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

Implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation
of Societies for Life in Peace

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BULGARIA

[Original: Russian]

[30 August 1981]

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, acting in complete conformity with the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace adopted at the thirty-third session of the General Assembly (resolution 33/73) on the initiative of the Polish People's Republic, consistently follows a course aimed at strengthening the foundations of international peace and security, reducing tension in international relations, preserving and deepening détente, halting the arms race and promoting disarmament.
2. The Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, which the People's Republic of Bulgaria supported from the very beginning, serves precisely this aim.
3. The importance of this Declaration is growing, particularly in an international situation which has been seriously complicated and in which certain reactionary political circles are trying to undermine and bury détente and resurrect the spirit of confrontation and "cold war".
4. The United States of America and some of its allies have recently stepped up the attempts to disturb the strategic military balance and change the alignment of forces to their own advantage. To this end they are increasing their military expenditure and forcing the pace of the arms race, interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign States, supporting and creating hotbeds of tension in various regions of the world, sending armed forces into so-called "areas involving their vital interests", creating new military bases and setting up "rapid deployment forces".
5. The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is convinced that the present situation in the world demands far-reaching changes - a renunciation of tension-producing confrontation in favour of normalizing the international climate, and the establishment of contacts, a broader dialogue and constructive talks at all levels aimed at achieving mutually acceptable understandings on disputed issues and on the key questions of strengthening peace and security.
6. The broad complex of constructive proposals already put forward by the USSR, Bulgaria and the other socialist countries which are parties to the Warsaw Pact, together with the most recent initiatives advanced at the Twenty-sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Twelfth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the congresses of the communist parties of the other fraternal socialist countries, serve precisely this aim. They indicate the correct ways of solving the main international problems.

7. Remaining true to the peace-loving direction of its foreign policy, the People's Republic of Bulgaria in its relations with other countries pursues a policy firmly based on principle. The fundamental aim of this policy is the strengthening of international peace and security and the triumph of mutually advantageous co-operation and trust between States and peoples.

8. This devotion to the cause of peace and understanding is also laid down in the 1971 Constitution, in which the citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria confirm their readiness to promote and consolidate international peace and understanding among all the peoples of the world. Article 63 prohibits incitement to war and war propaganda and describes such activity as a serious crime against peace and mankind.

9. In full conformity with the requirements of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, Bulgaria has organized and held a number of important international meetings which have played a positive role in implementing the principles laid down in the Declaration.

10. The World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace, held in Sofia from 23 to 27 September 1980 received international recognition. The representatives of various political parties and about 100 international organizations, national liberation movements and representatives of the scientific, artistic and cultural fields from 134 countries designated the removal of the threat of war, the stopping of the arms race, and the preservation and strengthening of détente as the most important task. The two basic final documents, the Appeal and the Charter of the World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace, emphasized the need to continue talks on the further limitation of strategic weapons, begin talks on the questions of medium-range nuclear weapons, including the United States of America's forward-based systems, disband all military alliances and dismantle military bases on foreign territories, and re-establish trust among peoples. At the same time, they highlighted the urgent need to take measures to implement the recommendations of the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and to convene a World Disarmament Conference in the immediate future.

11. It was in Bulgaria that the International Children's Assembly "Banner of Peace", that representative forum of humanism and love of peace which initiated the world movement of children for peace, took place in 1979.

12. Both the Sofia meeting of writers, ministers and cultural workers, which has now become traditional, and a number of other meetings, which undoubtedly make a contribution to efforts for the continuation of détente and the deepening of understanding and co-operation between people and nations, are held regularly on the initiative of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

13. Two international meetings on détente which took place in Bulgaria in 1980 and 1981 should also be noted. Here representatives of democratic agrarian parties, centre parties, left-wing radicals, liberals, Christian Democrat and other related parties and organizations from 80 European, Asian, African and American countries reaffirmed their deep conviction that there is no rational alternative to the policy of détente, that the danger of a nuclear missile catastrophe must be not

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only reduced but eliminated forever, and that international co-operation must be widened and deepened in the interest of the present and future of all the peoples of the world.

14. The People's Republic of Bulgaria pays paramount attention to the development of relations with the Balkan countries and to the strengthening of peace and security in its immediate geographical vicinity. The conversion of the Balkan peninsula into a region of lasting peace and stability is our constant aim. This serves the interests not only of the Bulgarian but also of the other Balkan peoples, it serves the cause of peace, détente and security in Europe and throughout the world.

15. The new constructive proposals advanced by Todor Zhivkov, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, at the recently held Twelfth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party, are also a manifestation of this consistent peaceful course and of the persistence and initiative with which our country pursues it. In accordance with these proposals, which fully meet the spirit and principles of the Helsinki Final Act, Bulgaria has expressed its readiness to conclude bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries which would include a code of good-neighbourly relations, a renunciation of territorial claims, and a ban on the use of the territory of the contracting parties for hostile purposes and actions against one another; it has also expressed readiness for a further widening and deepening of bilateral co-operation in the spheres of economics, tourism, culture, science, education and sport, and for the development of co-operation in the field of transport and communications, which will be in the interests of many countries and peoples; and also for further co-operation on a multilateral basis with other Balkan countries on questions of mutual interest in those specific spheres where understanding has been reached.

16. The same constructive aims provided the basis for the joint Bulgarian-Soviet proposal in favour of the idea of turning the Balkan peninsula into a nuclear free zone made during the Crimea meeting between Todor Zhivkov and Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Party and State leaders of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 7 August 1981.

17. The People's Republic of Bulgaria attaches great importance to the development of active relations and co-operation with other countries of Europe, Africa, Asia and the other continents on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems.

18. In view of the role and importance of the mass media for educating and instructing the rising generation and for preparing society to live in peace, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria pays particular attention to their activities. The press, radio and television widely reflect all events in Bulgaria and abroad relating to questions of peace, security and disarmament. The danger and pernicious influence of the arms race and the causes prompting it are widely explained, and ways of removing the threat of war and strengthening peace, security and trust between the peoples are indicated. At the same time, posters, pamphlets,

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books and other materials on these questions are disseminated. The special newspaper for children published in the People's Republic of Bulgaria entitled "Banner of Peace" and dedicated to the International Assembly can also be cited as an example.

19. The educational system in Bulgaria fully meets the requirements for educating and preparing the younger generation to live in peace. The curriculum in Bulgaria's schools and higher educational establishments fully accords with the requirements and spirit of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.

20. In his speech on 21 May 1981 at the opening of the international meeting entitled "Détente, Peace and Social Progress", Todor Zhivkov, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Chairman of the State Council, solemnly declared that "the People's Republic of Bulgaria will continue to do everything in its power for the continuance and deepening of détente, for peaceful coexistence with the capitalist countries, for ending the arms race and achieving disarmament in conditions of military equality and equal security for East and West, and for an open and frank dialogue on all the controversial questions of international relations".

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[17 September 1981]

1. The struggle to avert the threat of a nuclear disaster, strengthen peace and ease international tension is the pivotal principle of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union.
2. The USSR Constitution declares that one of the major tasks of the Soviet State is to assist the cause of peace and the development of international co-operation and defines the fundamental principles of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union. It lays down that the relations of the USSR with other States are based on observance of the principles of sovereign equality; mutual renunciation of the use or threat of force; inviolability of frontiers; territorial integrity of States; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-interference in internal affairs; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, equality and the rights of people to decide their own destiny; co-operation among States; and the fulfilment in good faith of obligations arising from the generally recognized principles and rules of international law and from the international treaties concluded by the USSR.
3. In the USSR war propaganda is prohibited by law; violation of the law is punishable as a crime. In the USSR the law prohibits both racial discrimination and propaganda inciting to hostility and violence. Furthermore, under the Constitution citizens of the USSR are obliged to promote the development of friendship and co-operation with the peoples of other countries and to support and strengthen universal peace.

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4. In accordance with its Fundamental Law and with the policy of the Communist Party, the Soviet Union ensures the full realization of the provisions of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace adopted at the initiative of the Polish People's Republic by the General Assembly in resolution 33/73.
5. The universal and full realization of the noble aims and purposes set forth in the Declaration assumes special urgency at the present time, when in international affairs the problem of maintaining peace has become more acute. There is no question that every people is vitally interested in living in peace with its neighbours and, together with them, preserving the common home of mankind, the planet Earth.
6. However, serious obstacles remain in the path of trust and harmony. Recently in the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the enemies of détente, including influential enemies possessing large resources, have become markedly more active. These are circles which derive material and political advantage from exacerbating international tension and stepping up the arms race. They are the ones who in recent years have taken the well-known decisions and steps in the West designed to slow down and freeze the process of détente, give a further and extremely dangerous twist to the spiraling arms race, and nudge the world towards a nuclear disaster that would annihilate its peoples.
7. As a pretext to "justify" such an inhuman policy, they resort to the threadbare fiction of a so-called "Soviet threat", which did not and does not exist.
8. Action to prevent peace from entering a dangerous decline, defend détente and curb the arms race - this is what the vital interests of all peoples demand at the present time. People must not feel themselves powerless in the face of evil. On the contrary, they must strive with even greater will and determination to achieve mutual understanding and the development of comprehensive co-operation among nations. That is why so much importance is attached to negotiations on disputed questions and mutual support among all anti-war movements, and to the harnessing of the common efforts of all peoples in the cause of peace, however different their views and beliefs.
9. As Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, leader of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of the Soviet State, declared:

"Reason, sincerity and a belief in the future - this is the weapon of the advocates of peace, the weapon which the supporters of the arms race and confrontation do not possess. I am convinced that the idea of peace will have growing influence in governmental and parliamentary circles, and that, in the final analysis, it is through the efforts of peoples that the storm-clouds of war will be dissipated."

10. The Soviet State has always attached great importance to the upbringing of youth in a spirit of peace and internationalism. The over-all objective situation and the social, spiritual, ideological and moral climate in our society determine the basic orientation of the education process and the moral and ethical upbringing of the younger generation. The essence of Soviet society, based on social justice, in which the interests of the people are bound up with a peaceful life, is inevitably reflected in the positions taken by Soviet schools, and influences the over-all outlook and the internal world of our youth.

11. From their childhood, Soviet citizens live and are brought up in an atmosphere of the love of peace and friendship among peoples. The idea of peace permeates every sphere of life in Soviet society - literature, art, and the entire multinational culture of the peoples of the USSR.

12. In the Soviet Union, the upbringing of youth in a spirit of peace and international understanding is reflected in a whole range of scientific disciplines in the curricula of schools and institutes of general education, and in the curricula designed to raise the general education level of the country's adult population; it is an all-embracing process involving all aspects of social cognition: study, work and the participation of youth in civic activities.

13. In the general and specialized secondary schools and in higher educational establishments, the teaching of both natural and social disciplines covers the questions of the struggle for peace, the prevention of war, including nuclear war, and the problem of disarmament. In Soviet teaching material there is no place for ideas about the "inevitability" of war, the "fatality" of the arms race or propaganda of aggression; it is permeated with a spirit of optimism and reflects a belief in the triumph of reason and realism.

14. In bringing up young people in a spirit of peace, the family and the mass media play an active role.

15. The Soviet people have borne the primary burden of the cruelest and most destructive war in history, which brought incalculable calamities and suffering to all peoples of the earth. That grim lesson in our country, which profoundly reveres the memory of 20 million fallen patriots, all of whom gave their lives in the struggle to combat aggression and achieve peace on earth will never be forgotten.

16. During the Second World War, nearly every Soviet family lost members or close relatives, and that fact exerted and continues to exert an enormous influence on the attitude of the Soviet family towards questions of war and peace and its profound understanding of the value of peace.

17. New generations of Soviet people feel that they have a permanent living link with the past, and are brought up in a spirit of the best historical traditions of the people, engaged in the creative work of constructing Communist society.

18. The mass media of the USSR, following the peace-loving direction of the foreign policy of the Soviet State, disseminate ideas of peace and friendship, objectively publicize the various actions taken and agreements concluded in the struggle to curb the arms race and create a climate conducive to the cause of disarmament. Their day-to-day publicity is devoid of violence and aggressiveness and of stereotypes imbued with a disparaging attitude towards other peoples and races.

19. The Soviet Union not only seeks to imbue people with optimism and will-power in the struggle to preserve peace, but also actively strives to mobilize their efforts in achieving that aim, and does everything within its power to that end. That is the purpose of the Programme of Peace for the 1980s, adopted at the Twenty-sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The new measures proposed in the programme cover a broad range of questions. They concern nuclear missiles and conventional types of weapons, as well as land, naval and air forces. They relate to the situation in Europe as well as in the Near, Middle and Far East. They include not only political but also military measures. All these proposals are united by a single objective, a single striving - to do everything possible to save peoples from the threat of nuclear war and to preserve peace on earth.

20. The Twenty-sixth Congress reaffirmed that the Soviet people have not only the desire and will-power to strive for peace but also a detailed, precise programme to that end.

21. The appeal from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR "to the parliaments and peoples of the world" dated 23 June 1981 is a document of great mobilizing force for all those who hold peace dear and are not indifferent to the fate of mankind. That document declares that the achievement of peace was, is and will be the highest goal of the foreign policy of the Soviet State. The supreme legislative organ of the USSR declares that peace is the common property of mankind and that at the present time it is also the foremost prerequisite for man's existence. Recalling the lessons of the Second World War, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR urges that everything possible must be done in order to prevent a repetition of the tragedy of the past.

22. The Soviet Union, as has been repeatedly stated at the highest level, is ready to conduct negotiations on all pressing questions of peace and security and to consider attentively any constructive ideas from other States. Our country will continue in the future to spare no effort to promote a lasting peace and the realization of the noble objectives of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace.
