life and property of the broad masses of the people. This is entirely legitimate, justified and necessary and is a matter within the bounds of China's state sovereignty in which no foreign country, international organization or individual has the right to interfere.

The Chinese government has all along attached importance to human rights. Our Constitution and laws guarantee that the people of all nationalities in China enjoy extensive rights, including various rights of individuals. The purpose of the Chinese government in quelling the rebellion was precisely to safeguard the basic human rights and freedom of the overwhelming majority of the people.

Towards those students and masses of the people who were participants in the illegal demonstrations, the Chinese government has all along adopted a policy of education and an attitude of leniency and tolerance. Only a very small number of persons who had committed offences against the criminal law were punished according to law. It is the duty of the government of every sovereign state to defend the dignity of law.

Now the social order in Beijing and throughout the country has returned to normal and the situation is stable. China will unswervingly continue to implement its independent foreign policy of peace. We are ready to continue, on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, to develop friendly relations with all countries of the world and to promote international cooperation.

All acts attempting to interfere in China's internal affairs are bound to end up in complete failure.
