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CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 8 July 1970 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of  
Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As Chairman of the group of eastern European States, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic on the question of the strengthening of international security.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the above-mentioned statement circulated as an official General Assembly document.

(Signed) Dr. Leszek KASPRZYK  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON THE  
QUESTION OF THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The Government of the German Democratic Republic has noted with satisfaction that the twenty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly, on the basis of a draft appeal to all States of the world submitted by the Government of the USSR,<sup>1/</sup> dealt with important and urgent matters of the strengthening of international security, and that it adopted a relevant resolution.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic welcomes the demand raised in that resolution that, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its existence, the United Nations Organization should discuss measures and submit recommendations to contribute to maintaining peace, guaranteeing security and promoting disarmament and the economic and social progress of all mankind. It shares the opinion expressed in the resolution that international security requires a strict observance of the principles of the United Nations Charter. The Government of the German Democratic Republic has in all its policies been guided by these principles, and also in its application for membership in the United Nations Organization it declared that it was willing to assume and fulfil all duties arising from the United Nations Charter.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic has always considered it its foremost international duty to see to it that no war must ever again start from German soil. The Constitution of the German Democratic Republic prohibits militaristic and revanchist propaganda and participation of its citizens in preparing for or committing warlike acts to suppress other peoples. Faithful to this principle of its Constitution, the Government of the German Democratic Republic supports any action which is suitable to help ensure peace and security in the world.

The past and present of Europe has seen many events decisive for international security. On this continent two devastating world wars were unleashed by German imperialism, for which the peoples had to pay a tremendous price in lives and property. Although Hitlerite fascism was smashed as a result of the Second World

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<sup>1/</sup> A/7903, para. 7.

War, there remain grave dangers in Europe for world peace because the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany does not recognize the territorial status quo and the present borders and seeks to revise the results of the Second World War. Constructive measures towards strengthening peace and security on the European continent are therefore an urgent necessity to consolidate peace and security on an international scale.

The German Democratic Republic has repeatedly tabled concrete proposals on measures to ensure European security. It is among the sponsors of the proposal that an all-European security conference should be convened, and works for an early holding of such a conference without pre-conditions, and with equal participation of all European States. In the interests of creating a truly healthy political atmosphere in Europe and improving the relations between all European States, the German Democratic Republic holds the view that this conference should discuss matters the solution of which is possible at present and which also have favourable effects on the stability of peace and security in Europe and the world.

An all-European security conference could be a first step on the road towards creating a European security system which - borne by the joint efforts of the European States and in accordance with the United Nations Charter - would essentially contribute to strengthening international security.

The interests of strengthening peace and international security require that the relations among States with different social orders be guided by the principles of peaceful coexistence and that all States strictly observe the principles of the United Nations Charter in their international relations. Only by observing the principles of sovereignty, equality of rights, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in domestic affairs and the principle of peacefully settling disputes in the relations among States with different social orders will it be possible to remove existing hotbeds of tension and achieve genuine progress in the securing of peace.

Proceeding from this, the Government of the German Democratic Republic has proposed to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to establish equal relations on the basis of international law, and submitted a relevant draft treaty. This draft treaty is fully in line with the considerations and recommendations of

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resolution 2606 (XXIV) of the United Nations General Assembly on the strengthening of international security. Essential elements of international security are the principal contents of this draft treaty, especially as regards:

- agreement on normal, equal relations, free from any discrimination, between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on the basis of the generally recognized principles and norms of international law;
- mutual recognition of the present territories with the existing borders, and their inviolability;
- renunciation of the threat or use of force in their mutual relations and the commitment to settle between themselves all their disputes in a peaceful way and by peaceful means; and
- application for admission of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations Organization.

The provisions of this draft treaty lie in the interest of the peoples of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany and of all peoples and States interested in peace. The conclusion of such a treaty would help put an end to the policy of non-recognition of the territorial status quo and the revision of the results of the Second World War, which policy is directed against détente and threatens peace, still poisons the atmosphere in Europe and endangers European security.

The peoples and States of the world are confronted with the challenge to help strengthen international security by means of concrete deeds. The imperialist policy of aggression still gives rise to tension in various parts of the world and military aggressions are committed against independent States. Indicative of this are, above all, the United States aggression against the peoples of Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia and Israel's aggressive acts against the Arab States, which constitute a gross violation of the United Nations Charter.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic expresses the hope that the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly will take decisions which will contribute towards strengthening international security and enable the United Nations to take measures towards eliminating the danger of war and towards suppressing acts of aggression. This requires the full implementation of the

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principle of universality in the United Nations system, the elimination of any discrimination and the ensuring of equality-based participation by all peace-loving States in international relations.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic is ready to support actively any such steps to guarantee peace and security.

Berlin, 15 June 1970