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

Letter dated 7 October 1991 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the texts, in English and French, of the declarations of the European Community and its member States on Yugoslavia issued on 5 and 6 October 1991 (see annexes I and II, respectively).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 68.

(Signed) Robert J. VAN SCHAİK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

Declaration on Yugoslavia adopted at Haarzuilens on
5 October 1991 by the European Community

The Community and its member States are deeply concerned at the situation caused by the announcement of a few members of the Yugoslav collective Federal Presidency that it will henceforth take decisions on the basis solely of the votes of four members, and that it is taking over certain tasks which constitutionally are within the competence of the Federal Parliament.

They reject this seizure of the Presidency by Montenegro and Serbia, which has already been condemned by other Republics of Yugoslavia. The Community and its member States condemn this illegal action against the Constitution of Yugoslavia and the Charter of Paris. They are not prepared to acknowledge any decisions taken by a body which can no longer pretend to speak for the whole of Yugoslavia.

They urgently call upon all parties to refrain from any action that would impair the implementation in good faith of the agreement reached on 4 October in The Hague between the representatives of Croatia, Serbia and the Yugoslav National Army (JNA) under the auspices of the Presidency.

ANNEX II

Declaration of Yugoslavia adopted at Haarzuilens on
6 October 1991 by the European Community

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Community and its member States, meeting at Castle De Haar at Haarzuilens on 6 October 1991, are dismayed that heavy fighting is continuing in Yugoslavia in spite of the agreements reached in The Hague on 4 October 1991 between Presidents Tudjman and Milosevic and General Kadijevic, in the presence of the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Conference on Yugoslavia.

The violence and breaches of cease-fire agreements are committed by all parties to the conflict. Grave doubts exist as to the will of parties to settle their disputes by peaceful means. Ministers are alarmed in particular at reports that the Yugoslav National Army (JNA), having resorted to a disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force, has shown itself to be no longer a neutral and disciplined institution.

Ministers are determined that those responsible for the unprecedented violence in Yugoslavia, with its ever-increasing loss of life, should be held accountable under international law for their actions.

At the meeting of 4 October, it was agreed that a political solution should be sought in the perspective of recognition of the independence of those republics wishing it, at the end of a negotiating process conducted in good faith and involving all parties.

The right to self-determination of all the peoples of Yugoslavia cannot be exercised in isolation from the interests and rights of ethnic minorities within the individual republics. These can only be assured through peaceful negotiations for which the Conference on Yugoslavia, including its Arbitration Commission, has been convened. The Ministers reiterate their determination never to recognize any changes of borders brought about by force.

In that context the Ministers recall their statement of 5 October condemning the seizure of the Federal Presidency by a few members of that body. The Ministers deplore that yet again the commitments undertaken by the major players in the Yugoslav crisis are not being honoured.

They demand from all parties to implement last Friday's agreement in all its aspects no later than by 7 October 2400 hours. Failing that, the Ministers will take restrictive measures to be applied against those parties continuing to flout the desire of the other Yugoslav parties as well as the international community for a successful outcome of the Conference on Yugoslavia. They will then terminate the Cooperation and Trade Agreement with Yugoslavia and only renew it with those parties which are contributing to the peace process. Ministers have asked the Political Committee and the Commission to identify immediately further measures, including in the economic

field. They call on all other countries to support European Community (EC) positions in this respect.

Ministers are deeply concerned over the threat to the security of EC monitors in the face of violence on an unprecedented scale. They wish to leave no doubt that the EC monitors will continue to perform their duties in accordance with their mandates only as long as their security can be assured.

They invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to speed up his report in accordance with Security Council resolution 713 (1991), and to that effect to consider sending a special envoy to Yugoslavia without delay.
