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## REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 14 June 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Bolivia  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you of the following matter, of importance both for the Government of Bolivia and for the purposes and duties of the world Organization.

As you are aware, for some years the world community has been alarmed by the pernicious increase in the clandestine manufacture of and traffic in drugs. Bolivia and certain other countries in the region suffer the deleterious consequences of being the sole producers of coca. This natural circumstance, which did not present any problems for our peoples and Governments so long as the traditional chewing of coca leaves by our indigenous population was all that occurred, became a disquieting cause of social and economic disturbances with the growth, stimulated by the criminal forces of the international drug traffic, of the illegal processing of and trafficking in cocaine within our region.

The Government of Bolivia has reacted speedily and energetically to this state of affairs, having proposed last year to the General Assembly an "International Campaign against Traffic in Drugs" and having actively co-operated in the drafting and adoption by consensus of resolution 36/168 of 16 December 1981, which, inter alia, provides for the establishment of a task force which will allow the international community to mount a campaign in this field through the United Nations. At the regular session of the Economic and Social Council held at Headquarters some weeks ago, I addressed the Council, officially stating Bolivia's desire to participate in the aforementioned task force, with a view to making a direct and continuing contribution to the attainment of this important objective.

\* A/37/50/Rev.1.

Yet time passes, and while Bolivia, beset by difficulties and sacrifices, ceaselessly continues, its national campaign against illicit cocaine, the task force has not been established. We have recently been informed by the United States Mission that no further progress was anticipated at least until next year and that for the moment no thought was being given to participation by the States affected by the situation and concerned to correct it.

This circumstance impels me to appeal directly to you to request that, taking into account the legal advice of your distinguished advisers and the advisability of immediate action, you suggest to those concerned the effective and immediate implementation of resolution 36/168.

I should be grateful if you would send me a reply which I may forward to my Government, and if you would kindly have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 12 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando ORTIZ SANZ  
Ambassador

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