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Letter dated 18 March 1969 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to a cable addressed to you by Otto Winzer, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, containing the following text of a letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic:

"Excellency,

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic expresses its displeasure at the fact that the President of the twenty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly, Dr. Emilio Arenales, in contradiction to the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter, has yielded to the pressure from the West German Government and its NATO allies and admitted the West German Federal Republic into the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Development Decade. The pretext for this step, which runs counter to the Charter, was a West German Government-inspired participation formula in resolution 2411 (XXIII), subtilized solely for the purpose of unilaterally putting imperialist West Germany in an organ of the United Nations and simultaneously excluding the socialist German Democratic Republic from it.

"Such method is incompatible with the equal treatment by the United Nations of non-member States, as required by the principle of sovereign equality of all States laid down in the Charter of the United Nations. It is in conflict with the principle of the sovereign equality of all States and serves nothing but the purpose of imposing on the United Nations the arrogant and aggressive claim of the West German Federal Republic to represent all Germany, a claim which is in most severe conflict with peace and international law. The Government of the West German Federal Republic, pursuing this policy discriminating against the socialist States and especially the German Democratic Republic, has carried the germs of partitioning also into the United Nations system.

"The unilateral participation of the West German Federal Republic in the Preparatory Committee in no way serves the tasks and aims resulting from the Second Development Decade and is likely to do great harm to the developing countries and the world-wide efficiency of the United Nations. This event reveals the whole harmfulness of the application of the preventive clause to the United Nations system, which prevents socialist States from equality-based co-operation and illegally grants privileges to imperialist non-member States. So the necessity proves to be all the more emphatic of implementing the principle of universality and equality-based membership and co-operation of States in the United Nations system, which Your Excellency has repeatedly pointed out in your reports to the annual sessions of the General Assembly.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic expresses the expectation that the activities of the government of the imperialist West German Federal Republic and its NATO allies aimed at partitioning and disintegration will be resolutely rejected and the principles of universality and sovereign equality of all States in peaceful international co-operation can be implemented.

"I request your Excellency to bring this letter to the knowledge of all members of the United Nations.

"With assurances of my high consideration."

This letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, which deals with an extremely important question relating to United Nations activities, namely, the inadmissibility of discrimination by the United Nations and its organs against the socialist States, has not yet been brought to the knowledge of the States Members of the United Nations, in spite of the explicit request to that effect made in the cable.

I should be grateful if you would have my present letter, containing the text of the cable from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Y.A. MALIK
