



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/44/466
17 August 1989
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-fourth session
Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 16 August 1989 from the Permanent Representative
of Costa Rica addressed to the Secretary-General

Acting on instructions from the Government of Costa Rica, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the communiqué issued by the Costa Rican Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the people and Government of Costa Rica, in connection with the events that have taken place in the People's Republic of China. I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 12 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Carlos José GUTIERREZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/44/150.

Annex

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE COSTA RICAN MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN CHINA**

Following the tragic events in Tiananmen Square, the Costa Rican Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the people and Government, issued the following protests at what has taken place in Beijing:

"The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Worship, in view of the bloody events in mainland China, expresses its grave concern at, and strongest condemnation of, the repressive action which has resulted in the death of thousands, the vast majority being defenceless students whose sole offence was to have expressed, peacefully, their longing for freedom and democracy.

"The Government of Costa Rica considers it outrageous that actions as reprehensible as those which have been taken in mainland China in recent days should be carried out in open and flagrant violation of the norms of civilized coexistence accepted by international conventions and covenants on human rights. Such actions not only offend the dignity of all free men but also threaten international peace and security, the preservation of which is the responsibility of all peoples of the earth.

"The Government of Costa Rica hopes for the immediate cessation of repression in mainland China and the restoration of guarantees to China's citizens."

Subsequently, in view of the mass summary trials of student leaders which followed that grand pro-liberty and pro-democracy movement, there were further protests, stemming this time from leaders of major democracies, calling for the safeguarding and observance of the human rights of the Chinese people. It seems strange, therefore, that the members of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights have not taken any action in the competent organs of that organization to safeguard said rights.

This undermines the influence of our organization, which we are all duty bound to strengthen and promote so that it may lead the worthiest causes of man on earth. For that reason we support the suggestion made by other countries that the Commission be urged to study the issue and report on it as soon as possible.
