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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM IN THE AGENDA
OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

DECLARATION OF A PEACE YEAR, A PEACE MONTH AND A PEACE DAY

Letter dated 14 August 1981 from the Permanent Representative
of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

Upon instructions from the Government of Costa Rica, I have the honour to request, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the thirty-sixth session of the Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Declaration of a Peace Year, a Peace Month and a Peace Day".

The explanatory memorandum enclosed with this note, in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, outlines the reasons for the great importance attached by the Government of Costa Rica to the inclusion and consideration of this item, and I therefore have the honour to request that it should be allocated to plenary meetings of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

(Signed) Rodolfo PIZA ESCALANTE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. The International Association of University Presidents, a body consisting of the Presidents or Rectors of more than 700 universities in all parts of the world, held its Sixth Triennial Conference at San José, Costa Rica, from 28 June to 3 July 1981.
2. The central topic of the Conference was the evaluation of the various alternatives for strengthening the role of higher education in the promotion of peace through education, paying special attention to the possibilities afforded by the University for Peace, whose establishment was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980.
3. The Conference endorsed the conclusion that the most stable and effective means of achieving lasting and real peace was education, which should serve to implant the ideals of peace as a continuous living experience in the minds of human beings.
4. The International Association of University Presidents decided to invite the United Nations General Assembly to declare a Peace Year, a Peace Month and a Peace Day - the latter to be observed on a continuing basis - to serve as a constant reminder of mankind's ardent longing for the attainment of this universal peace dreamed of by all the peoples of the United Nations and to promote the search for effective means of establishing it, not simply as an absence of war or conflict but as a positive reality based on justice.
5. The Association requested the co-operation of the Government of Costa Rica in arranging for a supplementary item to be included in the agenda of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.
6. Since the Government of Costa Rica fully shares the ideas and objectives of the Conference, it has accepted the honour of requesting, pursuant to rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled "Declaration of Peace Year, a Peace Month and a Peace Day".
7. A draft resolution on the subject will be submitted in due course and Costa Rica hopes that in this endeavour it can count on widespread support among the States Members of the United Nations.
