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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE

Note verbale dated 14 October 1986 from the Permanent Mission of
Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith a letter from His Excellency Dr. Péter Várkonyi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic and Chairman of the Hungarian National Committee for the Observance of the International Year of Peace, concerning the participation of the Hungarian People's Republic in the observance of the International Year of Peace (see annex).

The Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic would be grateful if the Secretary-General would have this note and the attached letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 21.

* Reissued for technical reasons.

Annex

LETTER DATED 6 OCTOBER 1986 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF HUNGARY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The International Year of Peace is coming to its end and therefore I should like to inform you briefly about the events organized in the Hungarian People's Republic for the realization of this highly important initiative.

The events of the International Year of Peace proclaimed by the United Nations have provided an excellent opportunity for conducting active dialogue with all segments of the Hungarian people, irrespective of age, sex or occupation, about the significance of the preservation of peace and the struggle for peace, and for mobilizing our citizens for the attainment of this important goal in conformity with the policy of our Government. In accordance with the objectives of the International Year of Peace and in addition to several other programmes the following events and actions were held with the participation of all organizations rallied around the Hungarian National Committee:

1. "Peace Referendum", the text of which has already been signed by more than one hundred thousand citizens.
2. Conferences arranged by the United Nations Association of Hungary under the titles of "The role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security", "The question of prospects of all-European co-operation in the new international set of conditions" and "Public opinion and the United Nations".
3. The reception in Budapest of the torch of peace relay organized by the First Earth Run, which launches month-long race series in several cities and towns of the country.
4. The visit to Hungary by Under-Secretary-General Jan Martenson of the United Nations on the occasion of the events of the Peace Week-end.
5. Peace Day for trade union activists, which included information, forum and video programme on peace policy; and a similar event with the participation of co-operative workers.
6. Peace Concert with the participation of famous Hungarian and foreign artists.
7. Month of Peace and Friendship, with peace meetings, forums on disarmament, friendship programmes and scientific conferences.
8. Peace Festival of Nationalities with the participation of representatives of the nationalities living in Hungary.
9. Peace Memorial Tour of the National Co-operative Congress.

10. Exchange of methodological experience entitled "Practice of peace work".
11. National peace tours for young people.
12. All-day programme for children under the title of "Children want to live in peace".
13. "Scientists against Nuclear Armaments" (SANA) and the conference of the Pugwash movement.
14. "Children and war", an international conference arranged by the Hungarian National Committee for UNICEF; action entitled "Children for Children" to help children of famine- and war-stricken regions, and a methodological conference with the participation of practising teachers on questions of education for international understanding, progress and peace.
15. International Children's Drawing Competition entitled "We want to live", displayed in the National Gallery of Budapest and in several other cities.
16. National contests on topics relating to peace.
17. Press, photo, art, painting, peace-poster, and peace-badge competition in observance of the International Year of Peace.
18. Contests in several localities of the country, demonstrating the interrelationship of peace and sports.

The above-mentioned actions form only a small part of the series of programmes by which our National Committee intended to contribute to the success of the International Year of Peace. Although we have sought to convey a representative picture of the events organized by Hungary in observance of the International Year of Peace, several important programmes may certainly have been omitted from the list, but I think I have succeeded in giving an overview of the related work of the Hungarian National Committee.

Dr. Péter Várkonyi
Chairman of the Hungarian
National Committee
