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REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: CONVENTIONAL DISARMAMENT

GENERAL AND COMPLETE **DISARMAMENT**: REVIEW ~~OF~~ THE ROLE ~~OF~~ THE
UNITED NATIONS IN THE FIELD OF **DISARMAMENT**REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION **OF** THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH **SPECIAL** SESSION

Letter dated 31 October 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions *from my Government*, I have the honour to request you to have the present letter and the enclosed texts of the Communique and the Statement **issued** by the Committee **of** the Ministers **for** Foreign **Affairs** of the **Warsaw** Treaty Member States on Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance at its Budapest meeting, on 28 and 29 October 1988, circulated as an official document of the General **Assembly** under **items** 62, 64 **(d),(j)** and 67 (a) of its agenda,,

(Signed) Ferenc ESZTERGALYOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative to
the United Nations

Annex I

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE **COMMITTEE** OF THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE WARSAW TREATY MEMBER STATES

The Committee of Ministers for Foreign **Affairs** of the States Members of the **Warsaw** Treaty on **Friendship**, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance held its regular meeting at Budapest, on 28 and 29 October **1988**.

The meeting was attended by Minister **for** Foreign Affairs of the Bulgarian People's Republic, **Petar Mladenov**, the Minister for Foreign **Affairs** of the Czechoslovak **Socialist** Republic, Jaromir **Johanes**, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Polish People's Republic, Tadeusz Olechowski, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, **Péter Várkonyi**, the **Minister** for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Oskar Fischer, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Ioan Totu, and the **Minister** for Foreign **Affairs** of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Eduard **Shevardnadze**.

The Ministers reviewed current **developments** in the European and international situation. They stated that the **assessments** of the international situation and its perspectives made **at this year's Warsaw** meeting of **the** Political Consultative Committee were still valid. The Warsaw Treaty **member** States will **make** every possible **effort** to bring about a real change in world politics towards strengthening peace, disarmament - nuclear disarmament in particular - and extensive mutually beneficial co-operation, on the basis of **respect** for equality, independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and all other **generally** recognised principles and **norms** of international law.

They expressed their readiness to pursue dialogue with **every** State and with every political and social **force** to **achieve** this objective.

On the basis of the inviolability of frontiers and the existing territorial and political realities, the **meeting** devoted particular attention to issues of strengthening peace **and** co-operation in Europe. The participants re-emphasized their countries' endeavours for an early conclusion, with substantial results, of the Vienna **Follow-up Meeting** of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. This **would** create the conditions for starting negotiations as early as 1988 **on** the reduction **of armed forces and** conventional armaments and on **confidence** and security-building measures in Europe and would **give impetus** to the expansion of co-operation in the economic, trade, **scientific** and technological spheres, in the field of ecological **security** and humanitarian issues, **as** well as to the implementation of human rights.

A statement on confidence- and security-building measures and disarmament in Europe was adopted at the meeting (see annex II).

The Ministers noted that developments in settling regional conflicts had a favourable influence **on** the international situation.

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The participants at the meeting expressed their firm determination to develop and deepen co-operation among the allied Socialist countries on international

The meeting of the Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs took place in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely co-operation.

The next meeting will be held at Berlin.

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Annex IISTATEMENT ON CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES
AND DISARMAMENT IN EUROPE

The **Warsaw** Treaty member **States** consider that confidence- and security-building measures **can** serve **as** a **significant** means and a stimulating factor **for** promoting the reduction of **military** threat and the achievement of real **disarmament** as well as the strengthening of peace and stability of relations between States.

From the point of view of improving the political atmosphere, the importance of measures adopted at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe in September 1986 is becoming apparent to the extent of their **implementation**. The Stockholm Document demonstrates that important security issues **can** be solved by political will and mutual efforts by all interested **States** in the spirit of the new thinking. The resumption of the work of **the** Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and **disarmament** in Europe **and** the further implementation **of** the provisions of the Stockholm Document will broaden the perspectives for negotiations concerning **even** more significant confidence- and **security-building** measures and the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.

Further improvement in confidence- and security-building measures on the European continent is of particular significance today when the 23 States **members** of the Warsaw Treaty **Organization** and the North **Atlantic** Treaty Organization (NATO) are preparing to enter into negotiations, unique in scope and importance, on armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic- to the Urals. In the view of the allied Socialist countries, military confidence- and security-building measures and efforts towards the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments are interrelated. Further steps in the field **of confidence-**and security-building measures would facilitate progress towards the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe and the solution of other disarmament issues, which in turn would create favourable conditions for increased confidence.

The Ministers for **Foreign** Affairs of the Warsaw Treaty member States **believe** that the negotiations on **confidence-** and security-building measures in Europe should be continued as early as 1988. In order to reduce military confrontation and the risk of an armed conflict in Europe, to reduce and avert the danger of a surprise attack and to enhance mutual security, to lend a strictly defensive character to military activities and to increase their openness and predictability as well as to **promote** the implementation of disarmament measures, the negotiations should make it possible for the measures elaborated ultimately to cover the activity of all elements of armed forces (**ground**, air and naval forces) of the States participating in the process of security and **co-operation** in Europe. The creation, on an equal basis, of mechanisms and procedures for contacts and consultations would also serve these objectives.

Confidence- and security-building **measures** should be applied to all **military** activities of the participating **States** that **affect European** security or form part of military actions taking place within the boundaries of Europe. These measures should be substantial, militarily **effective** and politically binding.

The military confidence- and security-building **measures** should be worked out and introduced gradually, taking into account the military and geographical realities in Europe and the level of mutual **understanding** among States.

The negotiations, being as they **are** an important element of the all-European **process**, should be conducted on the **basis** of the Madrid mandate, including the objectives, principles, subject of **negotiations**, **zone** of application of confidence.. and security-building measures and rules of procedure contained in the **mandate**, and should be in accordance with the Concluding Document of the Vienna Follow-up Meeting.

It would be expedient to continue efforts at the negotiations to develop and expand the existing confidence- and security-building **measures**, and a new set. of measures could also be worked out on the basis of proposals by the participating States.

Agreements to be reached in the course of the negotiations by the 23 and the 35 **States** respectively should be **in** harmony with each other and should **complement** and reinforce each other.

In the view of the Warsaw Treaty member States, a new generation of confidence- and security-building measures could be worked out in the following main directions:

1. Constraining measures

These **measures** would apply to the size and number of simultaneous military exercises and to the duration and frequency of military exercises, would ban large-scale military exercises and would restrict the redeployment of troops and technical equipment. Moreover, they would envisage the limitation of the number of combat-ready (alert) military exercises and the number of troops **engaged**; would affect the series of large-scale military exercises conceived as constituting a unified military exercise, and would **envisage** restraint on military activities in the vicinity of the borders of the participating States.

2. New confidence- and security-building measures

These **measures** would include prior notification of independent activities by air and naval forces, the invitation of observers according to appropriate parameters, inspection of such activities and agreement on restrictive measures, modalities of the exchange of annual calendars of such activities: extension of confidence- and security-building **measures** to the territories of all the countries participating in the security and co-operation process; creation of zones of

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confidence and security in **Europe** and the adjoining seas and oceans; and also the possibility of working out **confidence-** and security-building measures that envisage more **stringent régime** on the basis of closeness to lines of contact between the military-political alliance⁸ or other States. Measures to avoid incidents on the **seas** and oceans adjoining Europe and in **the** airspace thereof would also be co-ordinate&.

Different **aspects** of military doctrines could be discussed and compared in **the** course **of** or in **connection** with the negotiations. **Issues** relating to a freeze on and reduction of military **budgets** could also **be** considered.

The Warsaw Treaty **member** States believe that the establishment of a European centre for reducing military threat and preventing surprise attack would signify a qualitatively new step **in** reinforcing mutual confidence. **The** task of such a centre would be to **exchange** information and to maintain contacts as well as to hold consultations primarily for the operative settlement of events which give rise to concern or suspicion.

3. Measures to increase the openness and predictability of military activities: inspection, exchange of information and consultations

These measures **would** cover regular exchange of data on armed forces and their activities. including **forces** deployed at military bases around Europe; exchange of informatioa on the **structure** and substance of military budgets; refraining from building up armed forces and **renouncing** the establishment of new military bases on the territories of foreign **States**; setting up observation posts at co-ordinated sites (points) within **the zone** of application of confidence- and security-building **measures**; creation of special operative communication links between the countries **concerned**; improvement **of conditions** for **inspection** and widening the scope of work for observers; the use of **the latest** technical equipment; development of relations **between** political and military representatives of **the** participating States: and extension of **the** present practice of exchange of military-diplomatic representations and military delegations.

Other measures promoting mutual **understanding** and enhancing confidence and security could **also** be adapted.

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The ideas and proposals **of the** Warsaw Treaty member States concerning confidence- and security-building measures are based on the defensive character of their military doctrine.. **Their implementation** is intended to ensure **that** the military potentials of the States **participating** in the negotiations become strictly defensive in nature.

In this **connection**, the States represented at the meeting stand for the elimination of military bases on foreign territories and reaffirm their position **concerning** t&e simultaneous dissolution of the military-political alliances.

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In the opinion of the **Warsaw Treaty member States** the convening of **an** all-European summit meeting to discuss **issues** concerning the **reduction of** armed forces and convent **ional** armaments in Europe, with the participation **of** the United States of **America** and Canada, would **also contribute** to the elaboration and implementation of new **confidence-** and **security-building measures.**

The Warsaw Treaty **member States** are ready to consider **other possible** proposals aiming to enhance mutual confidence and security **and** to accelerate the process Of disarmament in Europe.
