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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE
TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 20 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to your herewith a copy of the personal message of His Excellency Dr. Gyula Horn, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, on 20 March 1990, concerning the grave atrocities against the Hungarian minorities living in Romania.

I should like to request you to have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 12, 94, 101 and 108 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Iván BUDAI
Deputy Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Message of 20 March 1990 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Hungary

The Government of the Republic of Hungary expresses its grave concern at the mass and flagrant violations of human rights, particularly those concerning the individual and collective rights of Hungarian and other minorities in Romania, in regions inhabited by ethnic Hungarians.

On the basis of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, we would like to call the attention of the Secretary-General to the following:

Recently serious atrocities against ethnic Hungarians living in Romania have occurred. Tragic events have taken place in several cities of Transylvania, inter alia, in Satu Mare (Szatmárnémeti) and Tirgu Mures (Marosvásárhely), where legal Romanian organizations have been openly instigating passionate hatred and committing violent actions against Hungarian minorities. These actions have caused serious casualties so far.

Among the flagrant and mass violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, trampling underfoot the rights to life and personal freedoms of Hungarians living in Transylvania are especially to be condemned.

The Hungarian Government deems it indispensable to draw the attention of the Secretary-General to the dangers of growing Romanian nationalism contradicting the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. We regard the demand asserted and even violently expressed by Romanian organizations, and other calls for bloody revenge to expel Hungarians from Transylvania, as the most outrageous forms, which ignore all norms of civilized coexistence. The Government of Hungary expects the Romanian authorities unambiguously to denounce those atrocities, to call to account those responsible for them and to take all the necessary measures to avoid such incidents in the future.

It is our conviction that the United Nations cannot remain indifferent to those mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We call upon the international community and the United Nations - as its most important organization maintaining international peace and security and promoting the observance of human rights - to take effective measures in order to protect the individual and collective rights of the largest minority in Europe.

The Hungarian side does not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of Romania. Nevertheless, we cannot remain silent about the severe violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the grave violations of

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minority rights embodied in several international instruments. Before the situation in regions inhabited by Hungarians becomes further aggravated, the international community should render assistance to curb the Romanian nationalist actions violating the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The Hungarian Government requests the active contribution of the United Nations organization to this effort.
