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LETTER DATED 22 MARCH 1977 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany has noted with regret that in the Russian version of the provisional verbatim record of the 1988th meeting of the Security Council, dated 21 March 1977 (document S/PV.1988) my country has once again been listed incorrectly in spite of the letters on this subject I sent to you on 13 January and 7 and 9 February 1977. You may recall that I also set out our position in the personal talks we had on this matter on 25 January and 28 February 1977.

The designation used by the Secretariat is not in accordance with the established United Nations practice as reflected in Terminology Bulletin 285/Rev.2, dated 27 January 1977. I regret that despite our repeated protests the Secretariat continues to disregard its own general practice.

It is the inherent right of States Members of the United Nations, deriving from their sovereignty, to choose their designation and to decide on the form in which that designation should be used in international practice and especially in the working languages of the United Nations. Mindful of this right, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is not prepared to accept any distortion of her self-chosen designation in any language by third parties.

Consequently, I should like to repeat that my country should be listed in the Russian version of the verbatim records of the Security Council as:

"Germania, Federativnaia Respublika".

I should be grateful, Mr. Secretary-General, if you could see to it that my country's name is listed accordingly in all documents of the United Nations, especially those relating to the Security Council.

I have the honour to request the circulation of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Baron Rüdiger von WECHMAR