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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Note verbale dated 5 August 1976 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Czechoslovakia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Acting Permanent Representative of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward an excerpt from the report delivered by the Secretary-General of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Mr. Gustáve Husák, at the fifteenth Congress of the Party in April 1976, entitled "Reinforcing relations among socialist countries, Czechoslovakia's share in promoting peaceful coexistence", and to request its distribution as an official document of the General Assembly under item 33 of the provisional agenda.

* A/31/150.

ANNEX

Reinforcing relations among socialist countries, Czechoslovakia's
share in promoting peaceful coexistence

Efforts aimed at strengthening our alliance, co-operation and friendship with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have been the cornerstone of our entire foreign policy activity. Pursuing the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, we made an all-round contribution to the action capacity and unity of the international Communist and workers' movement. We have given support to the national liberation movements and further intensified our co-operation with the countries which liberated themselves from colonial rule. We have consistently applied the principles of peaceful coexistence of States with different social systems, and waged a struggle against the aggressive forces of imperialism and the opponents of international relaxation of tension. In brief, our Party has been pursuing a foreign policy corresponding to the principal interests of our people, a socialist, consistently class-oriented and internationalist policy.

The successful implementation of tasks mapped out by the fourteenth Congress has also made it possible to gradually develop and extend our foreign policy activity. At the same time it should be stressed that we were able to achieve important gains in our foreign policy because we were acting in close co-ordination with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries of the socialist community. We relied on the favourable conditions created by the implementation of the peace programme adopted by the twenty-fourth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to which we also contributed our share.

Today we are justified in saying that the international position of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has been strengthened, that its prestige in the world has increased. Our State enjoys the confidence and respect of the socialist countries, it has the goodwill of the progressive world, and has become a worthy partner of many countries with different social systems.

The further elaboration of the peace programme presented at the twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union opens up for us, too, new possibilities to develop a purposeful foreign policy in keeping with the needs, the interests and the aims of our State. We are giving this programme our full endorsement and will contribute towards its realization.

The struggle to carry out the peace programme has substantially influenced the content, character and structure of international relations. Of decisive importance in this respect was that the political, economic, scientific and technical potential of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community has grown, that the position of socialism in the world, its ties with all progressive and peace-loving forces have been strengthened. The influence of the international communist and workers' movement, too, has increased. The national liberation movement has achieved new successes and victories. As a result, the balance of forces has changed in favour of socialism, progress and peace.

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It is a generally recognized fact that no important international problem can be solved today without the Soviet Union and the socialist community. As a result of their strengthened position a real possibility has been created for the process of détente to become irreversible. This in turn widens and strengthens the favourable conditions for building socialism and communism, for the struggle for peace and social progress.

This favourable atmosphere did not come out of the blue. Whatever progress has been achieved has been through relentless struggle against the opponents of peace and the policy of détente, against the cold warriors, joined very actively by the Maoists.

Of historical importance in this complicated process is the defeat of the imperialist aggressors in Viet Nam, the victory of the progressive forces in Laos and Cambodia. We rejoiced at the triumph of the heroic Vietnamese people achieved with the all-round and effective assistance of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. This was confirmation of Lenin's words that a nation whose workers and peasants, in their majority, had learnt, felt and realized that they were defending their own cause, can never be defeated. Today, the aspiration of the Vietnamese people to unite their country is coming to fruition, and prospects of a peaceful, socialist development have opened up for them. In this they can count on international assistance and support from us as well.

The position of the Cuban Republic, the first outpost of revolution and socialism in the Western hemisphere, has strengthened and its authority increased. This was also demonstrated by the recent first Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

More pillars of colonialism have crumbled, a number of newly independent States has emerged.

Of decisive importance in averting the danger of another world war, strengthening peace, is the turn in relations between the USSR and the United States of America, to be found in a number of important agreements.

Specially important to us is the arrangement of the situation in Europe, and particularly the normalization of relations between the socialist countries and the Federal Republic of Germany, which has taken place on the basis of the recognition of undeniable realities, mainly renunciation of any claims to change forcibly the present frontiers in Europe. In the treaty on mutual relations between Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Munich diktat of 1938 imposed on Czechoslovakia under the threat of force was declared null and void, and the obligation mutually to respect the territorial integrity and inviolability of common frontiers was adopted.

Thanks to the achievements of the people of the German Democratic Republic in building their socialist State and thanks to the common efforts of the socialist countries, the German Democratic Republic has won general international recognition.

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The conclusion of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin has been a weighty contribution towards stability on the European continent.

Thus the most important results of the Second World War and of post-war development in Europe have been definitively legalized and conditions created for a lasting peace and mutually advantageous co-operation between the countries of our continent. This made it possible to convene, hold and successfully conclude the historically important Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

These are indisputable achievements of the concerted efforts of the socialist States and all world revolutionary forces, the broad anti-imperialist front, the forces of democracy, progress and peace.

As was stressed at the twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, ways are opening up for the gradual solution of the other urgent world issues in the interests of a just peace, co-operation and the peaceful life of nations. The improvement of the international atmosphere shows convincingly that the achievement of a lasting peace in the world is a realistic task which must be pursued by all available means.

The decisive successes in the field of international policy are mainly due to the extensive, creative and intensive activity of the Soviet Union, its Communist Party and the personal contribution of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, whose principled attitudes, consistency and everyday fruitful activity in securing peace have won him not only the profound esteem of the Soviet people, but also of Czechoslovak communists, of all our people and the working people in the whole world. The clear position of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev that "we shall continue to pursue this policy with redoubled energy, we shall strive to tame the forces of war and aggression, to strengthen world peace and safeguard the rights of nations to freedom, independence and social progress", expressed at the twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, has found full support in this country and in the whole world, and it further strengthened the aspirations of all peace-loving people.

The guiding principle of our foreign policy is and will always be the development of all-round co-operation with the Soviet Union. This principle is deeply rooted in the minds and hearts of our people; it is the result of their historical experience. Co-operation with the Soviet Union is the principal guarantee of our national freedom and State independence, of the certainties and socialist development of our homeland. It fills us with sincere joy that our mutual relations have reached a level unparalleled in the past and that they encompass all spheres of our life. Their basis is the unity of the interests of our nations stemming from Marxist-Leninist ideology, from an identity of revolutionary aims. It is a friendship sealed with the blood shed in struggles against a common enemy and steeled by everyday work in building socialism and communism. We shall do everything to continue to strengthen and develop it. We are pleased to note that our relations with other fraternal socialist States and their parties are also moving from strength to strength and deepening in every respect, and that mutual co-operation is developing very successfully.

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The firm militant union of the Marxist-Leninist parties is the core of the unity and co-operation of States of the socialist community, grouped together on the principles of socialist internationalism within the Warsaw Treaty and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Steadily intensifying relations between the fraternal parties today reach into practically all spheres of life. Systematic personal contacts among their leading representatives play an important role in them. The gradual cohesion of the socialist countries to one another is becoming more and more an objective law governing the development of the socialist community.

Ideological co-operation between the fraternal socialist States has also been developing in recent years. This helps them raise the standard of their ideological and educational work, and aids the socialist community in waging a successful ideological struggle against hostile ideology. We want to develop this beneficial co-operation still further.
