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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE PROHIBITION OF THE THREAT OR USE OF FORCE
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND OF THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-
DETERMINATION

Letter dated 19 September 1966 from the Permanent Representative of
Czechoslovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-
General

Upon instructions received from my Government, I have the honour, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to propose for inclusion in the agenda of the twenty-first session an additional item of an urgent and important character entitled "Strict observance of the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, and of the right of peoples to self-determination".

The explanatory memorandum is enclosed.

(Signed) Milan KLUSÁK
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of the Czechoslovak
Socialist Republic to the United Nations

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. A number of events have taken place in the world, particularly in the recent period, deeply alarming all those who are interested in the maintenance of peace and international security.
2. There have been instances of the use of force in international relations, of gross violations of territorial integrity and independence of sovereign States and denials of inalienable rights of nations which embarked upon the road of national liberation.
3. Those manifestations of the policy of force in international relations have inflicted suffering upon millions of people, particularly upon States and nations, which have been frequently forced to defend their freedom and independence in armed struggle. Simultaneously, the above actions have been constituting a grave danger of a world-wide conflict.
4. Unlawful actions of such character are contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The respect for and strict observance of the obligations ensuing from the Charter of the United Nations and from other international treaties and agreements in force constitute an imperative condition for peace in the present historical epoch. The prohibition of the threat and use of force in international relations as well as the respect for the right of peoples to self-determination belong to the principles the violation of which might have gravest consequences for a peaceful development of mankind. It is precisely these principles which constitute corner-stones of the United Nations Charter.
5. All Members of the United Nations, and the Organization itself, are in duty bound resolutely to defend the principles of the Charter which have been violated, and to ensure their strict and undeviating observance. Therefore, it is proposed that the General Assembly at its twenty-first session should consider, as a matter of urgency, the question of the strict observance of the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, and of the principle of self-determination of peoples, should undertake measures conducive to ensuring peaceful relations among States and to strengthening their security, and should support the struggle of nations for freedom, independence and independent development.
6. In view of the situation prevailing on the world scene today, it is desirable that - in the interest of attaining the above objectives - the General Assembly

should solemnly affirm the principle of the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations as well as the right of peoples to self-determination, should resolutely condemn any violation of these principles and should call upon all States to observe them strictly and unconditionally.
