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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 25 June 1975 from the Permanent Representative of Romania  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to the proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania for disarmament.

I would be grateful if you would distribute this programme as an official document of the General Assembly under item 43 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirtieth regular session of the General Assembly (General and complete disarmament).

(Signed) Ion DATCU  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of the Socialist Republic of Romania  
to the United Nations

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\* A/10000.

ANNEX

Romania's proposals concerning steps to be taken  
within a Disarmament Programme

I. A dominant feature of the contemporary world situation is the widening gulf of world-wide economic, social, national and political contradictions. The complexity of the problems facing the peoples is compounded by the economic crisis, magnified by the crises of energy, food-stuffs, raw materials and finance.

The intensification of the armaments race, the stockpiling of new and devastating weapons and the increase in military expenditure gravely imperil international security and peace and at the same time impose a heavy burden on all the peoples. The vertiginous growth of inflation and the economic crisis can be largely attributed to the armaments race and to the immense expenditure on military purposes.

This process is heightening international instability, endangering the security of some States, areas and continents, and threatening the peace of the whole world. The move towards relaxation which has begun in recent years is still in its fragile infancy, and needs to be consolidated by the joint efforts of all States.

II. The Twelfth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party held at Bucharest in November 1974, having examined the present world situation and established guidelines for the world policy of the Socialist Republic of Romania, took the view that the following measures should be adopted within a disarmament programme:

1. Freezing and gradual reduction of military budgets and prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

2. Every State possessing nuclear weapons must solemnly bind itself to halt the production of new weapons and begin to destroy existing weapons under appropriate agreements. This is the only way of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and effectively warding off the danger of a devastating thermonuclear war.

3. Nuclear-free zones must be established, foreign military bases dismantled, the size of national armed forces gradually reduced, and troops stationed in the territory of other States withdrawn.

4. The reduction of troops, armaments and military expenditure must not be purely symbolic. At first they should be reduced by at least 10-15 per cent, and in the heavily armed countries by more.

5. Confidence and co-operation must be developed among States to create the conditions necessary for the suppression of antagonistic military blocs. All bellicose propaganda must be firmly ended.

6. The negotiations for general disarmament and, most important, for nuclear disarmament, and the establishment of practical measures to bring this about, must

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be conducted on a thoroughly democratic basis with the participation of all the States concerned. To this end it is essential to improve the work of the Disarmament Committee at Geneva and build the activities of all disarmament conferences and organizations on democratic foundations.

7. The world should be systematically informed by periodic reports at least twice a year on activities related to disarmament.

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