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COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Report of the First Committee**Rapporteur:** Mr. Virgilio A. REYES (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Comprehensive system of international peace and security" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution **42/93** of 7 December 1987.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1988, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. The First Committee considered item 73 jointly with items 71 and 72 at its 47th to 54th meetings on 23, 25 and 28 to 30 November 1988 (see **A/C.1/43/PV.47-54**).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General (**A/43/732**);
 - (b) Letter dated 11 January 1988 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (**A/43/88-5/19427**);
 - (c) Letter dated 11 March 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (**A/43/214**);
 - (d) Letter dated 16 March 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of

two **communiqués** issued on 16 March 1988 by the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries regarding the situation in the area around the **Malvinas** Islands and South **Africa's** decision to execute the **Sharpeville** Six (A/43/226-5/19649);

(e) Letter dated 31 March 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the communique and the appeal issued by the Committee of the Ministers **for** Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty at its Sofia meeting, on 29 and 30 March 1988 (A/43/276);

(f) Letter dated 5 April 1988 **from** the Permanent Representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/283-S/19736);

(g) Letter dated 19 May 1988 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of **Viet Nam** to the **United Nations** addressed to the **Secretary-General** (A/43/371-S/19894);

(h) Letter dated 31 May 1988 **from** the Permanent Representative **of** Kuwait to the **United Nations** addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/384-6/19915);

(i) Letter dated 6 June 1988 from the **Chargé** d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of **Yemen** to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/394-6/19928);

(j) Letter dated 17 June 1988 **from** the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/411);

(k) Note **verbale** dated 21 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative of **Czechoslovakia** to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/485);

(l) Letter dated 26 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts **of** the **communiqué** of the Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, the statement by the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty on Negotiations and Reductions in Armed Forces and Conventional Weapons in Europe, and the statement entitled "**The** implications of the **arms** race to the natural environment and other aspects of ecological **security**" adopted at the **Meeting** of the Political Consultative Committee of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held in Warsaw on 15 and 16 July 1988 (A/43/486-S/20061);

(m) Letter dated 29 July 1988 from the **Chargé** d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/495);

(n) Letter dated **8** August 1988 from the Permanent **Representative** of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/578);

(o) Letter dated 30 August 1968 from the **Chargé d'affaires a.i.** of the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final statement of the sixth session of the **InterAction** Council, held in Moscow from 17 to 19 May 1988 (A/43/584);

(p) Letter dated 22 September 1988 from the Deputy Head of the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the forty-third session of the General Assembly addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/629);

(q) Letter dated 6 October 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final **communiqué** of the Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-third session of the General Assembly, held in New York on 3 October 1988 (A/43/709);

(r) Letter dated 21 October 1988 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/741);

(s) **Note verbale** dated 23 November 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/862-S/20293);

(t) Letter dated 25 November 1988 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of the indo-Soviet summit statement signed on 20 November 1988 at New Delhi (A/43/893-S/20297);

(u) Letter dated 4 October 1988 from the Permanent Representatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (**A/C.1/43/3**).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS **A/C.1/43/L.74** AND **A/C.1/43/L.74/Rev.1** and **Corr.1**

5. On 4 November 1988, Bulsaria, the Bvelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive approach to strengthening international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations" (**A/C.1/43/L.74**). The draft was introduced by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at the 47th meeting on 23 November and read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reca'iling its resolutions **41/92** of 4 December 1986 and **42/93** of 7 December 1987,

"Convinced of the *need* to strengthen further the role and **effectiveness** of the United Nations on the basis of full and universal implementation of its Charter, in order to ensure international peace and security on a comprehensive basis covering all States and all aspects of their interrelationship,

"Expressing the firm conviction that ensuring international peace and security requires concerted efforts and close co-operation among all **States** on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations in order to resolve issues of **crucial** importance in the following **spheres**: disarmament, peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts, **international** -economic co-operation and development, protection of the environment, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"Affirming that the **system** of security embodied in the Charter is the fundamental and irreplaceable mechanism for the preservation or restoration of international peace and security,

"Reaffirming that in the interest of ensuring international peace and security on a comprehensive basis all States should adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of international law, especially respect for the sovereignty, equality, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs, refraining from the threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, self-determination of peoples, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, co-operation among States, and compliance in good faith with their obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

"Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the ways and means of organizing an exchange of views on the subject among the States Members of the United Nations,

"Taking note of the suggestions, ideas and views 'expressed in the deliberations on this matter,

"1. Calls upon Member States to continue and intensify the international dialogue, primarily within the framework of the United Nations, the Security Council, the General Assembly and their subsidiary bodies, in order to find universally acceptable ways and means and to co-ordinate practical measures to strengthen on a comprehensive basis the system of security laid down in the Charter of the United Nations and enhance the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security in all aspects;

"2. Once again calls upon all States to **concentrate** their practical efforts on ensuring international security in all its aspects through peaceful means, on the basis of the sovereign equality of States in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations]

"3. Decides to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled 'Comprehensive approach to strengthening international peace and security in accordance with the Charter **of the** United Nations'."

6. At the 51st meeting, on 28 November, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Monrovia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a revised draft resolution (**A/C.1/43/L.74/Rev.1**), which was later also sponsored by the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet Nam and Madagascar. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced revised draft resolution **A/C.1/43/L.74/Rev.1**.

7. At the 54th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution **A/C.1/43/L.74/Rev.1** and **Corr.1** by a recorded vote of 83 to 2, with 39 abstentions (see **para. 8**). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, **Oman**, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, **Romania**, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Japan, United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, **Côte d'Ivoire**, Denmark, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Morocco, Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive approach to strengthening international
peace and security in accordance with the Charter of
the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Convinced of the need to strengthen further the role and effectiveness of the United Nations on the basis of full and universal implementation of its Charter, in order to ensure international peace and security on a comprehensive basis covering all States and all aspects of their interrelationship,

Expressing the firm conviction that ensuring international peace and security requires concerted efforts and close co-operation among all States on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations in order to resolve issues of crucial importance in the following spheres; disarmament, peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts, international economic co-operation and development, protection of the environment, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Affirming that the system of security embodied in the Charter is the fundamental and irreplaceable mechanism for the preservation or restoration of international peace and security,

Reaffirming that in the interest of ensuring international peace and security on a comprehensive basis all States should adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of international law, especially respect for the sovereignty, equality, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs, refraining from the threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, self-determination of peoples, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, co-operation among States, and compliance in good faith with their obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the ways and means of organizing an exchange of views on the subject among the States Members of the United Nations,

Taking note of the suggestions, ideas and views expressed in the deliberations on this matter,

1. **Encourages** Member States to contribute to an international dialogue, primarily within the framework of the United Nations, the Security Council, the General Assembly and their subsidiary bodies, in order to find universally acceptable ways and means and to co-ordinate practical measures to strengthen on a comprehensive basis the system of security laid down in the Charter of the United Nations and enhance the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security in all aspects;

2. ~~Calls upon~~ all States to intensify their practical efforts towards ~~ensuring~~ international ~~security~~ in all ~~its aspects~~, through peaceful means, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter;

3. ~~Decides~~ to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session the item ~~entitled~~ "Comprehensive approach to strengthening international peace and security in accordance with the ~~Charter~~ of the ~~United~~ Nations".
