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Agenda items 66, 71, 82, 98  
and 146

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED  
BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH  
SPECIAL SESSION

STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE  
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON  
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE  
ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 1 December 1989 from the Permanent Representatives  
of Italy and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the  
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you the text of the joint Italian-Soviet  
declaration signed in Rome on 30 November 1989 (see annex).

We request you to circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as an  
official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 66, 71, 82, 98 and  
146, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER  
Permanent Representative  
of Italy  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Aleksandr M. BELONOGOV  
Permanent Representative  
of the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint Italian-Soviet statement signed in Rome on 30 November 1989

At the present crucial stage of the international situation, when new horizons of peace are appearing and the possibility of major changes in the relations among peoples based upon democracy, the values of humanism and solidarity is emerging,

Italy and the Soviet Union,

- With a view to facilitating in every way the advancement of these positive processes,
- In the awareness of the complex challenges facing today's world, which however offer to mankind historic opportunities,
- Convinced of their inherent responsibilities,

Have agreed upon the following conclusions:

1. The world must be freed from the scourge of war and from the risk of a nuclear holocaust. The settlement of disputes through peaceful means must be pursued, and all efforts deployed to ensure that confrontation is replaced by dialogue, hostilities by co-operation and suspicion by transparency. In addition, the evolution of political relations needs to be matched by an expeditious progress in negotiations on nuclear, conventional and chemical disarmament within the context of a strengthened overall security.

In concrete terms, both Parties reaffirm that in the framework of the Vienna negotiations they will favour reaching an agreement on conventional weapons in 1990. Along with confidence-building measures, this will constitute a substantial step towards a gradual transformation of military structures, by placing the emphasis on defence and on total transparency, including that of military budgets.

Both Parties express the hope that the Geneva negotiations on the global ban on chemical weapons will be completed by the end of next year, and that an agreement will be reached in the short term for a 50 per cent reduction in the offensive strategic weapons of the United States and of the Soviet Union. This would also contribute to a positive outcome of the Review Conference on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to be held in 1990.

Both Parties declare that they are in favour of full compliance with the 1972 Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, and of a gradual limitation and cessation of nuclear tests under effective control measures.

In the same spirit, both Parties intend to develop contacts between the armed forces of Italy and the Soviet Union on a long-lasting basis, to exchange knowledge on war industry reconversion and to discuss setting up a centre for the reduction of military risks and of surprise attacks.

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2. Urgent measures are necessary to eliminate dangers to the environment. The Earth constitutes our common home, and the conservation of the environmental balance implies requirements that no country can ignore. Our common task is to adopt an attitude of respect for nature, by averting environmental catastrophes and by promoting sustainable economic development that is compatible with the needs of universal environmental security.

Specifically, both Parties intend to make their contribution to the conclusion of global and regional agreements to define binding ecological rules and strengthen international monitoring. They have reached an understanding to develop environmental co-operation and will proceed to the exchange of experiences and technologies with a view to gradually achieving a wider European dimension.

3. Both Parties favour the creation of conditions leading to the complementarity of the economies of the countries - in the East and in the West, in the North and in the South. Understandings among economic groupings are needed, as well as a gradual accession of the interested countries to international economic and financial organizations such as the International Monetary Fund and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Both Parties consider that scientific and technological co-operation is a driving element in consolidating the integration process of today's world, and hope that the creation of a new atmosphere of confidence will help overcome trade obstacles in this sector.

Both Parties intend to realize new forms of co-operation in sectors such as roads and ports, the automotive industry, energy and electric power, chemicals and petrochemicals, agro-industry and agri-business, telecommunications, high definition television, health and vocational training. They have showed interest in the creation in Moscow of a centre for Italian-Soviet economic co-operation.

4. The provisions enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the international conventions on human rights should be respected by all signatory States.

The Parties consider that the adjustment of national legislations to international provisions and conventions, including the Final Act of the Vienna meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, contributes to the "rapprochement" of citizens and governments, and constitutes at the same time a prerequisite for a new security in Europe. They express a positive view on the outcome of the first meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension, held in Paris in June 1989. They intend to contribute to the success of the next Copenhagen session and they will spare no effort to ensure that the final session of the Conference takes place successfully in Moscow in 1991.

5. It is necessary to progressively remove the barriers of mutual mistrust stemming from decades of confrontation and strict ideological opposition.

The future international order should be based increasingly on the universal values of freedom, of all forms of national, ethnic and religious tolerance, and of pluralism.

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In some countries an in-depth and courageous revision of both domestic and foreign policies is under way, and changes towards democracy are taking place. It is necessary for the principles of democracy to be present in every society, together with the respect for the sovereign right of each and every people to choose its own way to development. The success of this process is in the interest of all. Under the pressure of these factors, the curtain of mistrust between the East and the West is crumbling.

6. The Parties believe that Europe can bring its substantive and original contribution to the dawning of a period of peace on the threshold of the Third Millennium. The source of various global problems is to be found in Europe, where, on the other hand, a huge moral and material potential for their solution is concentrated. Europe is already moving in the right direction to overcome its unnatural division, and is on the eve of a new era in its history.

Today it is quite realistic to imagine the advent of a Europe of peace, of a common home for all countries participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. Its fundamental reference point is the Final Act of the Conference, signed at Helsinki on 1 August 1975, and all subsequent declarations. Italy and the Soviet Union will focus their commitment especially on the realization of increasing European harmonization in the fields of law, environment, culture and science.

The Parties are convinced that the conditions of balance on which the security of the European continent is based must be preserved. Any destabilizing factor goes against the desire for peace, which is shared by all countries, and the security of one country cannot be achieved to the detriment of that of another. The Parties believe also that every people is the master of its own destiny, including the choice of its socio-political order, its evolution and the implementation of the necessary reforms.

The Parties look with confidence to the new prospects opened by the agreement between the European Community and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, as well as to the strengthening of relations between the European Community and Central and Eastern Europe.

7. An international scenario is taking shape that is favourable to the political settlement of regional crises. Italy and the Soviet Union are ready to make their contribution, and will endeavour to promote conditions leading to an increased confidence and security. Aware of the close connection between the situation in Europe and in the Mediterranean region, they intend to co-operate so that such new and positive developments are not confined to the Continent, but are extended to the Mediterranean basin. They are also favourable to the development of co-operation among coastal States.

8. On the basis of their best cultural traditions, of their common humanistic heritage, and of the affinity between the Italian and the Soviet peoples, the Parties believe that conditions exist for strengthening their relations in every field. In particular, in keeping with the 1972 Consultation Protocol - whose validity as the basis of bilateral dialogue has been widely

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confirmed - they agree to intensify their political contacts at all levels. They intend to promote the strengthening of relations between their Parliaments, and of contacts between the two societies, their individuals and in particular amongst youth. Humanitarian problems shall be solved constructively and humanely.

Italy and the Soviet Union urge for reason and mutual understanding to prevail in international relations. Man's aspirations to justice, well-being and equal dignity for all cannot be suppressed. Italy and the Soviet Union intend to strengthen their co-operation for a better future, in the interest of the whole of mankind and of their common civilization.

G. ANDREOTTI

M. GORBACHEV

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