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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 29 November 1986 from the Permanent Representative of
Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to communicate to you herewith the results of the 23 November 1986 referendum on the 5 per cent reduction by the Socialist Republic of Romania of its weaponry troop strength and military spending.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this communication to be distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 21, 58, 60, 61, 62, 65, and 68.

(Signed) Teodor MARINESCU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Results of the 23 November 1986 referendum on the 5 per cent reduction by the Socialist Republic of Romania of its weaponry, troop strength and military spending

1. Consistent with its policy of peace, Romania, and its President Nicolae Ceausescu, recently addressed an appeal to the European States, the United States of America and Canada to take steps to unilaterally reduce their weaponry, troop strength and military spending by at least 5 per cent, stating its conviction that such a reduction would in no way endanger their defence capability but might, on the contrary, open the way to genuine disarmament negotiations.
2. Convinced of the necessity and the realism of such a step aimed at moving ahead from declarations to effective action to solve the problems of international life constructively, the Socialist Republic of Romania declared itself ready to unilaterally reduce its weaponry, troop strength and military spending by 5 per cent this very year, thereby demonstrating its firm desire for peace and at the same time setting an example to other countries. To this end, it was decided that the entire people should be consulted through a referendum.
3. Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Romania and of Decree No. 360/1986 of the Council of State, the referendum on the 5 per cent reduction by the Socialist Republic of Romania of its weaponry, troop strength and military spending took place on 23 November 1986.
4. For the referendum, 16,703,845 citizens eligible to vote were registered, of whom 16,703,621, or 99.99 per cent, actually participated. The voting lists also included 1,577,357 young people aged between 14 and 18 years, of whom 1,577,353, or virtually 100 per cent, expressed their opinion through the referendum.
5. The results of the referendum show that 16,073,621 citizens, or 100 per cent of those participating, voted in favour of the 5 per cent reduction in weaponry, troop strength and military spending, while 1,577,353 young people aged between 14 and 18 years, representing 100 per cent of the total number of young people consulted in the referendum, also voted in favour.
6. As a result of the implementation of the decision to reduce the weaponry, troop strength and military spending of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the number of its armed forces will be reduced by approximately 10,000 officers, petty officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers. Weaponry will be reduced by approximately 250 tanks and other armoured vehicles, 130 guns and mine throwers, and 26 combat aircraft and helicopters. Total military spending, at its 1987 level, will be reduced by about 1,350 million lei.
7. The human and financial resources thus released will be used for the country's economic and social development programmes. Similarly, certain means of combat made available as a result of these reductions will be used in the economy. Thus, tanks, appropriately equipped, will be used to carry out irrigation programmes and programmes for improving agricultural land.

3. The results of the referendum demonstrated the full support of the entire people for the policy of disarmament and peace pursued consistently by Romania and their firm determination to commit themselves wholeheartedly to the struggle to halt the arms race, move on to specific practical disarmament measures and build a world of peace, understanding and co-operation among all nations.
