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GENERAL ASSEMBLY Thirty-ninth session Items 65 and 68 of the preliminary list* GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 12 June 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you herewith the text of the Appeal by the Warsaw Treaty member States to the NATO member States concerning the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of armed force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations.

Upon instructions from my Government, I hereby request you to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 65 and 68 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pál RACZ

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ANNEX

APPEAL

BY THE WARSAW TREATY MEMBER STATES TO THE NATO MEMBER STATES CONCERNING THE CONCLUSION OF A TREATY ON THE MUTUAL RENUNCIATION OF THE USE OF ARMED FORCE AND ON THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACEFUL RELATIONS

In the present tense international situation, which is characterized, especially in Europe, by mounting tension among States and growing dangers of war, the States Members of the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance - the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics appeal to all NATO Member States to make joint efforts to reduce tension, improve the political atmosphere of mutual relations, increase trust and strengthen peace for the benefit of all peoples.

The Warsaw Treaty Member States believe that this goal would be served by a joint consideration of the proposal presented by them in their Political Declaration, made in Prague on January 5, 1983, concerning the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of armed force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations.

The core of that proposal is well-known. The Warsaw Treaty Member States propose to the NATO Member States a mutual commitment, in the form of a treaty, not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other and therefore not to be the

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first to use any military force at all against each other. Such commitment would apply to the territory of all the States parties to the treaty, and also to their military and civil personnel, sea-going, airand spacecraft and other installations belonging to them, wherever they may be located.

It would seem possible to provide in the treaty for a similar commitment on the non-use of force by the member States of both alliances against third countries, whether those have bilateral relations of alliance with them or are non-aligned or neutral countries.

Another important aspect of the treaty could be a commitment by the States parties not to jeopardize the safety of international sea, air and space communications passing through areas outside any national jurisdiction.

The treaty could also provide for a commitment by the States parties to strive for ending the arms race, limiting and reducing armaments and promoting disarmament, such commitment to apply to both nuclear and conventional weapons. Similarly, the treaty could include a commitment jointly to examine practical measures to avert the danger of a surprise attack. It would be useful for the treaty to express readiness to cooperate in enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations on the basis of its Charter.

A treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of armed force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations would not, of course, limit the inalienable rights of the States parties to individual and collective self-defence

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in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

The treaty would be open from the outset for any other Stateswishing to join it.

These and other questions relating to the proposal for the conclusion of such a treaty ranked high on the agenda of bilateral consultations held between the Warsaw Treaty Member States, several NATO Member States and some other countries over the past period.

Those consultations contributed to a better understanding of the proposal of the Warsaw Treaty Member States. Nevertheless, the Warsaw Treaty Member States take it into account that there are different views and ideas expressed about the said proposal as a whole and on some of its aspects, which deserve serious study. All this is indicative of a need to deepen the dialogue about the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of armed force and on the maintenance of peaceful relations. The Warsaw Treaty Member States are ready to do so.

The Warsaw Treaty Member States call for a new step to be made in the consideration of the proposal for such a treaty, namely for the starting of multilateral consultations. They are convinced that it is precisely a multilateral forum that is best capable of undertaking a profound analysis and a joint consideration of the positions of all participants, their ideas and approaches regarding the treaty as a whole and its various aspects, as has been borne out by the experience of several multi-/...

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lateral forums that have discussed or are discussing the complex issues of European security.

The participants in such consultations could include the States Members of the Warsaw Treaty and of NATO as well as all other interested States in Europe. The consultations could take up the idea of the proposed treaty and its main aspects.

The consultations could be concerned with, among others, the substance and scope of possible treaty obligations, their relationship to commitments arising out of the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and other bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements, and cooperation in ensuring compliance with the obligations undertaken in the treaty.

Concerning the character of multilateral consultations, the Warsaw Treaty Member States are of the view that the future parties to the treaty could set about considering substantive issues immediately or, should the NATO Member States prefer gradual progress, clarifying the scope and manner of discussing such issues at a later stage.

As regards the manner of holding multilateral consultations, including their venue, they could, in the opinion of the Warsaw Treaty Member States, be agreed upon without any particular difficulty.

The Warsaw Treaty Member States are naturally prepared to conduct exchanges of views on their proposal with any interested States at the Stockholm

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Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament or on a bilateral basis.

The peoples of Europe and the world expect genuine steps to be taken towards maintaining peace and security and averting the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. It is precisely in this spirit that the Warsaw Treaty Member States address this appeal to the NATO Member States and hope to receive a positive response.

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