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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Letter dated 22 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing with regard to the Commonwealth of Independent States, for which Turkmenistan is currently the Chair.

The Council of Foreign Ministers of the Commonwealth of Independent States, at its annual meeting on 5 April 2019 in Moscow, adopted a statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the need to preserve and properly care for military cemeteries and military monuments of the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945 (see annex).

In this regard, I would be very grateful if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Aksoltan Ataeva
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 22 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the need to conserve and properly care for military cemeteries and military monuments of the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), on the eve of the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945,

Paying tribute to the courage and heroism of military personnel and members of partisan units and other underground anti-fascist groups, and the selflessness of workers on the home front and all other persons who opposed fascism,

Call for the following actions:

Ensure that the necessary measures are taken and efforts made to conserve and perpetuate the memory of the courage and heroism of the peoples of CIS member States in the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945, as well as of other countries in the fight against fascism;

Carry out measures to maintain and renovate military cemeteries and military monuments, including by installing, restoring and repairing memorial signs, gravestones, monuments and other memorial structures;

Provide public and other associations with all-round assistance in carrying out research and raising awareness of publicly available databases on the victims of the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945, including the Memorial consolidated database;

Organize comprehensive and objective coverage of the timeless deeds and heroism of the peoples of CIS member States and of other States in the fight against fascism;

Pay special attention to developing charity among young people and providing them with a patriotic education and support volunteer movements in connection with the conservation of military cemeteries and military monuments;

Strongly oppose the defilement of the memory of those who died in the fight against fascism and prevent the destruction or desecration of military cemeteries and military monuments.

We are convinced that it is only through joint efforts to preserve historical memory and an objective and impartial assessment of the outcome of the Second World War that we can prevent a recurrence of its horrors and ensure peace and prosperity.