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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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ANNEX - LIST OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 2111th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1972, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2993 (XXVII) entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security". Paragraph 6 of this resolution reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

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"6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security."

2. Pursuant to this request, the Secretary-General on 1 February 1973 addressed a note to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, transmitting the text of the resolution and asking for relevant information and suggestions concerning the implementation of the above-mentioned Declaration.

3. As of the date of issuance of this report, a total of 30 replies have been received. The substantive parts of these communications are reproduced in section II.

4. Since the last session of the General Assembly, a number of documents relating to agenda item 39 of the twenty-eighth session have been circulated. A list of these documents is given in the annex.

5. The Secretary-General hopes that the present report will be of assistance in the consideration of the item at the current session of the General Assembly.

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II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM MEMBER STATES

BAHRAIN

/Original: English/

/11 September 1973/

In pursuit of its policy of peace and prosperity for all nations, the Government of Bahrain has been guided by the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. The basic principles of its foreign policy are in conformity with the contents of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1970. In conducting its foreign policy, the Government of Bahrain respects and implements bilateral or multilateral agreements, treaties or conventions of which it is a party; and adheres to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States.

It is the firm belief of the Government of Bahrain that the promotion of international peace and the preservation of security and stability are essential for political, social and economic development in any part of the world. To serve this purpose, Bahrain supports any recommendations or resolutions that contribute to international peace and security. It is from this spirit that Bahrain supports the General Assembly resolutions in connexion with the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, the urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and general and complete disarmament.

The Government of Bahrain also welcomes the treaties and conventions concluded with respect to the prohibition of nuclear weapons and tests.

BARBADOS

/Original: English/

/16 March 1973/

Although the Government of Barbados has in general observed the principles set out in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and has in no way infringed the principles, there are no specific measures which the Government has taken which could be interpreted as a positive implementation of the Declaration.

BULGARIA

/Original: French/

/12 September 1973/

The Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, adopted at the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, has played a positive

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role in mobilizing the efforts of the various States for the implementation and realization of the fundamental objective of the United Nations, namely, the maintenance of international peace and security. Everyone recognizes that the international climate has changed perceptibly in the recent past and that a process of strengthening of the principles of peaceful coexistence is taking place in the world. This turn in international relations would have been unthinkable without the dynamic and peace-loving policy pursued and the initiatives taken by the Soviet Union and the socialist community and without the goodwill and realism demonstrated by many other States.

One of the basic factors contributing to the present improvement in the world political climate is the fruitful outcome of the first phase of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation, which is opening a new era of lasting peace and mutually profitable co-operation in relations between the European peoples. The solution of the problems of security and co-operation in Europe would have a beneficial effect on international relations as a whole. It is fully consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and would strengthen the Organization's role as an instrument for maintaining peace and the security of peoples.

This development in the international situation is largely due to the normalization of relations between the States which have a primary role to play in, and bear a major responsibility for, the strengthening of international peace and security. The meetings held by Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, with President Richard Nixon of the United States of America, Chancellor Willy Brandt of the Federal Republic of Germany and President G. Pompidou of the French Republic and the agreements concluded between those States with a view to the improvement of relations between them are of great importance not only for their own peoples but also for every other State and every other people. The improvement of the over-all political climate in the world has made the policies of all States more active. Tens of States, not only large States but medium-sized and small ones as well, have embraced the process of establishing a climate of confidence and security, of mutually advantageous co-operation and of lasting peace.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria has done and will continue to do everything in its power to contribute to the consolidation of trust between States and to the strengthening of the process of changes for the better in contemporary international relations. To that end, it is pursuing in the Balkans an active and constructive policy aimed at the improvement of bilateral relations between the States of that region and at making the Balkans a region of understanding and co-operation. Most recently, that policy has been given tangible expression in the new contacts which Bulgaria has established with responsible leaders of Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey, and which, it is generally believed, have contributed to the subsequent improvement of the political climate in the Balkans. That is also the objective pursued by Bulgaria's active policy of peace in the expanded framework of Europe and other parts of the world, the favourable results of which have been shown in recent meetings and negotiations at various levels with statesmen of a number of countries.

A major impact on the process of improvement of international relations was produced by the cessation of the war in Viet-Nam. The People's Republic of

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Bulgaria welcomes the historic victory of the Viet-Nameese people which led to the signing of the Paris agreements. We believe that those agreements play an important role in the strengthening of peace and security both in Asia and throughout the world, and it is our opinion that its strict and consistent implementation is essential to the establishment of lasting peace in Indo-China.

The question of disarmament is an important problem which is inseparable from the problems of international security. The Bulgarian Government has always supported the position, expressed in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, that every individual agreement in that sphere is a necessary step towards the strengthening of security. In that connexion, emphasis should be placed on the recently concluded agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the prevention of nuclear war, for that is an essential step towards eliminating the threat of nuclear war and establishing a system of genuine guarantees for international security. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is also following with close attention, and values at their true worth, the coming Vienna negotiations on the reduction of armaments and armed forces in Central Europe, which will unquestionably have a beneficial effect on the relaxation of tension in Europe and in the world.

The Bulgarian Government continues to regard as an urgent task the convening of a disarmament world conference. The problems of disarmament involve the interests of all States and should be discussed in an expanded forum, in order that all countries may state their positions. Specific preparations for the conference should be undertaken, so that it may be convened as early as possible.

While welcoming the beneficial changes that have occurred in international relations, the People's Republic of Bulgaria cannot refrain from expressing its deep concern at the conflicts that exist today, the result of the policy of aggression pursued by certain States which are preventing the establishment of lasting peace in the world. The paramount problem in this sphere is the liquidation and elimination of the hotbed of war in the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolution 242 (1967). It would not be possible to arrive at an over-all political solution to the problem without the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and without the maintenance of respect for the independence and legitimate rights of the States and peoples of the region, including the rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Decisive measures must be taken for the elimination of the remnants of colonialism and for an effective struggle against racism, apartheid and neo-colonialism.

The Bulgarian Government believes that it is a matter of the utmost importance that the General Assembly's Declaration on the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons should become a law of international life. In that connexion, the Security Council must take a decision as soon as possible in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2936 (XXVII).

The People's Republic of Bulgaria considers it essential to take advantage of the favourable international climate in order to consolidate the results achieved,

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develop and make irreversible the process of détente and bring about a peaceful solution of the serious problems that pose a threat to international peace and security. The Bulgarian Government attaches great importance to the role of the United Nations in the realization of that objective. It is essential to make the Organization more effective, while strictly complying with its Charter and with the decisions it has taken, and to mobilize the efforts of all Member States, large and small, with a view to realizing and achieving its paramount objective of maintaining peace and strengthening international security.

In view of the favourable results achieved thus far, it is evident that the question of the measures to be taken for the strengthening of international security should remain on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria declares its readiness to take an active part in the preparation and implementation of any measures that will be adopted in the future in the international sphere with a view to the full implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/
/14 September 1973/

When the States Members of the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security at the twenty-fifth anniversary session of the United Nations General Assembly, they solemnly reaffirmed the universal validity of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and re-emphasized the fact that the strengthening of peace and international security is the basis of the Organization's activity. The Declaration was aimed at mobilizing the efforts of States for the achievement of that central task of the United Nations.

The Declaration drew special attention to the need for all States to contribute to the efforts to ensure peace and security for all nations and to establish, in accordance with the Charter, an effective system of universal collective security.

Since the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, thanks to the action-oriented and purposeful policy of the countries of the socialist community and the mobilization of all peace-loving forces, there have been significant advances in the international arena towards the further relaxation of international tension and the normalization of relations between States.

Implementing the Peace Programme adopted at the Twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union has devoted its efforts to strengthening the process of détente, to expanding and deepening peaceful co-operation between States and to reducing the threat of an outbreak of nuclear war.

In accordance with the Peace Programme, the Soviet Union, acting in concert with other fraternal socialist countries, has continued to promote actively the

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process of détente on the continent of Europe and to work for the practical realization of the idea of establishing collective security in Europe. Of great significance in that connexion is the successful completion of the first stage of work on the European Conference on Security and Co-operation and the beginning of work on the second stage. A document aimed at ensuring the success of the conference's work is the draft General Declaration on the Foundations of European Security and the Principles of Relations between States in Europe, submitted by the Soviet delegation, in the preparation of which the positions of most of the participating States were taken into account.

The development of the process of détente on the continent of Europe has undoubtedly been helped by the treaties and agreements on the normalization of relations between European States.

The cause of further improvement of the situation in Europe will be advanced by the agreement to begin in October 1973 to hold discussions on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

The Byelorussian SSR is firmly convinced that the establishment of a reliable system of security in Europe will do much to improve the international situation in general and will facilitate the strengthening of international security.

The improvement of the international situation has been profoundly affected by the summit talks which Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, conducted in the summer of 1973 with Federal Chancellor W. Brandt of the Federal Republic of Germany, President R. Nixon of the United States of America and President G. Pompidou of France and by the bilateral agreements concluded as a result of those talks.

Particularly important among the agreements is the agreement between the USSR and the United States of America on the prevention of nuclear war, which is an important step towards the reduction and eventual elimination of the threat of nuclear war and towards the establishment of a system of genuine guarantees of international security. The mutual obligation of the two States to refrain from the use or threat of force against each other, each other's allies or other countries and their agreement to act in such a way as to preclude the outbreak of nuclear war have, of course, become an important factor in the improvement of the international situation and are opening great possibilities for constructive co-operation between all States.

Thus, the recent past has again confirmed Lenin's principles of peaceful coexistence, which are being proclaimed more and more generally today as the basis for relations between States with different social structures and are being reaffirmed in the most important international documents of a political and legal character.

The cessation of the war in Viet-Nam is an important recent event which has produced a favourable effect on the situation not only in Asia but throughout the world.

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The development of events in the international sphere thus demonstrates that conditions today are more favourable for the peaceful solution of disputes, no matter how complicated, in the interest of all countries and peoples.

The existence of a dangerous hotbed of war in the Middle East is incompatible with the general trend towards an improvement of the international political climate. The Byelorussian SSR advocates the settlement of the Middle Eastern conflict on the basis of principles which safeguard the rights and interests of all peoples of the region, including the Palestinian people. It advocates the adoption of all measures necessary to make Israel withdraw its forces from all occupied Arab territories; that is the basis for a settlement in the Middle East.

The strengthening of peace, the removal of international tension and the elimination of distrust from relations between States would be greatly helped if the Security Council would take appropriate action as soon as possible for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 2936 (XXVII), in which the General Assembly declared, on behalf of the States Members of the Organization, their renunciation of the use or threat of force in all its forms and manifestations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons.

An important condition for the establishment of a stable system of international peace is the reduction and cessation of the arms race and the implementation of specific measures aimed at achieving general and complete disarmament. In that connexion, the Byelorussian SSR believes that action must be taken to implement General Assembly resolution 2930 (XXVII) on the World Disarmament Conference, with a view to proceeding at once to preparations for it. The efforts of certain Western Powers to delay artificially the solution of the problem of the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons are totally unjustifiable.

In accordance with the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, action must be taken to implement the United Nations decisions on decolonization and the elimination of racism and apartheid.

A necessary condition for the strengthening of peace and international security is the enhancement of the effectiveness and prestige of the United Nations. In order to accomplish this task, all States must unswervingly follow the purposes and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Strict observance of the United Nations Charter by all States Members of the Organization is an essential condition for enhancing its effectiveness in the interest of strengthening peace and security and in the interest of all peoples.

The Byelorussian SSR regards the agenda item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security" as an important political question. It believes that that item must be kept on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly until the provisions of the Declaration are fully implemented and until there are no more anti-détente forces which have an interest in the arms race, in a return to the cold war and in the suppression of peoples' fight for liberation.

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The Byelorussian SSR believes that at the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly there must be a broad and comprehensive discussion of the question of the strengthening of international security and plans must be made for taking new specific action to implement the most important provisions of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, which will facilitate the further relaxation of tension and the development and consolidation of positive processes in the world.

The Byelorussian SSR believes that a discussion of the question of the strengthening of international security and other vital agenda items at the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly must promote the strengthening and development of the successes achieved in the improvement of the international situation, the further reinforcement of the principle of peaceful coexistence as the basis for relations between States with different social systems. The world must see to it that the improvement achieved in the international situation will become not a temporary phenomenon but the beginning of a fundamental reshaping of international relations and that the changes for the better already made in the international situation should become irreversible.

CAMEROON

/Original: French/

/6 April 1973/

Firstly, Cameroon welcomes the climate of détente which is becoming increasingly prevalent in certain areas of international relations. The cease-fire in Viet-Nam on 27 January 1973 is certainly one of the finest manifestations of this détente, of which the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cameroon spoke from the rostrum of the United Nations on 25 September 1972 in his statement during the general debate at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly. 1/

However, Cameroon has always maintained that this détente should be general and should lead to true understanding and improved international co-operation. In other words, Cameroon supports not only the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security but also the provisions of resolution 2993 (XXVII). In particular, the United Republic of Cameroon fully shares the ideas contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of that resolution.

Finally, it should be pointed out that Cameroon is already applying and has always applied the policy of international peace and co-operation advocated in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. This can be demonstrated simply by referring to the positions which it has taken on major world problems, such as colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination, the economic situation in the developing countries, the Middle East, disarmament and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. Cameroon has always been

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings, 2039th meeting.

a fervent advocate of world peace, of an organized and a lasting peace which alone can enable mankind to develop in justice and harmony.

COLOMBIA

/Original: Spanish/

/20 August 1973/

The Foreign Minister of Colombia will deal with the item on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security in the statement he will make during the general debate at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly. 2/

2/ A/PV.2131 (p. 47 of the English text).

CUBA

/Original: Spanish/
/29 August 1973/

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba considers that the adoption of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security at the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly imposes on all States Members of the greatest world Organization and on all countries of the world the obligation of putting it into practice.

As the Secretary-General of the United Nations rightly stated in his report on this subject at that session:

"Maintenance of international peace and security is not only the primary goal of the United Nations but also the sine qua non for the very existence and progress of mankind. Modern society has no other alternative to annihilation than to strengthen the force of law against the law of force. The consolidation of peace and security calls for general and strict observance by all States Members or non-members of this Organization of the principles of non-use of force or the threat of force, non-interference in internal affairs, equal rights, mutual advantage, and the right of each nation independently to decide its own way of life and foreign policy."
/A/7922, para. 5/

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba has had to strengthen the force of its law against the law of force. Cuba has been subject to constant aggression on the part of the Government of the United States of America - aggression in every form, from economic blockade to direct physical aggression - from the moment it freely chose its own way of life.

On this subject Major Fidel Castro Ruz, Prime Minister of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba, has stated:

"Our people ... barely understands the concept of security; it is something which we have hardly ever known. Our people is protected by no military alliance.

"We have become accustomed to living without the faintest idea of what security is. Our people has no security other than that which it can provide for itself by being prepared to die in defence of its cause."

Nevertheless, the Revolutionary Government of Cuba pursues its foreign policy in conformity with the spirit of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

For the Government and people of Cuba the problem of Viet-Nam became the main centre of their concern and attention; Viet-Nam came to constitute the most flagrant, most unjustifiable violation of international security.

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The signing of the Peace Agreements in Paris is an undeniable manifestation of the failure of the aggressive plans of United States imperialism against the struggle of the Viet-Namense people, the exemplar for all such struggles. The Revolutionary Government of Cuba considers that, in order to strengthen peace and international security, it is essential that the Government of the United States of America should end the thousands of cease-fire violations and halt the ruthless bombing of the Cambodian people.

It is likewise essential that the proposals contained in the five points of the Patriotic Front of Laos and the programme of the United Nations Front of Kampuchea should be considered.

It is also necessary that the United States Government should halt its illegal intervention in the internal affairs of the people of Korea and withdraw its forces which, together with other foreign troops, are occupying South Korea under the flag of the United Nations.

The position of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba with regard to the basic problems of the world of today is based on its conviction that the solution of those problems will put into practice the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

On reviewing the development of the situation in the Middle East, it firmly supports the struggle of the Arab peoples and advocates the ending of Israeli aggression by the immediate withdrawal of Israel's forces from all the Arab territories occupied in June 1967 and by the recognition of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. In this connexion, it supports the just aspirations of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to build its destiny in the way it has chosen without external interference from the reactionary forces which are attempting to impede that process.

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba endorses those provisions of the Declaration which support the struggle of the peoples of Africa against colonialism and neo-colonialism; it supports the armed struggle of the peoples of Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde, Angola and Mozambique and the struggle of the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. It condemns the barbarous racist policy of apartheid and the aggression and provocation to which Portugal is subjecting the Republic of Guinea.

Cuba emphasizes that the safeguarding of European security is of special importance for the achievement of a lasting peace on that continent and supports the efforts of the socialist camp to ensure the success of the European Conference on Security; it considers that the creation of a system of security for guaranteeing peace and co-operation in Europe will have a beneficial effect on international détente. In this connexion, it attaches great importance to the signing of the treaties between the Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic and between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, to the four-Power agreement on West Berlin and to the agreements concluded between the two German States on the basis of international law.

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Cuba deems the admission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations to be a prerequisite for implementing the Declaration.

Cuba considers that, so long as the United States maintains its aggressive and interventionist policies against the peoples of Latin America, the principles of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security will continue to be violated. The Government of Cuba and the Cuban people endorse the opposition of the peoples of the Latin American continent to United States imperialism and to lackey governments; the Cuban Revolution represented the historic turning-point against an uninterrupted century-and-a-half process of expansion and of imposition on the peoples of Latin America.

Cuba offers its solidarity to the Government of Popular Unity in Chile, which is striving to construct a new society despite the pressures, schemings and hostile acts of imperialism, endorses the nationalist measures taken by the Government of Peru, which is declaring its resolve to carry out a sovereign and independent policy, identifies itself with the just and legitimate aspirations of the people of Panama, who are most forcefully claiming their right to sovereignty over the Canal Zone, and aligns itself completely with the people of Puerto Rico in their struggle to gain their national independence, to which they have an inalienable right recognized by the Special Committee on the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV).

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba has supported and will support the fundamental demands of the peoples of Latin America in the face of the pretensions of the United States, which violate the principles of self-determination of peoples and of non-intervention laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, constituting a threat to peace and security in the Americas. Cuba considers that all the peoples of Latin America have the inalienable and imprescriptible right to nationalize their natural resources for the benefit of those peoples themselves and to eliminate the structures and relationships of overlordship which are imposed on their development.

As the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba stated at the meeting of the Security Council in Panama:

"If peace and security are desired in Latin America, the rights to full independence, sovereignty and self-determination must be respected, and, therefore, the power and right of all States to carry out structural changes and select their roads to development without foreign interference, whether it be called economic blockade, trade embargo, coercive action in the international credit organizations, diplomatic pressure, direct or indirect reprisals, ideological frontiers, the Hickenlooper amendment or open or veiled aggression, of the kind that has occurred and is occurring in so many different modalities.

"The hour has already struck when all forms and manifestations of colonialism and neo-colonialism in Latin America must be wiped out, including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the seditious activities of

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transnational enterprises and the naval base of Guantánamo, an area which is part of our national territory and which was taken over against the express will of the people of Cuba and used after the triumph of the Revolution as a nest of counter-revolutionaries and spies." 3/

The fundamental concern for Cuba is not the Guantánamo base but the common problems of Latin America - this does not mean that we renounce our claim to the base - and Cuba's position on this point was made absolutely clear by the Prime Minister, Major Fidel Castro, in his statement of 1 May, when he declared that what was most important to Cuba was the entire complex of Latin American problems.

Cuba is also prepared to support any initiative for the establishment of a regional organization different from the present Organization of American States and composed exclusively of the countries of Latin America and the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, which would defend the interests of the Latin American peoples and fight for their unity and would not be at the service of the United States, which in the final analysis is the leading imperialist Power in the Americas promoting situations that affect international peace and security.

Cuba is on record as favouring general and complete disarmament under strict international control, and in this connexion it supports the convening of a World Disarmament Conference where all the nations of the world can participate in studying any matters connected with so vital a problem as disarmament. Cuba also identifies itself with the concern of the peoples of the Pacific, particularly Chile and Peru, for the suspension of nuclear tests in that area, and urges the attainment of a total and complete ban on chemical weapons.

The Revolutionary Government of Cuba has maintained a very well-known position of support for actions taken in the leading world organizations to promote any measure designed to ensure international peace and security. While the Cuban Revolution, in opting for the socialist way of life and development, ushered in a new era especially in the history of the Caribbean, despite all the attacks launched by United States imperialism with the aim of isolating our country from the rest of the world and in particular from the very hemisphere of which our territory forms a part, the Revolutionary Government of Cuba now has diplomatic relations not only with Mexico - the only Latin American country which continued to maintain relations with our country - but also with Chile, Peru, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Barbados and, most recently, Argentina, those countries having complied with paragraph 1 of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, which reads as follows:

"1. Solemnly reaffirms the universal and unconditional validity of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as the basis of relations among States irrespective of their size, geographical location, level of development or political, economic and social systems and declares that the breach of these principles cannot be justified in any circumstances whatsoever."

CYPRUS

/Original: English/

/14 April 1973/

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus ... has the honour to refer the Secretary-General to the note dated 6 April 1973 of the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations, 4/ in response to the Secretary-General's note of 29 January 1973.

The Secretary-General may additionally note that the Government of Cyprus is willing to contribute, as much as possible, towards the achievement of the suggested objectives and has not failed to do whatever was possible for the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

/Original: Russian/

/25 July 1973/

The safeguarding of international security and world peace was and is one of the main goals of the foreign policy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which, in keeping with the vital interests of the Czechoslovak people, jointly with the other socialist countries, other peace-loving States and the forces of peace, has actively participated and continues to participate in all measures to that end. Accordingly, the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic attaches particular importance to the United Nations and considers that the safeguarding of international security and world peace is the principal mission of the United Nations and the foundation on which its Charter rests.

In considering the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security from this standpoint, the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic wishes to stress that, under the impact of the efforts for peace by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the other socialist countries led by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and other peace-loving States, contemporary international relations are characterized by a continuing relaxation of international tension, improvement in the international climate and ever wider application of the principles of peaceful coexistence in relations between States with different social systems.

It is for this reason that we were particularly gratified at the ending of the war in Viet-Nam, which brought peace to the heroic Viet-Nameese people after so many years of suffering and war and opened the way for the peaceful construction

4/ A/9128.

and restoration of a country which had been barbarically destroyed by American imperialism. We also welcome the conclusion of the Agreement on the restoration of peace and national reconciliation in Laos. At the same time, we recognize the need for the peace-loving peoples of the world to give their full support to the Viet-Nameese people, which has been forced to struggle against imperialist aggression for more than a generation, to assist it vigorously in defending this fragile peace, to support it in its efforts to ensure the consistent implementation of the Paris agreements and to contribute to the creation of conditions conducive to the emergence of a just peace throughout the Indo-China region.

The long-standing efforts of the countries of the socialist commonwealth on behalf of peace have found expression in the widespread development of relations between the socialist countries and other States without distinction as to social systems and in the intensification of co-operation among them in the interests of peace. In this connexion, one must point first of all to the positive results of the visits made by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, L. I. Brezhnev, to the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States of America and France. We place great store by the signing of the Soviet-United States agreement on the prevention of nuclear war, which we consider to be not only an extremely important contribution to the strengthening of the general foundation of international security but also a concrete step of positive significance for the strengthening of the security of Czechoslovakia.

The Czechoslovak Government also places great store by the fact that on the European continent, which in the past has lived through the disasters of two world wars and which still contains the greatest concentration of means of destruction, the positive process of international détente is proceeding successfully. This is demonstrated by the opening of the Conference on European Security and Co-operation as well as by the successful conclusion of the preliminary consultations in Vienna on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe.

We consider that a further contribution to improving the international climate and strengthening of peace and security in Europe is the progress recently made in the development of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic's relations with her western neighbours, the Federal Republic of Germany and, in part, the Republic of Austria. In particular, the Treaty on Mutual Relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, initialled on 20 June 1973, represents a significant step in this direction. In it the two Contracting Parties express their firm determination to put an end once and for all to the unfortunate past in their relations, particularly with reference to the Second World War, which brought incalculable suffering to the peoples of Europe; in addition, they recognize that the Munich Agreement of 29 September 1938 was imposed on the Czechoslovak Republic by the Nazi régime under the threat of force. The Contracting Parties, on the basis of their mutual relations under the Treaty, consider the Munich Agreement to be null and void. We are convinced that the Treaty on Mutual Relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany will create the prerequisites for the development of good-neighbourly relations between the two States.

In addition, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has demonstrated its responsible approach to matters relating to the strengthening of international security by its ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction. Czechoslovakia has also, of course, taken an active part in the work of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva.

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The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic welcomed the creation of the special preparatory committee for a world disarmament conference and attaches great importance to that committee in the context of United Nations efforts to strengthen international security. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic fully supports the activities of the committee and feels that its work must produce concrete results on the basis of which a world disarmament conference can be held in the near future.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is of the opinion that, despite the promising developments in many fields, the peace-loving peoples of the world must not slacken their efforts to strengthen international security since the forces of aggression, imperialism and colonialism are creating a dangerous situation in a number of areas and threatening the security of peoples and world peace.

This is particularly true in the Near and Middle East, where the situation arising out of Israeli aggression against the Arab States continues to exist. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic considers it a matter of extreme concern that Israel still refuses to implement the United Nations resolutions aimed at creating the necessary conditions for the establishment of a just peace and for guaranteeing the security of the peoples of the area. Czechoslovakia condemns this aggressive policy of Israel and its imperialist allies and fully supports the just Arab demands for the immediate liberation of the occupied Arab territories; at the same time, it expresses its conviction that the joint efforts of all progressive and peace-loving forces will succeed in curbing Israeli aggressiveness and in restoring the legitimate rights of the Arabs, including those of the Palestinian Arabs, in ending Israel's illegal occupation of Arab territories and in safeguarding the security, peace, freedom and rights of the peoples of the area on the basis of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly.

Another, no less dangerous focal point of tension threatening international security and peace is the situation in southern Africa, where, in violation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)) and of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, the legacy of colonialism and racism persists in its vilest form, apartheid. The General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations bodies and international organizations have repeatedly condemned the actions of the South African racists, their criminal policy of apartheid and their illegal occupation of Namibia as well as the colonial war and acts of aggression by Portugal and the Southern Rhodesian racists against the national liberation movement of the African people and their acts of aggression against neighbouring independent African countries. Yet, the colonialist and racist régimes and certain NATO States, which are giving them aid, continue to ignore the United Nations decisions. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic condemns these actions by the colonialists and their Western allies and considers that the United Nations should give even more vigorous support to the national liberation movement, which is the only genuine representative of the African people in their struggle for independence, and should take decisive measures against the colonialists and racists régimes and their allies.

The Czechoslovak Government also considers it necessary, in the interests of strengthening international security, to bring about a settlement of the situation

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in Korea and fully supports the policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which is aimed at reuniting the country by peaceful means without any foreign interference. We consider that the continuing occupation of South Korea by United States troops under the United Nations flag is a serious obstacle to a settlement of the situation in this part of the world. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic therefore insists that the United States troops should leave South Korea at an accelerated rate and that the so-called United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea should be dissolved.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic welcomed the decision by the Security Council to recommend the admission of both German States to the United Nations and expresses its conviction that their admission will contribute to the strengthening of international security.

The Czechoslovak Government also considers it of particular importance in the context of the efforts to strengthen international security that General Assembly resolution 2936 (XXVII) on the non-use of force in international relations and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons should be implemented. The Czechoslovak Government strongly urges that the Security Council should proceed without delay to devise effective measures for ensuring the implementation of this important resolution.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic expresses its firm resolve to assist in ensuring that the discussion at the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly on matters relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security constitutes an encouraging and valuable contribution to the further positive development of world affairs. It also expresses the hope that this will help to bring nearer and to ensure lasting peace throughout the world.

At the same time, the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic declares that it will support all decisions of the United Nations General Assembly, Security Council and Secretary-General designed to bring about the full implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

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DENMARK

/Original: English/
/15 August 1973/

The Danish Government wishes once more to reaffirm its views on the strengthening of international security as set out in the note from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations of 22 May 1970 reproduced in document A/7922/Add.1.

As for further steps taken in pursuance of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, Denmark on 1 March 1973 ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

FINLAND*

/Original: English/
/11 September 1973/

The Finnish Government has on many previous occasions expressed its views on the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and also on the implementation of the various recommendations of the Declaration and wishes once more to stress the importance it gives to the implementation of those recommendations. The Declaration should be seen as an expression of the will of Member States to work together for a peaceful world order and to make the United Nations a more effective instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Before considering the specific aspects of the Declaration the Finnish Government wishes to emphasize the importance it attaches to the fact that the same spirit of consensus which prevailed during the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly when the Declaration was adopted would continue in the future deliberation of this matter.

Finland sees the efforts by the major Powers to contribute to a lessening of tension as complementary to the functions of the United Nations as an instrument for the peaceful settlement of international disputes. In a genuine détente the

* Besides the text reproduced above, the reply from Finland contained comments on General Assembly resolutions 2925 (XXVII) and 2991 (XXVII), which are reproduced in the respective reports by the Secretary-General, document A/9128 on item 25 (Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States) and document A/9143 on item 11 (Report of the Security Council).

principles of the Charter should be the natural guidance for Member States when dealing with each other, thereby strengthening the authority and effectiveness of the Organization. The policy of détente carried out in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter has already manifested itself in the relations between Member States on a regional level. Finland as a neutral European country has focused its efforts on the cause of European reconciliation.

The first stage of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe took place in Helsinki last July. The work carried out at this meeting by 35 participating foreign ministers was both constructive and real. Views and valuable proposals were put forth on various problems on co-operation and security in Europe that will be taken up at the second stage of the Conference. In the view of the Finnish Government the atmosphere at the Helsinki meeting reflected the positive evolution that has taken place in Europe during the last few years. The Finnish Government is convinced that this development will bring lasting results not only to Europe but to the entire world.

The Government of Finland has repeatedly stressed the close relationship between political détente and concrete measures for arms control and disarmament. It has therefore welcomed the recent agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States to conclude an early agreement on further limitations of strategic weapons including qualitative restrictions. At the same time it is to be regretted that the presently prevailing international situation has, so far, neither led to the finalization of an effective treaty prohibiting chemical weapons nor contributed to the achievement of a comprehensive test ban treaty. The Finnish Government attaches importance to the two aforementioned treaties and expresses the hope that the States Members of the United Nations and particularly States primarily concerned would spare no effort to finalize the treaties in question in the months to come.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

/Original: English/
/10 September 1973/

In its resolution 2993 (XXVII) the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly reaffirmed the great importance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations for the development of trustful, good-neighbourly relations between States and for the promotion of peaceful international co-operation.

Since the adoption of resolution 2993 (XXVII) on 15 December 1972, further positive changes have taken place in the political life of the peoples. They confirm that the conscientious observance and application of the principles of peaceful coexistence embodied in the United Nations Charter guarantee the security of the peoples and peace among States.

Thanks to the initiatives of the USSR and the other States of the socialist community and thanks to the increased readiness of Western Governments to take account of international realities, the international situation has considerably changed, especially since contacts and talks were initiated for a European

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security conference. The German Democratic Republic which, in its foreign policy, attaches primary importance to the strengthening of international security, has actively contributed, by appropriate proposals, initiatives and by a large measure of goodwill, to the development of real prerequisites for security and durable peace on the European continent. The treaties concluded by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Polish People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic with the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin have had a decisive effect. They reaffirm in binding terms of international law the inviolability of the frontiers and the territorial integrity of the States in Europe, and reflect the will to develop relations between States of different social orders on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

Striking proof of the positive changes in Europe and in international life in general is the establishment of diplomatic relations between the German Democratic Republic and a great number of States on all continents. In the joint communiqués on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the German Democratic Republic and other States it was agreed to develop relations on the basis of equal rights, of mutual respect and benefit. It is the firm will of the German Democratic Republic to place the newly established governmental relations at the service of the strengthening of peace and to develop trustful co-operation for mutual benefit and for the good of all peoples.

Acting in the same spirit, the German Democratic Republic has taken the initiative to normalize relations also with the Federal Republic of Germany on the basis of international law.

In the Treaty on the Bases of Relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany which was signed in Berlin, capital of the German Democratic Republic, on 21 December 1972 and came into force on 21 June 1973, both States commit themselves to abide by the purposes and principles fixed in the Charter of the United Nations.

The fact that reference is made to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter leaves no doubt about the international legal character of the relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany and that peaceful coexistence has been accepted as legally binding for the shaping of the relations between the two States.

The German Democratic Republic fulfils the treaty in letter and spirit.

The German Democratic Republic holds that the United Nations has an important role to play in maintaining and strengthening peace. It has applied for admission to the United Nations in order to work actively, as a member of this important international organization, for the maintenance of peace, the elimination of existing sources of conflict, for disarmament measures and the final liquidation of all forms of colonialism and racial discrimination.

The convocation of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation,

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whose first stage was successfully concluded in Helsinki, is a great success of the effort of all European peoples to serve the strengthening of peace and the development of peaceful co-operation in Europe.

The German Democratic Republic has devoted great attention to the preparation and holding of the pan-European security conference. It has done comprehensive and constructive work in creating the necessary prerequisites for the convening of this important conference as well as for its substantive objective. Together with the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic submitted at the first stage of the conference a draft Declaration on the development of co-operation in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology and environmental protection. The German Democratic Republic is determined to continue to participate in working out constructive arrangements so that the European States' conference can cope with its task and fulfil the hopes the peoples have set on it.

Convinced that the development of relations of peaceful coexistence between States of different social orders is conditional on a firm basis of international law, the German Democratic Republic will work for an agreement on the principles guiding the relations between the European States. It considers that such an agreement on the foundations of European security will also be a good prerequisite for the development of stable and mutually beneficial relations in the fields of economy, science and technology as well as culture and environmental protection.

The German Democratic Republic has played an active part in the efforts to have negotiations on the reduction of forces and armaments started in Vienna on 30 October 1973. It underlines its determination to contribute by all possible means to the regulation of these complicated matters.

With the conclusion of the Paris Agreement of 27 January 1973 on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam, the basic rights of the Viet-Nameese people to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity have been reaffirmed and a hotbed of war has been removed which had deeply alarmed the whole world over several decades. The German Democratic Republic, which gave all-round assistance to the peoples of Indo-China in all phases of their struggle, feels that strict observance of the relevant agreements must be guaranteed to establish a lasting peace. The German Democratic Republic actively supports the people of Viet-Nam in rebuilding their devastated country.

The German Democratic Republic stands for a political settlement of the Middle East conflict on the basis of Security Council resolution 242 (1967). This includes the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories and respect for the legitimate rights and interests of all States and peoples of this region.

The German Democratic Republic welcomes the agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and the United States of America as an important event in current international affairs, the importance of which extends beyond the bilateral framework. Of special significance is the Agreement on the Prevention of Nuclear War which will inhibit the outbreak of an atomic war.

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The German Democratic Republic supports the appeal of the United Nations to all States to make serious efforts to fulfil the demand for measures to contain, restrict and completely end the arms race, which is contained in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and reaffirmed in resolution 2993 (XXVII). The German Democratic Republic promotes all steps taken in this field. Ratifying on 16 October 1972 the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, the German Democratic Republic contributed to the entry into force of this important convention. It also supports the holding of a world disarmament conference which would concert the efforts of all States for arms limitation and disarmament. The German Democratic Republic wishes to reaffirm on this occasion that it is prepared to participate actively in preparations for and the work of such a conference.

In accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the generally accepted norms of international law the German Democratic Republic takes an active stand for the final liquidation of all forms of colonialism and racism. It resolutely condemns the crimes committed by Portuguese colonial mercenaries in Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Angola by which Portugal demonstrates the entire inhumanity of imperialist policy of force and suppression. The German Democratic Republic feels closely linked with the just struggle of the peoples struggling for their freedom and national self-determination. It granted and grants support and assistance for the liberation movements of these countries, and it unreservedly furthers all efforts of the United Nations against anti-human practices of colonialism and racism.

The demands contained in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security are still of acute relevance. The United Nations should take advantage of the more favourable international conditions to actively promote the efforts for détente in accordance with the principles of the Charter and the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. Of paramount importance in this connexion are measures to eliminate acute causes of war and tension and to create conditions precluding new armed conflicts between States.

The German Democratic Republic expects concrete measures for the realization of the proposal submitted by the Soviet Union to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session on the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. The implementation of this Soviet proposal would be highly conducive to strengthening international security and preventing new aggressions.

The German Democratic Republic will continue to make constructive contributions to the maintenance of peace, the strengthening of international security and the development of peaceful co-operation among States.

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GUATEMALA

/Original: Spanish/
/27 July 1973/

The Government of Guatemala has taken the following measures:

1. It has proposed that talks be held with a view to securing withdrawal of British troops from the Guatemalan territory of Belize, for Guatemala considers that the presence of British colonialism in the American continent is a serious threat to the peace and security of the American States.

2. The Government of Guatemala, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has interceded constructively in order to restore good relations between the sister countries of El Salvador and Honduras.

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HUNGARY

/Original: English/

/14 September 1973/

The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic, like many other Governments, is of the opinion that the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security adopted at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly has also been instrumental in the relative lessening of international tension. The current international situation is favourable to increasing the activities of the United Nations in the enforcement of the provisions of the United Nations Charter.

1. An essential element of the new favourable changes manifests itself in a number of effective measures taken to improve the mutual relations of two permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, the Soviet Union and the United States of America. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic holds the view that the rapprochement between the two greatest thermonuclear Powers on the matters of the international arms race is encouraging with regard to the possibility of averting the danger of thermonuclear war and serves the interests of all countries in the world.

The results produced so far by the bilateral negotiations on the limitation of strategic offensive arms promise further successes. The agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on the prevention of nuclear war is another auspicious sign in the process of the strengthening of international security.

It is a foreign policy aim of the Hungarian People's Republic to turn the favourable results of the Soviet-United States talks into common property of international life.

2. The Hungarian Government is seeking in many respects to promote the success of both the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the negotiations on the reduction of armed forces in Europe.

3. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic as a member of the International Commission of Control and Supervision in Viet-Nam acts in the spirit of the principles and recommendations of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and in order that the cease-fire **might** become a lasting peace.

4. In central Europe the Hungarian People's Republic is striving to improve international contacts by means of co-operation between neighbouring countries. Never in the course of its history has Hungary been on so good terms with the neighbouring States as it is now. This favourable state of affairs is a result of purposeful foreign policy efforts, not merely of the given geographical-political conditions. The state of its relations with the neighbouring countries is demonstrated by the many developing joint actions of the nations living in central Europe along the Danube and in the Carpathian Basin. Last year Hungary was visited by more than 6 million tourists, primarily from the neighbouring countries.

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Neighbouring and other countries were visited by 1.4 million people from Hungary with a population of 10 million.

5. The Hungarian People's Republic endeavours to put into practice the principle of peaceful coexistence and also in its more distant bilateral relations. Thus, for example, the absence of diplomatic relations has not prevented Hungary and the Federal Republic of Germany from developing fruitful co-operation between them in many areas, first of all in the commercial and economic fields.

The visit to Budapest by the Prime Minister of France in July 1973 was particularly significant not only from the point of view of bilateral contacts and understanding but from that of the development of East-West relations. The further development of bilateral relations with the United States has been made possible by the conclusion of a property rights agreement.

6. The Hungarian Government takes part in every action aimed at the settlement of the Middle East crisis. We have been pleased to receive the news of the United Nations Secretary-General's trip to the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolution 242 (1967). We hope that this initiative will also help to find the way to a solution.

7. As the preparation of a formulation of a system of security and co-operation in Europe has improved international relations, the Hungarian Government is convinced that it would be necessary to prepare regional schemes of security also on other continents, in Asia, the Pacific Ocean, Africa and Latin America. Members of the Hungarian Government engage in activities to this effect on the aforementioned continents.

8. The Hungarian People's Republic as a member of the Geneva Conference of the Committee on Disarmament is also interested in the efforts aimed at the prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons as well as at the extension of the partial atomic test ban treaty to underground test explosions.

Progress in the field of disarmament would be essentially promoted by the implementation of the resolution on the convening of a world disarmament conference, adopted at the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly. The convening of a world disarmament conference would be an important step towards the improvement of the international atmosphere.

9. In the opinion of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic the discussion of the questions of international security during the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly will help to consolidate the results attained in the normalization of the international situation; it will make possible a comparison of the principles of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security with the actual situation and the measures taken to implement them, and may call the attention of Member States to further steps which have become necessary. It would represent considerable progress if renunciation of the use of force and the prohibition for ever of the use of nuclear weapons were made a really universally recognized law of international life.

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The practical results achieved in international détente have increased the possibilities and the importance of the United Nations. The Hungarian People's Republic, whose foreign policies are based on the same principles as are given expression in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, will do its utmost to ensure that the world Organization in the new situation may serve as effectively as possible the strengthening of international security.

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IRAN

/Original; English/
/24 July 1973/

The Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security embodies concepts and principles which form the basis of Iran's foreign policy. The principles Iran upholds internationally have enabled it to expand its friendship and co-operation with countries of diverse social and economic structure and political orientation.

The following is an account of concrete steps taken in keeping with the principles embodied in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

I. Iran's bilateral co-operation with other countries

1. During the last two years, some 55 treaties in cultural, economic and technical fields have been concluded. These include treaties regulating the frontiers of Iran with some of its neighbours. In addition, during the same period, Iran has signed or ratified some 10 multilateral international instruments.
2. The diplomatic relations of Iran during this period have moved towards acquiring a genuine universal character. Iran has granted recognition and established relations with the People's Republic of China, with the German Democratic Republic and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In addition to that Iran has established diplomatic relations with a number of countries in East Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia.
3. Iran's policy of friendship and good neighbourliness with Afghanistan was culminated in an agreement this year which ended amicably a 150-year-old dispute over the utilization of the water resources of the boundary River Hirmand. This development has opened up new vistas for expanded collaboration with Afghanistan. Co-operation between Iran and the Soviet Union in the technical and economic fields has been expanded. Among several agreements concluded with the latter country in the last three years is an additional protocol to a boundary agreement which provides for demarcation of the frontiers in the lakes behind the Aras Dam Reservoir.* Iran continues to maintain an exemplary relationship with its neighbours, Pakistan and Turkey. Collaboration with these countries keeps on growing both bilaterally and within the framework of the Regional Co-operation for Development. The latter organization has, on numerous occasions, declared its interest to have other countries of the region join in its endeavours, which are aimed at raising the standard of living in the region.

* Protocol Annexed to Agreement concerning Settlement of Frontier and Financial Problems between Iran and USSR regarding determination and demarcation of new frontier between Iran and the USSR on the lakes behind Aras Dam Reservoir and the Diversion Dam of Mil and Moghan, Moscow, 7 May 1970.

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4. The co-operation of Iran with other countries has been further enhanced through state visits paid by the leaders of a number of friendly countries to Iran. These include visits by the President of the United States, the President of Pakistan, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and more recently by the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China.

Likewise, His Imperial Majesty, the Shahanshah Aryamehr, has paid state visits to the USSR, Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria and most recently to the United States. In October 1972, Her Imperial Majesty, the Shahbanou, paid a state visit to the People's Republic of China.

In the course of a visit to Romania which took place from 2 to 5 June 1973, a joint declaration on the strengthening of international security was agreed upon by the leaders of the two countries. The text of this Declaration has been published as an official document of the United Nations under item 38 of the provisional agenda of the twenty-eighth session on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (A/9078).

II. Co-operation at the multilateral level

5. Commitment to peace has prompted Iran to support any initiative which might lead to a solution of the Middle East dispute. Iran continues to believe that Security Council resolution 242 (1967) of 22 November provides a sound framework for peace in this region, in particular, the withdrawal of Israel from territories occupied after 5 June 1967 and preservation of the political independence and territorial integrity of all States of the regions and a just solution for the problem of Palestinian refugees are deemed to be essential conditions for the attainment of a just and lasting peace. Iran has sponsored the General Assembly resolutions of the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions on the question of the Middle East, which seek to commit Israel to withdraw from Arab territories. Prompted by the spirit of regional solidarity, Iran has actively supported the idea of declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. In addition, in the last couple of years Iran has repeatedly declared its readiness to work with other countries of the region, in order to render the Middle East a denuclearized zone.

6. In the view of the Iranian Government, the strengthening of international security is linked to the reduction of armaments and to the realization of general and complete disarmament. Proceeding from this premise, Iran has signed and ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof as well as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction. Moreover, Iran has taken part actively in the deliberations of the United Nations regarding the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty and a treaty banning the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons. Iran has likewise supported proposals for the establishment of the denuclearized zones in various parts of the world.

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7. Iran has long held the opinion that colonialism and policies of racial discrimination are not compatible with a system of collective security. The vestiges of colonialism and the continuation of the policy of apartheid and other racially oriented policies constitute serious threats to international peace and security. In its turn, Iran has spared no effort to support international actions aimed at bringing colonialism to an end.

8. Finally, we regard peace as being inexorably linked to economic and social development. The structure of peace should be based primarily on sound, equitable and mutually beneficial terms of trade between the developed and the developing countries. It should equally be based on a rational international distribution of labour. So far as the gap between the developed and the developing countries continues to widen, peace will remain a fragile and unstable condition in international life. In recent years, Iran has taken significant strides to raise the standard of living of its people. Parallel to that and along with others, Iran has striven, to establish at the international level an equitable régime governing international trade.

9. Proceeding from the above conviction Iran has welcomed and is giving sympathetic consideration to the proposal, recently launched, on collective economic security.

10. Iran's co-operation with international organizations concerned with development has been considerably increased and in some cases Iran was able to almost double its financial contributions to such institutions.

11. Bilateral and multilateral economic co-operation of Iran with an ever-increasing number of States has developed through launching of joint ventures, in particular, in the field of exploitation of hydro-carbon resources and construction of joint oil refineries and petro-chemical complexes.

12. Finally, the Government of Iran is hopeful that through realization of the targets of its fifth five-year development programme it can increase the volume of its economic and technical assistance to the countries of the third world, and through more active participation in international economic activities make a greater contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security.

KUWAIT

/Original: English/
/14 June 1973/

Kuwait expressed its unqualified and firm support for the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security when it was first adopted. The Declaration is a major international document which confirms and elaborates principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and legal norms which should regulate the conduct of States. The Declaration gives expression to the craving of the peoples

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of the world for an international order free from big-Power ascendancy and power politics.

There is still a widening gap between theory and practice. Many pay tribute to the Declaration in theory but pursue politics that are clearly at variance with the provisions and aims of the Declaration.

The Declaration reaffirms the principle in the Charter that States shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and that the territory of a State shall not be the object of military occupation resulting from the use of force in contravention of the provisions of the Charter, and that the territory of a State shall not be the object of acquisition by another State resulting from the threat or use of force, and that no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized.

Nowhere have these solemn provisions been more flagrantly violated than in the Middle East.

Israel has not only deprived the people of Palestine of their homes and homeland and usurped their fundamental human and inalienable national rights. It also occupied a large part of the territories of three Arab States Members of the United Nations.

Kuwait believes that the territorial integrity and independence of States are not a matter of bargaining or compromise. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait made this very clear in his statement before the General Assembly when he said: "The only solution to displacement is repatriation, that is to say, the return of the displaced to their homes, their resumption of normal life in dignity in their homeland and the exercise of their natural right to self-determination on their soil." 5/

Peace and security are the main goal of the Charter. It is precisely in the sphere of collective security that the United Nations has proved to be least effective. The whole fabric of international security was based on the need for the permanent members of the Security Council to act in unison. The Security Council, however, has been constantly frustrated by the differences among the permanent members. The key question is how the big Powers can be induced to change their present policies.

Kuwait condemns racial discrimination in all its forms which is contrary to the constitution of the State of Kuwait and is alien to the culture and way of life of the Arab people. The National Assembly of Kuwait proclaimed its support for all peoples who struggle against apartheid and racial discrimination wherever they may be and condemned practices of apartheid and racial discrimination in any part of the world and especially in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Angola and Mozambique.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Plenary Meetings, 1849th meeting, para. 21.

Kuwait has consistently advocated applying coercive measures under Chapter VII of the Charter to compel South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Portugal and Israel to relinquish their policies of colonialism and apartheid and to comply with United Nations resolutions which uphold the rights of peoples to self-determination and to live in dignity in their homeland free from aggression, oppression and racial discrimination.

Kuwait believes in the cause of general and complete disarmament. It sincerely hopes that the quantitative limitations imposed by the SALT Agreements will be followed by a freeze on the qualitative development of nuclear arms.

Kuwait supported the proposal to hold a World Disarmament Conference which would serve as a truly representative universal forum in which the views of all countries, big and small, will equally be heard.

Kuwait favours the creation of zones of peace in various parts of the world. Being one of the countries of the Indian Ocean, Kuwait was associated from the very beginning with the efforts being made to create a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. It is the fervent hope of the Government of Kuwait that amity and peace will prevail in the Indian Ocean and that its peoples will have the opportunity to develop their lives in full liberty free from foreign interference and coercion.

The International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade sets forth targets for economic and social progress and expresses the commitment of Member States to carry out measures so that the goals can be attained. The Strategy was envisioned as a concrete programme of action based on concerted measures by developed and developing countries in a joint effort to eliminate once and for all economic and social backwardness and poverty. The Strategy has not so far been adequately implemented because the developed countries have not been prepared to accept the degree of international solidarity which would make possible progress towards bridging the gap that separates them from the developing countries. This is a serious problem because peace and prosperity are so closely linked that it is not possible to neglect one without jeopardizing the other.

The Government of Kuwait would like to reaffirm its faith in the United Nations as the Organization which is intended to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to maintain the worth and dignity of the human person, and to create conditions under which justice, peace and prosperity can be maintained, and to promote social and economic progress and better conditions of life in larger freedom.

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MALTA

/Original: English/
/18 June 1973/

1. These brief remarks are intended to focus on operative paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 2993 (XXVII), which in turn reflects the importance attached to regional efforts at co-operation between States by paragraph 25 of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV)).

2. As one of the co-sponsors of resolution 2993 (XXVII), Malta believes strongly in the importance of regional and subregional co-operation between States as a means towards strengthening international security. In his statement before the First Committee of the General Assembly on 8 December 1972, 6/ the Chairman of the Maltese Delegation defended the importance of constantly upholding the ideals enshrined in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. During that debate many speakers expressed the same view, and also deplored situations of conflict existing in certain regions of the world, notably in Viet-Nam and the Middle East. Since that time there has happily been a great change for the better with regard to Viet-Nam following the conclusion of the Viet-Nam Peace Agreement. Malta welcomes the encouraging signs of international co-operation in Indo-China as an indication of the growing movement towards détente. An increasingly favourable climate raises the hope that, with goodwill on all sides, an equitable and lasting solution may also be found to the Middle East dispute.

3. The promotion of regional and subregional co-operation as a means towards the strengthening of international security is now widely recognized. Malta has not hesitated in playing its part to promote such co-operation in the conviction that collective regional efforts will create the right atmosphere for collective international understanding. The meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Italy, the Libyan Arab Republic, Malta and Tunisia last November signalled the start of efforts aimed at co-operation in the central Mediterranean. The first of a series of periodical meetings of the four countries at ambassadorial level was held in December 1972. The second meeting was held in Malta in March 1973, and the next meeting is scheduled to take place in July 1973.

4. The Georgetown Declaration by Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries stressed that increased co-operation amongst European States cannot be divorced from the situation in the Mediterranean. The stand taken by Malta at the preparatory talks in Helsinki for the European Conference on Security and Co-operation needs no stressing. Malta has repeatedly emphasized its conviction that the Mediterranean is an urgent problem and should be included in the agenda of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation. Several European nations have supported this idea and Malta feels that inclusion of the item will help to

6/ See A/C.1/SR.1916.

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bring about a healthier climate in the area. The spirit of regional co-operation should be made to extend beyond the confines of any one particular region and, on the understanding that international security can be further strengthened on this basis, Malta reiterates its support for a conference on security and co-operation in Europe including the Mediterranean, which we consider as an integral dimension of Europe.

5. Malta's contribution has not been limited to these spheres. For the past three years Malta has been the venue of four Pacem In Maribus Convocations where problems relating to the oceans have been discussed between scholars from countries all over the world in a friendly and peaceful atmosphere. Last July Malta hosted the first-ever meeting of Mediterranean States members of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction. These efforts by Malta in the field of international co-operation have undoubtedly contributed to a better understanding between States.

6. The spirit of co-operation generated by goodwill on the part of nations both at the regional and international levels, the acceptance by all States to abide by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations are the best guarantees towards the full implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

MONGOLIA

/Original: Russian/
/20 August 1973/

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic attaches the greatest importance to the consistent implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. This is fully in keeping with the interests of a further relaxation of international tension and the strengthening of mutual trust and friendly co-operation between States on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

In the current trend away from confrontation and towards co-operation, it is of particular significance that in Europe a whole system of treaties has been established and brought into operation on the basis of recognition of the security interests of the parties involved and the principles of the inviolability of State frontiers and renunciation of the use or threat of force.

The results of the negotiations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States of America and France have proved fruitful and exceptionally important in terms of a further strengthening and expansion of international co-operation and have thus made a new and important contribution to the consolidation of world peace and international security on the basis of the increasingly accepted principles of peaceful coexistence between States with

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opposing social systems. The series of agreements signed during the visit to the United States by L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, particularly the permanent agreement on the prevention of nuclear war, are of fundamental importance to the consistent implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and to success in solving the basic problems of general disarmament.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic welcomes the successful completion of the first stage of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation, in which the United States and Canada also participated. It is to be hoped that the subsequent stages of the Conference will also be successful and will ultimately strengthen the basic principles of peaceful coexistence and co-operation on the basis of recognition of the stability of existing, legally recognized frontiers, taking into account the security interests of all European States without exception.

The Mongolian People's Republic considers that prospects for strengthening peace and security are opening up on the continent of Asia as well. Most important and significant in this regard is the fact that the long, stubborn struggle of the Viet-Nameese people for their freedom and independence against imperialist aggression has ended in complete victory for heroic Viet-Nam.

The signing of the Agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet-Nam and the Agreement on restoring peace and achieving national concord in Laos provides a basis for ensuring stable peace and security in Indo-China and in Asia as a whole.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic feels that the basic prerequisite for consolidating peace in Viet-Nam is the strict and unswerving implementation of the Agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet-Nam and that the problems of Indo-China must be resolved in keeping with the will and aspirations of the peoples of that region without outside interference.

The ongoing dialogue between the two parts of Korea is not producing the anticipated results and is being impeded by opposition from the authorities in South Korea and by the foreign military presence under the United Nations flag.

The position of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic regarding a settlement of the Korean question continues to be based on the principle that the Korean people themselves must decide their future without outside interference. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic therefore regards the proposal made by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 23 June 1973 as an important new initiative which is in the interests of a peaceful and independent unification of Korea.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic feels it is essential to make further efforts to achieve an equitable political settlement of the Middle East crisis on the basis of implementation of the Security Council resolution of 22 November 1967. Israeli troops must be withdrawn from all occupied Arab territories.

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The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic fully supports the idea of creating a collective security system in Asia and is directing its efforts towards making the Asian continent an area of lasting peace and stability, mutual understanding and co-operation.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic always proceeds on the assumption that concrete success in all disarmament negotiations is an important prerequisite for the attainment of the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. The negotiations between the USSR and the United States on limiting strategic armaments are helpful in this regard. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic is convinced that the adoption of further measures for limiting and gradually moving towards qualitative restrictions on the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, would create favourable conditions for attaining this objective.

The Mongolian People's Republic, as an active member of the Committee on Disarmament, believes that increasing efforts should be made to achieve early agreement on the prohibition of all nuclear weapon tests by all States and the effective prohibition of chemical weapons.

The final elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations is one of the crucial problems of the present day requiring urgent solution; it is also important in connexion with the strengthening of international security. United Nations decisions relating to the elimination of the remaining colonial régimes should be fully implemented.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic hopes that the United Nations, which is called upon to play an important part in the strengthening of world peace and international security, will provide suitable assistance in efforts to ensure the security of peoples in the spirit of the historic Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

NETHERLANDS

/Original: English/

/20 August 1973/

The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands wishes to point out that it has already made known its views on the subject in the notes of the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, respectively numbered and dated 1608 of 30 April 1970, 2598 of 30 July 1971 and 2460 of 3 August 1972. These views have been amply elaborated in the contributions of the delegation of the Netherlands to the debates which were held on this subject in the twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions of the General Assembly. The views of the Netherlands Government have not altered since then.

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NORWAY

/Original: English/
/3 August 1973/

/See the report of the Secretary-General on agenda item 25 entitled "Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States" (A/9128)./

OMAN

/Original: English/
/8 August 1973/

The Government of the Sultanate of Oman, recalling General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV) adopted on 16 December 1970 entitled "Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", taking into account world events since the adoption of the said resolution and the lack of its implementation, maintains that international security can be strengthened only when Governments committed to different policies and ideologies realize and accept the need to cease all interference in the internal affairs of other sovereign States in a manner that can only result in conflict and resentment, and when Governments engaged in policies of suppressing indigenous peoples of occupied territories yield to the wishes and rights of these indigenous peoples to freedom and self-determination.

Such interferences and suppressions, as practised by certain Governments involving not only the supply of arms and military training to insurgents, but also often deploying regular armed forces against other States, are continuously raising tension and insecurity throughout the world. This often results in economic stagnation and squandering of limited national resources in many parts of the world.

The Sultanate of Oman, which is deeply committed to a policy of peaceful coexistence with its neighbours, has been subjected to such types of interference in its internal affairs to the extent that it finds itself obliged to divert national resources to the strengthening of its defence forces rather than committing all such resources to economic and social development. This constitutes a clear violation by certain other Governments of paragraph 5 of the said Declaration.

It is apparent that national crises often acquire international significance. Internal crises often provide loop-holes for interested nations to interfere, and small powerless countries thereby become battlefields between powerful, rival nations.

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It is the opinion of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman that as long as these rivalries continue to exist in their present form, international security as envisioned in said Declaration and numerous resolutions will remain unimplemented as long as the United Nations remains without executive powers to enforce them.

PHILIPPINES

/Original: English/

/1 August 1973/

The Philippine Government finds little objection to the guidelines of international conduct enumerated in United Nations General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970 for the strengthening of international security.

The following general comments and suggestions as means of implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security are offered:

1. An appeal should be made to the moral conscience of countries concerned for them to strictly observe the United Nations Charter by not tolerating or encouraging the transit of deadly weapons of warfare through their respective territories, and to stop the financing, selling, lending or providing free of charge or by other means of arms and other destructive weapons to countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America which are not at peace with others, or to local dissidents intent on overthrowing their Governments or to countries practising apartheid. The world and the United Nations very well know which countries are engaged in overtly or covertly supplying arms to belligerents or dissidents or racists, because of ethnic, political or ideological considerations or just plain profit-making, even if said countries publicly declare that it is other countries which engage in such activities and not they. Publicizing these activities in the United Nations might act as restraints on those involved.

2. United Nations Member countries should be urged not to yield to political and other types of political blackmail by refusing exit or asylum to international terrorists and skyjackers in their respective countries.

3. All United Nations Members should be urged to co-operate in solving international disputes arising from the aspiration of nations for a fair share of the world's dwindling natural resources.

4. The big Powers and other industrialized countries should be called upon to send economic, rather than military, aid to developing nations.

The scale and quality of economic assistance given by big Powers and other rich industrialized countries to developing countries are, most of the time, determined according to political or ideological bias or predilection on the part of the giver, instead of need of the recipient.

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5. All countries which still have colonies should be urged to restrain their political and economic ambitions by gradually phasing out their political and economic control over said colonies.

The Philippine experience would serve as a useful guide in this regard. The colonial Powers should set a definite date for the relinquishment of political control after a fixed transition period measured in terms of years during which education should be made available to segments of the population on an expanded basis to enable them to intelligently exercise their political freedom.

6. The United Nations forum should be used to promote the family planning concept so as to help slow down the dangerous trend toward over-population.

The rapid increase in population, without the corresponding increase in food supply, that we are now witnessing in the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America has brought about problems that tend to undermine the stability of Governments in those areas.

As a result largely of United Nations efforts, the countries concerned have awakened to the dangers posed by over-population and, as a measure aimed at strengthening international security, have vigorously embraced the United Nations family planning concept by co-operating with the United Nations agencies concerned in propagating the idea through international and regional family planning conferences and workshops, availing themselves of the facilities of the print and audio-visual media, giving material assistance to acceptors, etc. This salutary trend should be bolstered and followed up.

POLAND

/Original: English/

/14 August 1973/

In conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, Poland views the strengthening of peace and international security as the primary task of the United Nations. The strengthening of peace is also the principal objective of the foreign policy of the Polish People's Republic. In accordance with that objective, the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security is a subject of continuous interest to the Polish Government and its provisions have consistently been put into practice.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic also wishes to note with satisfaction that, in the period under review, in many aspects of international life there have been additional signs of the strengthening of security and of building foundations of an era of lasting peace. These signs have been evidenced by development of peaceful relations and co-operation between the Soviet Union and the United States, by the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Viet-Nam, as well as by the growing détente in Europe, where the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe has started its work.

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Poland, which in the period under review participated in many initiatives with a view to promoting peaceful coexistence of States and peoples of the world, welcomes these developing tendencies with profound satisfaction and reaffirms its determined will to continue its contribution towards the realization of the cause of peace.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic assesses the agreements of 22 June 1973 between the USSR and the United States, and especially the Agreement on Prevention of Nuclear War, as a document of exceptional significance for the cause of strengthening international security. On the basis of their mutually accepted principles of peaceful coexistence of States with different socio-political systems, contained in the Declaration of Principles to Guide Soviet-American Relations, signed in 1972, the two Powers assumed obligations to the effect that each Party "will refrain from the threat or use of force against the other Party, against the allies of the other Party and against other countries, in circumstances which may endanger international peace and security".

That Agreement, along with other documents mapping out the further course of co-operation between the USSR and the United States in such important fields to mankind as negotiations on the further limitation of strategic offensive arms, co-operation in exploration of outer space, in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields, substantially contributes to the strengthening of the atmosphere of international détente and opens up favourable and broad prospects for peaceful international co-operation.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic also views as an extremely important event the signing in Paris on 27 January 1973 of the four-partite Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam. The termination of that war and recognition of the sovereign rights of the people of Viet-Nam to determine its own way of life and Government is a great victory of the heroic Viet-Nameese people. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam fulfil their obligations under the Paris Agreement, according to the peaceful will of their own people. Yet, the situation in South Viet-Nam continues to be fraught with tensions, lacking as it is in the signs of goodwill to fulfil its obligations by the opposite party. The International Conference on Viet-Nam, held in Paris, which was also attended by Poland, pointed to the great significance of the four-Power Agreement towards the cause of peace. Poland, which in consistence with its steadfast policy of strengthening peace in the world, accepted the invitation of the Parties concerned to participate in the International Commission of Control and Supervision, trusts that as a result of the agreements reached in Paris on 13 June 1973, the provisions of the Agreement will now be fully implemented, given also full respect for the inalienable sovereign rights of the people of Viet-Nam.

The existing situation in the Middle East, which still continues to be the hotbed of international tension, has not been extinguished in the period under review. The position of Israel continues to be in flagrant contradiction with the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations. Moreover, new acts of aggression have taken place in that area which

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deserve the most resolute condemnation as they are contrary to all the obligations of a State Member of the United Nations.

Poland has consistently been a spokesman for the necessity to implement without delay the provisions of Security Council resolution 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 concerning the settlement of the Middle East conflict. We lend our unchangeable support to the postulate of withdrawing Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories. We also lend our support to the efforts of Ambassador Jarring with a view to the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Middle East, in conformity with Security Council resolution 242 (1967).

During the past year the Government of the Polish People's Republic has, on many occasions, offered its support to the struggle against colonialism, wherever it still exists, against manifestations of racism, and especially against apartheid and all other violations of the rights of peoples to struggle for their national and social liberation. We shall also continue to work for a solution of the problem of Namibia, inter alia, as a member of the United Nations Council for Namibia. Poland works in different spheres in order to contribute to the development and progress of the entire world community and to offer assistance to nations and peoples fighting for their liberation from the yoke of colonial dependence, convinced that there exists a relationship between those matters and the strengthening of peace and security as set forth in Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Poland, interested as it is in the normalization of the situation on the Indian subcontinent, fully supports the application of Bangladesh for admission to the United Nations.

The further progress in the normalization of relations in the centre of Europe, an area which is so important for the attainment of peace on the entire continent, will undoubtedly contribute to the process of consolidation of détente in Europe. The entry into force on 21 June 1973 of the Treaty on the Bases of Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic, as between two independent and sovereign States, is in this context an event of particularly great international significance. Considered jointly with the initialled Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and Czechoslovakia and the earlier Treaties between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany and the Polish People's Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as with the four-Power agreement on West Berlin, a complex of rules of international law has been established, one which fully and forever settles problems that for years constituted a source of numerous and dangerous international tensions. Those accomplishments strengthen the peaceful European intercourse and thus represent an important contribution to the cause of strengthening world peace and security.

Admission of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations at the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in accordance with the relevant Security Council recommendation, will be a further step toward the consolidation of the peaceful intercourse of all States of Europe.

In its foreign policy Poland, while participating in the work of general normalization of relations on the European continent, has at the same time developed a particularly vitalized activity towards its bilateral relations.

The Declaration on the Strengthening of Friendship and Intensifying Co-operation between the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic is precisely an agreement between two socialist States which declare their readiness to strengthen various ideological, political and economic ties between them, to serve the cause of active construction of a European system of collective security and to work jointly on an international forum in the interest of the forces of peace and progress.

Poland's relations with numerous States of Western Europe also serve the strengthening of co-operation for the benefit of world security and peace. The Declaration on Friendship and Co-operation, signed in Paris, sets forth such general objectives in Polish-French relations. With other States of Europe, too, regardless of the differences of their political and social systems, Poland developed active relations in the period under review, basing those relations upon mutually implemented principles of peaceful coexistence.

To express its will to contribute, together with other Baltic States, to setting up around the Baltic Sea an area of peaceful co-operation, Poland put forward a proposal to convene an international conference on the protection of the natural resources of the Baltic Sea. It is an initiative of great political significance, particularly important from the point of view of the protection of the natural human environment. We also maintain lively relations - political, economic and cultural - with our neighbours in the Nordic countries.

The past year was a period of further intensification of activities for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The idea, originally advanced by States of the socialist community, has become the subject of a lively and constructive dialogue to which Poland contributed a very considerable share. As a result of an approximation of views arrived at during preliminary, bilateral talks and on the basis of the joint proposals advanced by the socialist States on 22 November 1972, the States concerned started their multilateral preparatory talks in Helsinki. Also in that phase of the work, Poland was an active participant which has contributed to their positive conclusion on 8 June 1973.

Poland also actively participated in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, whose first round took place in Helsinki from 3 to 7 July 1973 at the level of foreign ministers. At the Conference, the Polish delegation assessed the situation in Europe and presented its view on the tasks facing the Conference. Poland, together with Bulgaria, submitted to the Conference a draft resolution concerning cultural co-operation, contacts between organizations and private persons and exchange of information.

The Helsinki meeting has created favourable conditions for the early and successful completion of the work of the Conference. The Government of Poland, which made a constructive contribution to the work of that extremely important

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meeting, attaches particular significance to working out by the Conference of principles of relations among States agreed upon and solemnly accepted by all. Poland is of the opinion that the Conference on Security and Co-operation should become an important stage in the consolidation of the principles of peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems and should lay down solid foundations for a future system of security and co-operation which will guarantee a peaceful development to all nations.

The significance of the processes of détente and expanding co-operation in Europe surpasses that continent itself, since these processes affect in a positive manner the strengthening of general peace and security. One can, therefore, assume that approval, stimulation and promotion of the European processes which find their full reflection in the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, are in the interest of the entire international community.

It is the considered view of the Government of the Polish People's Republic that the United Nations can become a platform of universalization of Europe's positive experiences in the efforts towards a construction of a system of collective security. The top priority assigned to the cause of world peace makes it necessary to seek and utilize to the utmost all forms of present-day international relations, be they universal, regional or bilateral. For what is basically at stake is clearly the bringing together of these various forms so that they together may serve the cause of strengthening peace and security in the world.

The Polish Government trusts that the incipient tendencies of world détente provide for a favourable atmosphere to take up further consistent efforts towards disarmament.

The policy of the Government of Poland consists in supporting realistic disarmament initiatives. In all its action in the period under review, the Polish Government did pursue such policy.

Poland was one of the first States to ratify, on 11 December 1972, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction. Ratification of that Convention by other States and its entry into force would positively affect disarmament negotiations.

Poland is an active participant in negotiations to ban chemical weapons. We believe that the draft Convention, submitted by the socialist States, including Poland, is a good basis for further work on the prohibition of those weapons.

We trust that the work of the Geneva Disarmament Committee will be a valuable contribution to the work of strengthening international security. Poland will continue its active participation in this work and will further contribute to the intensification of the Committee's activities in the field of initiatives with a view to limiting and arresting the arms race.

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The over-all objective we should all concentrate upon is general and complete disarmament. Poland believes that the Special Committee established by the President of the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in accordance with resolution 2930 (XXVII) should fully exercise the tasks entrusted to it by that resolution. Non-participation of some Powers in the Committee cannot hinder progress of the work it has been called upon to do. We believe, however, that participation of nuclear Powers in the Special Committee's work would contribute to a prompt convocation of the World Disarmament Conference. Poland strongly supports the proposal to convene the World Disarmament Conference, convinced, as it is, that the Conference's work would represent an important stage in paving the road towards general and complete disarmament.

We trust that the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly will take up concrete decisions favouring a speedier materialization of the proposal.

Poland highly appraises the positive influence of the agreements concluded so far within the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) upon the course of international disarmament negotiations. The significance of those agreements, in fact, considerably exceeds their bilateral nature. We also view as a particularly propitious event for the cause of international security that on 21 June of this year the leaders of the USSR and the United States signed in Washington a document on the "Basic Principles of Negotiations on the Further Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms", and that the same document notes the existence of favourable and realistic prospects for agreements on more comprehensive means of limiting those arms.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic attaches unquestionable significance to matters of regional disarmament solutions, and especially to prospects for agreements to this effect in central Europe where possibilities of a military confrontation are exceptionally high. There is general recognition of the priority of reduction of armaments and armed forces precisely in that region. Proceeding from such premises, we joined the preparatory consultations on limiting armaments and armed forces in central Europe, which started in Vienna on 31 January 1973.

We are guided in those consultations by the basic international principle of causing no harm whatsoever to the security interests of either side. Recognition of that principle by all interested States opens up a way to proper negotiations in Vienna and we remain convinced that positive results of these negotiations will also represent a valuable contribution to the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

Joint action of all States for a universal application of all the existing disarmament agreements is an important factor of implementation of the Declaration. Efforts should be pursued so that all States ratify the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as well as other disarmament treaties.

The basis of peaceful international relations and the major condition of lasting security of all States consists in the final and unconditional obligation

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to refrain from the threat or use of force and universally ban, once and for all, the use of nuclear weapons. On the latter question, the Polish People's Republic, along with the overwhelming majority of the States Members of the United Nations, supported General Assembly resolution 2936 (XXVII), as initiated by the USSR and sponsored by 23 countries, including Poland. It is an extremely important resolution for the entire international community and Poland firmly believes that in conformity with the provisions of that resolution, it is necessary to take up, in the Security Council, appropriate initiatives with a view to the practical implementation of the provisions contained therein.

The Polish side has, on many occasions in the period under review, given evidence of its unswerving loyalty to the ideals contained in the Charter of the United Nations and to their implementation. The important role Poland ascribes to the United Nations has been exemplified by putting forward the candidacy of its representative for the presidency of the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly. Poland views his unanimous election by the Assembly as an expression of the recognition of its active role in that Organization since the very day of its existence.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic continues to attach significant importance to a comprehensive development of all-round international co-operation in all fields - economic, social, scientific, technical, cultural and that of the protection of the natural human environment. We consider indispensable that social progress continuously pave mankind's way to satisfy the needs of its development, for its struggle for the respect for human rights, for the liquidation of all forms of racial discrimination, including apartheid.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic wishes also to stress its unchangeable interest in the actions taken by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of resolutions 2880 (XXVI) and 2993 (XXVII) with a view to ensuring the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

At a time of growing tendencies towards détente and co-operation, of increasing importance of the principles of peaceful coexistence as bases for inter-State relations, the principal task of the United Nations should be the promotion and strengthening of those tendencies and of making them irreversible.

SPAIN

/Original: Spanish/

/20 August 1973/

1. Spain has continued to base its international action on the principles embodied in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security contained in General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV), and has maintained its consistent policy of using peaceful means in all international matters affecting it. It continues to stand aloof from the military blocs which confront each other in various parts of the world and to respect the sovereignty and independence of all States without exception.

2. Spain took part in the first phase of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation; from the outset, it stated that it was in favour of convening that Conference, and from May 1969 it responded positively to the steps leading up to the holding of the Conference.

3. In accordance with the fifth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 5 of resolution 2993 (XXVII), Spain has paid special attention to the issues related to national security, particularly disarmament and co-operation for development. It has repeatedly stressed its preoccupation with the question of disarmament in the United Nations as well as elsewhere, has declared that it favours the holding of a World Disarmament Conference and has taken part in the efforts designed to find ways of enabling the Special Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, of which it is a member, to initiate effective preparations for the Conference as soon as possible.

Spain has also continued to take action in favour of co-operation for development, paying special attention to the areas in which the countries with which it maintains closer relations for historical, geographical and cultural reasons, such as the Ibero-American and the Mediterranean countries, are situated. During the first phase of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation, the Spanish delegation emphasized the very close link between the concepts of security and co-operation, and the need for the Conference to cover a vast area of co-operation in which peoples could work together so as to bequeath a more just and more secure world to future generations.

4. At the global level, the Government of Spain is closely following current trends, which in its view are favourable to international security, in so far as there is an increasingly widespread realization of the need to improve relations among all countries; at the same time, it notes the continued existence and excessive prolongation of certain circumstances which impede the practical fulfilment of these universally felt desires. Thus, for instance, it is noted that important bilateral negotiations, the results of which affect the whole of mankind, are being carried out in an exclusivistic and to some extent arbitrary context, so that a simple change in arms technology will be enough to alter the whole perspective of these conversations and disrupt their chances of final success. It would be advisable to study the possibility of devising a formula whereby bilateral

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conversations of general interest could be co-ordinated, at least at the consultative level, with the multilateral efforts which the international community has been making in favour of détente and disarmament.

5. At the regional level, the first phase of the Helsinki Conference deserves special mention as a positive event. Spain, for its part, has defined its own position in a realistic context, both with regard to the situation with which the Conference has to deal and the specific results it can achieve, and has emphasized that this is an opportunity which should be utilized to the full on the basis of a genuine wish for understanding among all the participants.

The Spanish Government reiterates that its adherence to the principles set forth in paragraph 19 of the final recommendations of the Helsinki Conference does not in any way imply acceptance of the colonial "status" of Gibraltar. The restoration of this territory to Spanish sovereignty will be an important contribution to peace and security in this area of the world.

With regard to the aims of the European Conference, Spain believes that it is necessary to strike an equitable balance between the static and dynamic aspects of the process of détente in Europe and to recognize the obvious complementarity which exists between political détente and the military aspects affecting the security of the continent.

6. A matter of special concern for Spain is security in the Mediterranean Sea, at the eastern end of which there exists at present one of the most dangerous concentrations of armed forces in the world. Spain's views on the need for détente in the Mediterranean region are well known and have been stated on previous occasions at the United Nations. During the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly the Spanish delegation in the First Committee pointed out that the confrontation of military forces in the Mediterranean region, arising out of the conflict in the Middle East, was creating mounting and ominous tension, the continuation of which was forcing the countries bordering on the Mediterranean to suffer the consequences of a dangerous situation totally beyond their control and influence. To avert that danger it is necessary to achieve as soon as possible a stabilization of the forces in the area, thus possibly preparing the way for subsequent reduction of those forces. At the Helsinki Conference the Spanish delegation reiterated this position and noted with satisfaction the mandate given to the Committee on Questions relating to Security, according to which the Committee was to take into account the relationship that exists between security in Europe and in the Mediterranean region.

7. In this context it should not be forgotten that in the western part of the Mediterranean Sea as well there exists a focus of danger for security in the area, namely the existence of a British military base at Gibraltar under a colonial "status" which the United Nations has expressly and repeatedly rejected without the occupying Power having given, thus far, any proof of being prepared to put into practice the relevant principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It is clear that the military activities carried on at this base impede the normal development of the decolonization process, which would contribute decisively to détente and security in this important geographic area.

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On 18 July 1973 the Permanent Mission of Spain addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a signed note communicating Spain's decision to break off talks with Great Britain in view of the negative attitude of the British Government. In this note it was pointed out that by continuing its abusive use of the neutral zone of the Isthmus of Gibraltar and also by encroaching on Spanish waters and air space, Great Britain was seriously compromising the security of Spain.

The Spanish Government reiterates its conviction that the decolonization of Gibraltar through its restoration to Spanish sovereignty, which constitutes a primary objective of its policy, is also a responsibility of the United Nations, which has taken an unequivocal stand in that regard, and that the existence of this serious source of tension in a spot vital to the security of the Mediterranean cannot be ignored.

SWEDEN*

/Original: English/

/14 August 1973/

The Swedish Government has in previous years offered its views and comments on various aspects of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. These views remain unchanged. In the present context the Swedish Government would only like to underline certain aspects in view of subsequent developments.

The most important progress towards the strengthening of international security to be registered during the current year is the improvement in relations between Powers and the development of encouraging trends towards a reduction of tension between States and in conflict areas. The efforts at increased détente between East and West are of fundamental importance to the possibilities of securing world peace in the nuclear age. The progress made towards reducing tensions in Europe is of special importance in this context. It is hoped that the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe will constitute a landmark in these efforts and that it will make possible continued and successful negotiations towards establishing harmonious and fruitful relations between the participating States.

* Besides the text reproduced above, the reply from Sweden contained comments on General Assembly resolutions 2925 (XXVII) and 2991 (XXVII), which are reproduced in the respective reports of the Secretary-General; document A/9128 on agenda item 25 (Strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States) and document A/9143 on agenda item 11 (Report of the Security Council).

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The necessity of achieving progress towards disarmament still stands out as the most basic imperative for the efforts at securing world peace. The present international political situation should be favourable for achieving some real disarmament measures, but intensified efforts are needed. The Strategic Arms Limitation Agreements concluded a year ago by the Soviet Union and the United States put quantitative ceilings on defensive and some offensive strategic weapons. These quantitative limitations should be followed by reductions and, above all, by control also of the qualitative side of the strategic arms race. In this connexion a comprehensive test ban would be of particular importance. The primary responsibility to achieve this rests with the two States exercising jointly the Chairmanship of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, as they possess the overwhelming part of the nuclear weapons in the world. It is furthermore desirable that the negotiations in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament on an effective prohibition of chemical weapons be brought to a constructive end. Progress in the discussions on force reductions in central Europe could also contribute to the improvement of détente.

The updating and supplementing of existing international treaties prohibiting inhuman methods of warfare and cruel weapons is a task of the greatest urgency for the international community. The Swedish Government considers that full advantage should be taken of the atmosphere of détente in order to pursue this work energetically.

It should be borne in mind that the efforts at strengthening international peace and security, in consonance with the purposes of the Declaration, can only be pursued successfully within the framework of a co-ordinated approach to all the various problems involved. In this perspective peace-building efforts by the international community are of fundamental importance. In particular, the problems of under-development require increased attention and more determined action. The evolving concept of collective economic security should be taken as a sign of increased readiness by Member States to accept their responsibilities in this regard.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

/Original: French/

/29 June 1973/

1. While there is an increasing measure of détente in international relations in several regions of the world, the situation in the Middle East continues to deteriorate. The cause of this escalation of danger lies in the continued imperialist Zionist aggression which began in 1948 and which has been stepped up since the aggression of 5 June 1967 to such a point that it now involves three Arab States Members of the United Nations.

Responsibility for the escalation of the crisis rests wholly with Israel and its expansionist ambitions. The causes of the crisis may be summarized as follows:

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(a) Israel's continued military occupation of territories belonging to three Arab States.

(b) The fact that the Israeli occupying authorities continue to deprive the Arab people of Palestine of their right to return to their country and their right to exercise self-determination in their homeland, from which they were forcibly expelled, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations resolutions reaffirming those rights.

(c) The fact that the Israeli occupying authorities continue to practise colonialism by settlement in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. Israel is opening the door to the immigration of foreign settlers, the construction of dozens of settlements and the expropriation of Arab lands; property is being transferred to Zionist institutions while the indigenous Arab inhabitants are driven out; the traces of Arab civilization are being eliminated and religious and racial oppression are being practised with the aim of absorbing and annexing the occupied territories.

(d) Israel's persistence in acts of military aggression which have dire effects on the persons and property of civilians in the neighbouring Arab States. The intentions of the aggressors are quite clear: intimidation and the spilling of innocent blood.

All these acts are contrary to the spirit and letter of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, and indeed to all the most elementary principles of international law and of the United Nations Charter.

If the integrity of this Declaration is to be preserved and the objectives proclaimed in it attained, the States Members of the Organization, and in particular the members of the Security Council, should fully discharge their obligations and responsibilities by fulfilling their commitments under the Charter, which entrusts the Council with the task of taking effective action to eliminate aggression and punish aggressors.

In the view of the Syrian Arab Republic, the machinations and scheming of world imperialism - the partner of Zionism - aimed at deceiving world public opinion into believing that the Middle East problem can be solved by rewarding the aggressor at the expense of his victim are simply attempts to preserve, justify and prolong the occupation so that the aggressor can enjoy the fruits of his aggression.

The Syrian Arab Republic is firmly convinced that any peace which is not based on justice and law cannot endure but will be the kind of vulnerable peace of which history provides many examples. The Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security reaffirms this truth in upholding unreservedly the principle of the non-acquisition of territories by force, the illegality of occupation and the inadmissibility of recognition by States of any territorial acquisition achieved through the use, or even the threat, of force.

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2. The Syrian Arab Republic welcomed the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam of 27 January 1973 and the signature of the Act of the International Conference on Viet-Nam on 2 March 1973. It views these instruments as the fruits of the brilliant victory achieved by the Viet-Nameese people through their heroic struggle and the very great sacrifices they have borne for a quarter of a century in order to defend their freedom and national independence and to safeguard their territorial integrity and their unity as a people. This event is a victory for all progressive, liberationist forces throughout the world, which have provided the Viet-Nameese people with material, political and moral support in order to ensure the achievement of the lofty purposes of the Charter and of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, which is also grounded in the Charter.

However, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to express its great concern at the prolongation of imperialist United States intervention in Cambodia and the escalation of savage military aggression against the people of Cambodia in a desperate attempt to impose still longer the Phnom Penh régime rejected by the people of Cambodia, who have already liberated 90 per cent of their territory.

For this reason, it is incumbent upon peace-loving States to intensify their efforts to support the people of Cambodia and the Government of Prince Sihanouk - the sole legitimate Government - in their just struggle to preserve the independence of Cambodia and the right of its people to self-determination.

3. The Syrian Arab Republic is following closely the proceedings of the European Conference on Security and Co-operation at Helsinki. While it welcomes the developments which have fostered a climate conducive to the holding of such a conference, the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to reaffirm its conviction that any arrangements which may be made for security in Europe will remain a nullity unless the security concerns of the coastal States of the Mediterranean are taken into account. By reason of their geographical position and the interdependence of their interests with the interests of the European States, the Mediterranean countries cannot but be aware of the inseparable links between European security and Mediterranean security.

4. As a member of the Special Committee on the Question of Defining Aggression, the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to emphasize how discouraging it is that the Committee's work has proceeded so slowly since 1968, despite the efforts which have been made to work out a definition of aggression commanding general approval. These failures are due primarily to the attitudes adopted by certain members of the Committee, which base their approach on the era of relations predating the Charter, when inequality and preservation of the status quo to the detriment of non-self-governing peoples were the rule. Such retrograde attitudes have no place in the modern conception of international relations as embodied in the Charter. The General Assembly of the United Nations should therefore take all necessary steps to induce the Special Committee to work out a definition of aggression which is in keeping with the purposes and objectives of the Charter and with the aspirations of those peoples who are devoid of power and which should, of course, guarantee small States the effective protection of international law against imperialist policies and practices.

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5. Paragraph 13 of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security called upon the Security Council - and in particular the permanent members - to intensify their efforts to discharge the Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. However, the Council's functions in this regard are threatened with paralysis through the use or threat of the veto for reasons of political blackmail and for the preservation of faits accomplis that are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security. Such is the behaviour of the United States of America, even though it previously regarded the use of the veto as contrary to the purposes and objectives of the Charter; the United States itself has now used the veto against the third world on three occasions: once in 1970, against Africa, in order to protect the interests of the racist minority régime in Rhodesia; again in September 1972, against the interests of western Asia, when it blocked a draft resolution demanding an end to Israel's aggression against Syria; and finally, quite recently, the veto was actually directed against Latin American during the Security Council's discussions on Panama's complaint, when the United States sought to preserve its military occupation in perpetuity of a part of Panama's territory. Thus, the United States of America behaves as though the veto had been instituted to serve as an instrument of threat and oppression and a means of safeguarding aggression and foreign occupation. Such behaviour by the United States runs counter to the concepts of the Charter and the provisions of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, which at several points calls for the strengthening of the Security Council so that it can discharge as effectively as possible its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security.

6. The Syrian Arab Republic condemns the policies and practices of the racist colonial régimes in Africa. Firm in its position of principle that colonialism in all its forms and manifestations should be combated, and faithful to United Nations resolutions, it has refrained from relations of any kind with Portugal, South Africa and the Ian Smith régime; it is striving, in all respects, to contribute effectively to the realization of the aspirations of the peoples of Guinea (Bissau), Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Namibia. It will continue to do so until those peoples achieve independence, freedom and equality. In line with this approach, the Syrian Arab Republic supported the inclusion of the item on Puerto Rico in the agenda of the Decolonization Committee.

7. The Syrian Arab Republic supported General Assembly resolution 2930 (XXVII), which invites States to exert further efforts with a view to creating adequate conditions for the convening of a disarmament conference. It is of the opinion that disarmament should be general and complete and should be accompanied by the destruction of stockpiles of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

TURKEY

/Original: English/
/23 October 1973/

The Government of Turkey has expressed its views on the strengthening of international security in its previous replies to the Secretary-General, contained particularly in documents A/7922 and A/8431.

The principles of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security continue to be the guidelines of the Turkish foreign policy.

In this connexion, it is the opinion of the Turkish Government that in order to deal with the question of strengthening of international security in an effective manner, it is necessary to maintain co-ordination and thus avoid duplication among various agenda items relating to the different aspects of the same question.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/
/28 August 1973/

The United Nations Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, adopted in 1970, plays a key role in United Nations activities aimed at resolving its chief problem, namely the maintenance of international peace and security. At the present time, many States are bringing their foreign policy measures into line with the principles of the Declaration and are informing the United Nations of concrete steps to avert the threat of war, solve controversial problems and intensify peaceful co-operation.

The statements made by many representatives of States Members of the United Nations at sessions of the United Nations General Assembly also bear witness to that fact. It is important to note that those statements outline concrete measures for the further implementation of the provisions of the Declaration. All this convincingly demonstrates the vital nature of the Declaration and its permanent significance.

In the present-day world, a transition is taking place from a period of confrontation to one of increasingly stable peaceful coexistence of States with different social systems on the basis of mutual advantage and equal security. The implementation by the Soviet Union of the Programme for Peace approved at the Twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union exerts a healthy influence on the international situation all over the world. The negotiations conducted by L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States and France, and the conclusion in 1973 by the USSR and the United States of a permanent agreement for the prevention of nuclear war, have made a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international security.

In Europe there has been a clear turn towards a strengthening of peace, a reduction of tension and a settlement of controversial questions by peaceful means. The Conference on Security and Co-operation has successfully begun its work; the Soviet Union has submitted to the Conference for its consideration a draft general declaration concerning the foundations of European security and the principles governing relations between States in Europe, while a number of other draft documents have been submitted by other socialist countries. An important turn for

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the better has also been observed in Asia. Favourable conditions are being created in that vast continent for the establishment of a system of collective security in which all Asian countries without exception would participate.

As one of the sponsors of the United Nations Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, the Ukrainian SSR unswervingly supports the full implementation of the Declaration and a heightening of the effectiveness of the United Nations in safeguarding international peace and security. Now that the war in Viet-Nam has been brought to an end, new efforts must be made to achieve the speedy elimination of the hotbed of war in the Middle East. The basis for a just solution of the problem of the Middle East can be found in the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied territories and the safeguarding of the rights and interests of all the peoples and States of that region, including the rights and interests of the Arab people of Palestine.

The halting of the arms race, the implementation of concrete measures of disarmament and, ultimately, general and complete disarmament under effective international control would be extremely important for the strengthening of international security. A further stimulus to negotiations on disarmament will unquestionably be provided by the agreement concluded in 1973 by the United States and the USSR concerning the active continuation of work aimed at a quantitative and qualitative limitation and subsequent reduction of strategic offensive weapons. The Ukrainian SSR, which consistently supports disarmament, considers that it is essential to proceed without delay to the practical preparations for the world disarmament conference, in which all countries could make their constructive contribution to solving this important problem.

At the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Ukrainian SSR, together with an overwhelming majority of the other Members of the United Nations, supported the resolution calling upon the Security Council to take measures for the full implementation of the General Assembly's Declaration on the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. Such action by the Security Council, as well as the inclusion by all States in their bilateral and multilateral treaties of provisions concerning the non-use of force and prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, would be of great significance in strengthening international security.

In accordance with the requirements of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, the Ukrainian SSR has supported and continues to support the complete elimination of the colonial system. The maintenance of centres of colonial oppression poses a threat to peace and security. The Ukrainian SSR therefore supports the proposals for sanctions under the United Nations Charter against the Republic of South Africa, Portugal and Southern Rhodesia, which are disregarding the United Nations decisions on decolonization, apartheid and racism.

The present situation in the world is favourable to the solution of controversial problems by peaceful means - by means of negotiations, however complex they may be. It must not, however, be forgotten that there are still forces in the world that oppose steps aimed at bringing about peace and the development of international co-operation. Only by taking a stand against these forces, including

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those within the United Nations, is it possible to implement fully the United Nations Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

It is apparent that the conditions of lessened tension are giving impetus to the policies of all those States which are striving to contribute to the general cause of consolidating peace. If the peace-loving countries strengthen their unity in the United Nations and work actively together to promote a further relaxation of tension and administer a rebuff to aggression, that will be in the interests of all the peoples of the world, large, medium-sized and small.

The interests of all peoples are also served by strengthening the United Nations - that authoritative international forum - in every possible way. The Ukrainian SSR considers that the strengthening of the United Nations presupposes respect for and observance of its Charter by all States. The stability of the United Nations Charter and the full exploitation of all the possibilities it offers will ensure a strengthened role for the United Nations in safeguarding international security.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

/Original: Russian/

/16 August 1973/

The Soviet Union notes with satisfaction the enormous interest and support shown by the great majority of States of the world with respect to the USSR's proposal concerning comprehensive consideration in the United Nations of the problem of strengthening international security. The adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its twenty-fifth anniversary session of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security was a major event in the struggle of the peace-loving and democratic forces in the United Nations to carry out the United Nations central task under the Charter - the maintenance of international peace and security.

The Soviet Union considers that it is necessary to achieve the effective and consistent implementation of the basic provisions of that important document of the United Nations, which reflects the aspirations of all peoples for the strengthening of world peace.

In international relations at the present time there is a trend towards détente, towards the settlement of disputes by peaceful means. The foundations for new peaceful relations among States in the foreseeable future are being laid.

In carrying out the concrete and realistic peace programme adopted by the Twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union has been adopting major foreign policy measures with a view to strengthening the process of détente, intensifying peaceful co-operation among States and reducing the threat of the outbreak of nuclear war.

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Enormous significance attaches to the negotiations at the highest level carried out this summer by L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, with Willy Brandt, Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, and Georges Pompidou, President of France, which have had great influence in improving the international situation.

The whole course of the development of events in the international arena bears witness to the fact that more favourable prospects have now opened up for the settlement of disputes, no matter how complicated, by peaceful means in the interests of world peace. Important contributions to the positive development of international relations have included the termination of the war in Viet-Nam, the measures taken on a bilateral and a regional basis to improve the international situation, the treaties and agreements on the normalization of relations among the States of Europe, the agreement on the forthcoming negotiations concerning the reduction of armed forces and weapons in the area of central Europe and the Soviet-United States strategic arms limitation agreement. The successful conclusion of the preparatory consultations and the first phase of the work of the all-European conference on security and co-operation, the idea of convening which was put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist States, is of great and positive significance. The draft general declaration on the foundations of European security and principles governing relations among the European States put forward by the Soviet delegation for consideration at the meeting, which was formulated in the light of the positions of the majority of States participating in the meeting, is aimed at ensuring the success of its work.

The Permanent Agreement on the prevention of nuclear war concluded between the USSR and the United States is a major step in the direction of reducing and eventually eliminating the threat of the outbreak of nuclear war and establishing a system of genuine guarantees of international security. The practical application of the agreements reached and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means will have beneficial consequences for all mankind.

The obligations embodied in the Soviet-United States agreements to refrain from the threat or use of force and the will clearly expressed by both sides to respect the rights and interests of all States are proving to be an important element in the improvement of the international situation and are opening up broad prospects for constructive co-operation among all countries.

The Soviet Union considers that the cessation of the arms race, the implementation of concrete measures for disarmament and, finally, general and complete disarmament under effective international control would have the greatest significance for the strengthening of international security. A major step in that direction would be the immediate implementation of the decision taken by the United Nations General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session concerning a World Disarmament Conference. The Soviet Union, basing itself on the policy which it pursues as a matter of principle, will consistently carry on its efforts to bring about the attainment of these purposes.

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The discussion at the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly on the strengthening of international security, in the opinion of the Soviet Union, reflects the interests of all peace-loving States in that it is aimed at utilizing more fully the possibilities of the United Nations for safeguarding peace and the political independence of all States.

The strengthening of international security, which has now become a regular item of the agenda of sessions of the Assembly, will continue to be of current significance as long as there are forces which are interested not in the implementation of the principles of the United Nations Charter but in counteracting the trend toward détente, in the arms race, in a return to the cold war, in the suppression of the liberation movement of the peoples.

In the opinion of the Soviet Government, the discussion of this question at the forthcoming twenty-eighth session of the Assembly should be conducted in such a way as to facilitate the consolidation and further development of the successes already achieved in the general normalization of the international situation. To these ends, it will be essential for the session to have a comprehensive discussion of the measures taken by States to implement the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and also to outline specific new measures for the further implementation of its most important provisions.

The Soviet Union is in favour of settling the conflict in the Middle East on the basis of principles which will safeguard the rights and interests of all peoples and States in that area, including the interests of the Arab people of Palestine. The Soviet Union, in keeping with its peace programme, attaches paramount significance to the elimination of the hotbed of war in the Middle East on the basis of respect for the lawful rights of States and peoples subjected to aggression. The basis for a just settlement of the problem of the Middle East is the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories.

The Soviet Union attaches great significance to that all-important principle of the United Nations Charter, the non-use of force in international relations. In the opinion of the Soviet Union, an effective means of converting that principle into a law of international life would be the earliest possible implementation of a solemn declaration of the General Assembly on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations undertaking to refrain from the use of force in international relations and to prohibit permanently the use of nuclear weapons. To that end it is necessary that the Security Council should adopt the appropriate decision on the matter and for States to include in bilateral and multilateral instruments and declarations provisions on support for the principle of the non-use of force and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons.

In accordance with the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and the Charter of the United Nations it is essential that all States should take measures to implement the decisions of the United Nations on decolonization, apartheid and racism with a view to the speediest possible elimination of hotbeds of colonial and racist conflicts which are threatening international peace and security and preventing peoples from exercising their right to self-determination and independence.

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The Soviet Union looks upon the United Nations as the most important instrument for the maintenance of peace and the safeguarding of international security and is taking practical steps to help enhance the Organization's authority. The strict observance of the Charter of the United Nations by all Members of the Organization is an indispensable prerequisite for enhancing its effectiveness in the interests of strengthening peace and security and in the interests of all peoples.

ZAMBIA

/Original: English/
/16 May 1973/

Zambia has time and again reaffirmed its commitment to the liquidation of colonialism, racism and apartheid, and, to this end, has been giving and will continue to give its utmost possible moral, political and material support to the national liberation movements and also to relevant United Nations resolutions.

Zambia pursues an independent non-aligned foreign policy with belief in peaceful coexistence. It believes that the struggle for international peace and sanity calls for the adoption and implementation of the principles of self-determination of all peoples and of peaceful coexistence of all sovereign and independent States regardless of differences in political, social and economic systems. In line with its belief in the promotion of world peace and security, Zambia pursues a policy of co-operation either bilaterally or multilaterally with other nations in the economic and political fields. It is an active member of several international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the OAU, and the non-aligned movement.

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ANNEX

LIST OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

- A/9038 - Letters dated 24 January 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Pakistan and Romania addressed to the Secretary-General
- A/9057
E only and
Corr.1 - Letters dated 9 April 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General
- A/9078 - Letters dated 18 June 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Iran and Romania addressed to the Secretary-General
- A/9083 - Letters dated 22 June 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and the Upper Volta addressed to the Secretary-General
- A/9122
S/10999 - Letter dated 16 August 1973 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the Secretary-General
- A/C.1/1037 - Letters dated 18 October 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and Venezuela addressed to the Secretary-General
