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COMMEMORATION OF THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 25 June 1985 from the Permanent Representative of  
the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter from  
V. A. Kravets, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist  
Republic, regarding the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the United  
Nations.

Please circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly  
under item 39 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Guennadi I. OUDOVENKO  
Permanent Representative of the  
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic  
to the United Nations

\* A/40/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Letter dated 22 June 1985 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic addressed to the  
Secretary-General

Twenty-six June marks the fortieth anniversary of the date of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations, which is one of the most important documents of modern times and which has received truly universal recognition. The establishment of the United Nations is inseparably linked to the victory of world-wide historical importance over the forces of fascism and militarism, which inspired the United Nations to proclaim in the Charter the saving of succeeding generations from the scourge of war as one of its foremost goals.

The 40 year journey of the United Nations clearly shows that the strengthening of international peace and security and the unswerving observance of the provisions of the Charter are inseparable from one another.

The entire course of post-war development convincingly demonstrates that the Charter of the United Nations has stood the test of time and is a trustworthy instrument for ensuring the peaceful existence of peoples and the development of relations between States on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. Whenever States acted in strict accordance with the Charter, making use of the possibilities provided in it, the United Nations was able to make its positive contribution to solving the acute problems of the contemporary world. The 1970s, which were characterized by the salutary expansion of international détente, the development of fruitful co-operation among States and the adoption of important international agreements under the aegis of the United Nations, are significant in this regard.

The role of the Charter in safeguarding the self-determination of peoples and eliminating hot-beds of military conflict and colonial and racist oppression is generally recognized.

The purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter are of enduring importance and today they serve as a trustworthy point of reference for the efforts of Member States to eliminate the nuclear threat, halt the arms race on earth and prohibit it in outer space, and turn resolutely from confrontation to détente. The numerous decisions of the United Nations adopted at the initiative of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community, with the support of progressive and peace-loving forces, set forth specific ways to normalize the international situation. The implementation of these decisions would make it possible to eliminate the nuclear threat hanging over mankind, undertake real disarmament measures, strengthen international security and promote the economic and social progress of all peoples.

This would justify the hopes which the peoples of the United Nations placed 40 years ago in the new international organization, having expressed in its Charter the desire to "live together in peace with one another as good neighbours".

The enhancement the effectiveness and authority of the United Nations depends on the readiness of Member States to act in strict conformity with the provisions of the Charter and demonstrate in practice their adherence to the democratic principles and norms of international relations enshrined in this document.

The Ukrainian SSR, which was one of the founders of the United Nations and which participated directly in the drafting of its Charter, reaffirms its abiding commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and its all-round support for the efforts of the Organization to preserve peace and strengthen international security.

(Signed) V. A. KRAVETS  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Ukrainian SSR

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