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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 1 February 1985 from the representatives of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The representatives of the undersigned countries have the honour to request you to distribute urgently the following as an official document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 12, and of the Economic and Social Council organizational session for 1985.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY OVER NAZISM
AND FASCISM IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

On 8 and 9 May the peoples of the world celebrate the anniversary of the great victory over nazism and fascism in the Second World War. This is an event of historic importance for mankind and for the United Nations, which emerged from that victory. Its founders pledged in the Charter "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war". After four decades this pledge remains the maxim for the actions of the Organization.

On 14 December 1984 the General Assembly unanimously adopted resolution 39/114 in which it declared 8 and 9 May 1985 the days of the fortieth anniversary of victory over nazism and fascism in the Second World War and of the struggle against them. The United Nations General Assembly in that resolution stressed in particular "the respect felt by today's generations for the victims of the struggle of peoples against nazism and fascism in the Second World War and for establishing the United Nations". In doing so the

General Assembly was guided by the fundamental goals of strengthening international peace and of preventing a new world war which would lead to the nuclear annihilation of mankind.

There are only three months left before the celebration of the fortieth anniversary. It will take place during the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council and there is an urgent necessity to implement this important decision of the General Assembly.

For these reasons the undersigned countries request the Economic and Social Council at its 1985 organizational session, to devise proper ways and means to hold a solemn celebration on 8 and 9 May 1985 of the fortieth anniversary of victory over nazism and fascism in the Second World War.

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