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International Year of Peace

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# Report of the Secretary-General

# Addendum

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#### REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

#### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[20 October 1983]

- 1. The Soviet Union believes that the question of peace has been and remains the most burning problem of contemporary times affecting the vital interests of all peoples and States.
- 2. The preservation of peace on earth is the invariable pivotal direction of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union which is engaged in a tireless struggle to reduce the threat of war, curb the arms race and consistently implement the principles of peaceful coexistence among States with different social systems.
- 3. The Soviet Union not only sets itself the goal of preventing war, but also strives for a radical improvement in international relations and the strengthening and development of all sound foundations in this respect. It consistently strives for respect for the sovereign rights of States and peoples and strict observance of the principles of international law.
- 4. At the practical level, in order to attain these goals, the Soviet Union systematically puts forward foreign policy initiatives, in the United Nations and elsewhere. It believes that the preservation of peace is the main goal of the United Nations and that the tireless and constant efforts of all States Members of the United Nations should be concentrated on attaining that goal.
- 5. As to the decision of the General Assembly (resolution 37/16) to proclaim in 1985 the International Year of Peace, in the view of the Soviet Union this event may serve as an additional stimulus for mobilizing the efforts of peoples and States aimed at averting the threat of nuclear war and strengthening peace on earth, particularly since, in 1985, the peoples of the world will observe the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, as well as the establishment of the United Nations, which is called upon to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.
- 6. It is clear that international and national public organizations have an important role to play in organizing the International Year of Peace. Soviet public organizations intend to take part in the preparation and organization of appropriate events within the context of the International Year of Peace.

### Annex I

## (Draft programme of the International Year of Peace)

As at 31 October 1983, two additional proposals had been received from the consultation of non-governmental organizations, held at Geneva from 26 to 28 September 1983, and from the University for Peace. Consequently, the following information should be added to the end of paragraphs 26 and 43:

- 26 .... A Conterence of non-governmental organizations on the International Year of Peace, to be held in 1986 at Geneva, has been proposed.
- 43 .... The University for Peace, established by General Assembly resolution 35/55, plans to co-operate with universities in various countries in promoting the objectives of the International Year of Peace through seminars, research projects and the preparation of an inventory of existing studies.