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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION  
ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL **SECURITY**

Report of the Secretary-General

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/88 of 7 December 1988, entitled "Review of the Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security". In paragraph 14 of that resolution, the General Assembly invited Member States to submit their views on the question and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the basis of the replies received,

2. Pursuant to the request of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General addressed a note verbale to the Governments of Member States, on 7 September 1989, inviting them to submit their views in accordance with paragraph 14 of the above-mentioned resolution.

3. As at 20 October 1989, replies had been received from the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. A reply by Chile was circulated earlier in document A/44/121, issued on 10 February 1989. Any further replies will be issued as addenda to the present report.

## II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

### BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original : Russian]

[20 October 1989]

1. The adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security was an outstanding event in the life of the international community. The humanistic principles laid down in the Declaration for the development of international relations in strict conformity with the Charter of the United Nations are not only still topical, but are increasingly voiced in the present climate, when positive changes are taking deeper root in international relations and mankind is making a transition from the protracted "cold war" based on confrontation and military strength, to peace founded on agreement among States and co-operation in solving bilateral and global problems.

2. Today, it is essential to seek new paths for mankind to pursue in the future, paths of co-operation and mutual understanding that are dictated by the realities taking shape in the world. Only through the collective wisdom and concerted efforts of all members of the international community can answers be found to the problems of eliminating the danger of nuclear war, putting an end to the arms race, overcoming economic backwardness, protecting the environment, guaranteeing mankind reliable supplies of energy and food, and defeating deadly epidemics, terrorism and drug trafficking.

3. The primary role in this endeavour belongs to the United Nations, which was established by its founders as an essential means of ensuring intercourse among all States on the basis of equal rights and in **conditions** of peace and co-operation.

4. The Byelorussian **Soviet Socialist** Republic consistently and actively supports the strengthening in every possible way of the role of the United Nations in ensuring comprehensive international security, the enhancement of its prestige, unswerving compliance by States with the Charter of the United Nations and the binding decisions of the Security Council, and the improvement of United Nations machinery to **meet** the new problems with which history inexorably confronts mankind. The Byelorussian SSR is striving to uphold this policy through its practical activities.

5. The United Nations can and **must** become the forum to which States will turn with their problems in the field of security and where they will combine their efforts to seek the best solutions to the problems that arise, whether in the military and political, economic, scientific and technological, environmental, humanitarian or any other field. At the same time, due emphasis should be placed on the full activation and strengthening of a universal rule of law that will ensure the primacy of international law in politics.

6. The strengthening and development of the role of the United Nations is directly linked to the need to enhance the effectiveness of its principal organs, namely, the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, and of the Secretary-General. Fuller **use** could be made of the potential and possibilities of the General Assembly renewing and improving its style and methods of work, by reinforcing the role of its resolutions and **decisions**, adopted by consensus, and by enhancing the effectiveness of the machinery for monitoring implementation of the resolutions adopted. It is important to arrange for closer co-operation between the permanent members of the Security Council and to activate the machinery for official and informal consultations held under its auspices with the participation of the Secretary-General and the parties directly concerned. A positive role could be played by periodic meetings of the Security Council at the Foreign Minister level during or immediately before sessions of the General Assembly. The role of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security must be further enhanced.

7. The Byelorussian SSR believes that broader use should be made of the possibility of involving the International Court of Justice in the settlement of international disputes. The withdrawal by the Byelorussian SSR of its earlier reservations regarding the jurisdiction of the International Court in connection with a number of international legal documents to which it is a party is confirmation of the growing significance attached by the **Byelorussian** SSR to the International Court in the affirmation of primacy of **law** in **politics**. Work is continuing in this direction.

8. Genuine disarmament measures are a key factor for strengthening security. It is essential to achieve decisive progress in the negotiations on the reduction of nuclear arsenals, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, the prohibition of chemical weapons and reductions in conventional weapons and armed forces, and to

start negotiations on those aspects of disarmament which are not already being discussed.

9. The normalization of the current international situation requires a settlement of the **conflicts in** Afghanistan, Central America, South-East Asia and the Middle East, between Iran and Iraq, in Western Sahara, Cyprus and other areas, and the elimination of the apartheid régime.

10. In the view of the Byelorussian SSR, peace-keeping operations are an **essential** part of the international community's efforts to strengthen international security. The conduct of such operations in various areas of the world confirms their effectiveness and shows that the United Nations can function as an international centre for the prevention of armed conflict. It is essential to develop the role **played** by such operations and to improve their organization **in** practice.

11. The Byelorussian SSR also considers that the time is ripe for a transition to preventive diplomacy. In this connection, it advocates the **establishment** of a system of centres for averting the danger of war, with broad responsibilities for the early detection and warning of conflicts, the monitoring of agreements on disarmament and the settlement of crises.

12. Under current conditions, new horizons are opening up for the United Nations. A collective dialogue with regard to its new possibilities is today, therefore, exceptionally important.

13. In the opinion of the Byelorussian SSR, the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly should be an important stage in the development of such a dialogue - one that will make a substantial contribution to the transformation of the United Nations into a genuine guarantor of the secure, non-violent and, in the future, non-nuclear world, based on humanistic values common to all mankind, that is now being created.

14. The Byelorussian SSR once again reaffirms its adherence to the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and expresses its readiness to take part in an active dialogue aimed at implementing the purposes and principles of the Declaration and at strengthening the machinery of the United Nations.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

[Original: English]

[18 September 1989]

1. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which actively participated in the preparation and elaboration of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session, regards that document as one of the most important instruments of the policy of peace and international detente that distinctly stimulates also today the

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development of friendly and mutually advantageous relations among States. In implementing the fundamental objectives of its foreign policy aimed at the strengthening of peace and the **enhancing** of international security and stability, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is consequently guided by the principles of the Declaration, seeking its universal and effective accomplishment. It fills us with hope that, as was noted in the final communique of the Bucharest session of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty, held last July, it has been possible to achieve in international relations certain positive changes, a relaxation of tension and confrontation, an increase in confidence, a development of political dialogue and an intensification of contacts between States at various levels.

2. One of the priorities of Czechoslovakia in the United Nations is to work for a comprehensive approach to the safeguarding of international peace and security. It is convinced that the improved international atmosphere creates favourable prerequisites for the further development of constructive dialogue and co-operation among States in all spheres of mutual relations. At the same time, a new need is emerging for a new perception of a whole number of new international problems. Therefore, proceeding from an understanding of their interconnection, we see the need for a comprehensive and global approach to their consideration. Generally acceptable new elements of perceiving international questions must be reflected in the ways and means of **strengthenin** general security.

3. Czechoslovakia considers such a comprehensive approach to be very much an issue of perspective and realizes the long-term nature of its shaping. The rationale of Czechoslovakia is based on a conviction that there is no contradiction here between the interests of any ideological or regional groups of States. As far as its concrete translation into the different spheres of United Nations activities is concerned, Czechoslovakia expects the focus to be laid primarily on a further increase of the effectiveness of the United Nations and of its organs, on a more effective use of United Nations peace-keeping operations, on an enforcement of the guiding role of international law in international relations, on an active United Nations participation in the prevention of international crises, on the **issues** of environmental and economic security and on the problems linked with a conversion of military production.

4. Czechoslovakia is convinced that disarmament is the most **reliable** path of strengthening international peace and security. Therefore, jointly with the other Warsaw Treaty States, it has put forward a proposal for an integral programme of disarmament by the year 2000. It pays due attention to constructive disarmament measures by all States, including the initiatives of non-aligned countries and of the New Delhi Six.

5. Czechoslovakia is satisfied to note that the process of real disarmament could already be started. The Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles is being successfully carried out, and a part is being played also by Czechoslovakia; this year the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics took action to withdraw 500 tactical nuclear warheads from the territories of its allies, to stop the production of enriched uranium for military purposes and to

limit the processing of plutonium used for building weapons, to stop completely the production of chemical weapons and to start eliminating them even before the conclusion of a respective international legal document. In addition, Czechoslovakia and other Warsaw Treaty States are consequently taking unilateral steps towards a reduction of their armed forces, conventional armaments and defence spending.

6. Czechoslovakia welcomes the continuation of the businesslike Soviet-United States dialogue about a 50 per cent reduction of strategic offensive weapons and proposes the opening of separate negotiations on the reduction of tactical nuclear weapons. It consistently advocates a ban on all tests of nuclear weapons. At the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva, it takes an active part in efforts aimed at a speedy elaboration of a convention on general and complete prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons. Along our internal lines, it prepares well in advance corresponding concrete measures in this direction. It stands for the achievement of mutually acceptable agreements at both negotiating forums at Vienna. Czechoslovakia is of the opinion that the time has come for all branches of armed forces and all kinds of armaments to become the subject of corresponding disarmament negotiations.

7. It is Czechoslovakia's conviction that medium and small States alike can do their part in contributing significantly to international *détente*, to the strengthening of security and stability. Its concrete contribution in this field is an appeal to set up a zone of confidence, co-operation and good-neighbourly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO countries put forward in February 1988 by Milos Jakes, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of **Czechoslovakia**. Highly topical remain the joint proposals of Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic of 1985 and 1988 to create a zone without chemical weapons and those of 1987 to establish a nuclear-weapon-free corridor in Central Europe.

8. Czechoslovakia assumes that the funds released in the process of disarmament could be used for a further social and economic development, as well as for the solution of the pressing environmental problems.

9. Czechoslovakia constantly pays special attention to a consolidation of the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons on the basis of the relevant treaty of 1968 and expresses itself for a further uplifting of the authority and for a full **universalization** of that Treaty. Czechoslovakia is ready to take an active part in the Fourth Review Conference of the **Parties** to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It stands for an extension of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

10. Of an essential importance for the strengthening of international security is the achievement of a just settlement of local hotbeds of tension and of regional conflicts. It is pleasant that progress can be reached in this field in parallel to the present overall improvement of the international atmosphere. Czechoslovakia believes that full application will be found in foreseeable time of the principle of resolving disputes among States exclusively by political means with full respect to the right of every nation to a free choice of its development.

11. Czechoslovakia welcomes the fact that the long-standing effort of the United Nations of putting an end to the illegal occupation of Namibia and of granting independence to that country is getting closer to its aim. Czechoslovakia is one of those States which have become actively engaged in the framework of the United Nations peace-keeping forces, in the process of settlement of the situation of south-western Africa. Since last January, seven Czechoslovak officers have *been* active in the framework of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) observer corps and 20 Czechoslovak military observers have been members of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) force. Not even the achievement of independence for Namibia will result in a solution of all problems in southern Africa. The **rigime** of Pretoria continues to impose the inhuman system of apartheid posing a persistent threat to all States in that region. It is the view of Czechoslovakia that the international community must not desist from its pressure on racist South Africa: it fully endorses the demands for the adoption of mandatory economic sanctions by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

12. Czechoslovakia regards the Middle East conflict as one of the most dangerous hotbeds of tension. The basis for a settlement is constituted by the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions calling for respect of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. Czechoslovakia's full support extends as before to the idea of convening an international Middle East conference under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

13. Czechoslovakia **welcomes** the positive development of the process of settlement of the situation in Central America. It highly appreciates the August Tela agreement between the Central American Presidents which, inter alia, is proof of increasing United Nations authority in the solution of the problems of that region.

14. Czechoslovakia appreciates the part played by the United Nations in the conclusion of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan in May last year. supports the policy of national reconciliation in that country, which should result in the formation of a coalition government. In the present situation, when armed struggles still continue in the country, Czechoslovakia considers it necessary that the United Nations further increase and make more effective its role in the settlement of the Afghan question.

15. After the international conference on Cambodia in Paris, it is obvious that all participating sides must intensify their efforts in order to achieve a just solution of the Cambodian question.

16. Czechoslovakia **welcomes** the termination of the long years of bloodletting hostilities between Iran and Iraq, an impulse to which was the adoption of the authoritative Security Council resolution 598 (1987). It supports the mediator efforts of the Secretary-General aimed at the solution of the contested issues between the two countries through the conclusion of a peace accord.

17. Czechoslovakia pays constant attention to the solution of the question of Cyprus. It believes that the achievement of an agreement at the intercommunal talks will be facilitated also by the opened dialogue among the leading representatives of the Cypriot political parties, who met this year at Prague.

18. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is firmly convinced that even the most complex disputed questions among States can and must be resolved exclusively by political means and by negotiation in harmony with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, with the norms of international law and on the basis of the principles of reciprocity, equality of obligations and undiminished security of all parties. Only such a consequent translation of the provisions of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security into the practice of international relations will be an effective tool of meeting the lofty peaceful aims and objectives of the United Nations.

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish] .

[9 October 1989]

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/1156, the Government of Mexico transmitted its opinion on the question, which is contained in document A/41/468/Add.1 of 10 November 1986. At this time, the Government of Mexico does not have any other significant comments on the matter.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[12 October 1989]

1. The significance of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, the twentieth anniversary of which is approaching, is hard to overestimate. Its humanistic principles to govern the development of international relations in strict accordance with the Charter of the United Nations are especially opportune in today's new circumstances, as the prospect of a peaceful period in human history opens up. The Declaration's appeal to all States to "contribute to the efforts to ensure peace and security for all nations and to establish, in accordance with the Charter, an effective system of universal collective security without military alliances" today rings out more urgently than ever.

2. The Declaration acknowledged the obvious link between the strengthening of international security and disarmament, economic development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Today, conserving the environment has been added to this list of primary objectives.

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3. The Ukrainian SSR believes that stable and peaceful relations between States can only be reached by tackling the entire range of problems mentioned above. A leading role in combining the efforts of the world community in pursuit of these objectives can and should be played by the United Nations.
4. Maximum use must be made of the peace-making potential of the United Nations. In the view of the Ukrainian SSR, emphasis should be given to getting the machinery of political and legal restraint and the non-military components of security into high gear.
5. Significant progress could be made in strengthening international security under the auspices of the United Nations if all the pieces of the machine, in particular, the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Office of the Secretary-General, began to operate at full capacity. An important role in affirming the primacy of international law in relations between States belongs to the International Court of Justice.
6. The Ukrainian SSR is certain that co-ordination of activities ought to be improved among the major United Nations bodies, and that their efforts should be combined in order to deal with the problems confronting the world community.
7. Without wishing to belittle all the other aspects of international security, the Ukrainian SSR believes that, at this stage, primary attention should be devoted to disarmament. The first positive moves towards genuine disarmament, at the bilateral level, between the USSR and the United States of America, herald success in this area. They need to be consolidated in the form of new agreements, notably on nuclear disarmament, the cessation of nuclear tests, and the destruction of all stockpiles of chemical weapons, coupled with a ban on their development and manufacture.
8. Multilateral disarmament talks could to a significant degree supplement and, in some cases, encourage specific disarmament measures. Unfortunately, the Conference on Disarmament has not yet voiced its considered opinion on this subject. More could also have been expected of the Security Council, which is empowered by the Charter to arrange for security at the least possible levels of national armament. This process ought to be set in train, in the view of the Ukrainian SSR, by the permanent members of the Security Council.
9. Not least among this range of subjects is that of confidence-building, to which the Ukrainian SSR attaches particular importance. The Republic's principled course is to progress from individual confidence-building measures, openness and glasnost to a wide-ranging policy of trust in each and every sphere of military activity. This position is consistent with the will of the international community as expressed, inter alia, in resolution 43/75 G of 7 December 1988.
10. The Ukrainian SSR believes that a crucial component of efforts by the world community to strengthen international security is the dissipation of regional tension and the settlement of crises. The leading role here belongs to the United Nations. Peace-keeping operations in various parts of the world confirm the ability of the United Nations to act as an international centre for preventive

diplomacy. It is important to ensure that the United Nations is able to serve not only as an "international fireman" but also as an impartial judge, settling disputes on a firm, just, international legal basis and preventing contentious situations from spilling over into armed conflicts.

11. The organizing capacity of the United Nations has never been as important as it is today in protecting mankind from impending environmental danger, bringing States together to elaborate the concept of economic security, and upholding and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms.

12. The Ukrainian SSR believes that the United Nations is capable of taking up the challenge. This is evidenced by the **internationalization** of State efforts to ensure human survival and the emergence of the first indications of a new world order based on the primacy of international law, a balance of States' interests and a search for world-wide consensus.

13. Thorough discussion of the whole range of international security issues at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly will help, in the view of the Ukrainian SSR, to make the current dialogue more factual and considered, focusing on specific, practical solutions and the realization of the Organisation's peace-making potential.

14. The high ideal of comprehensive international security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, voiced in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, must take on the attributes of reality.

15. During the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the Ukrainian SSR will be prepared for an extensive interchange on the strengthening of international security, in order to promote deeper mutual understanding, trust and co-operation among nations.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[5 September 1989]

1. The Soviet Union considers that the review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly should foster the identification of new opportunities for a collective search for fresh ideas and approaches to the strengthening and improvement of the **system** of collective security - and of its central element, the Security Council - provided for in the Charter of the United Nations.

2. Under the influence of the new political thinking, the entire international climate is undergoing appreciable change, moving **from** confrontation to collaboration and co-operation between States. Clearly, now that the world is entering a peaceful period of development of international relations, the United Nations should increasingly play the role of **regulator** and guarantor of

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international peace and security and as a universal centre for the prevention of conflicts and crises.

3. In his address to the General **Assembly** at its forty-third session, Mikhail Gorbachev drew attention to the **increasing** capacity of the United Nations to serve as a unique international centre in the service of peace and security. Recent years provide a clear demonstration of the impressive potential the United Nations possesses for effectively identifying solutions to regional conflicts and for promoting the search for mutually acceptable solutions and compromises which maintain the balance of interests. There is a growing awareness **that**, given present conditions, national security must be reliably ensured first and foremost by political means, as a **constituent** part of **comprehensive** and equal security, in the context of the process of **democratization, demilitarization and humanization** of international relations.

4. The capacity of the United Nations to play an effective role in the strengthening of international security is closely related to the increased effectiveness of its main organs, and, in particular, of the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General. Co-ordination between them should be improved still further, and the peace-making capability of the Secretary-General should be expanded. In particular, the introduction of periodic meetings of the Security Council at the Foreign Minister level could serve to enhance the effectiveness of the Council.

5. Undoubtedly, the process of disarmament, nuclear disarmament first and foremost, is crucial for strengthening international security. Here the Soviet-United States dialogue and the talks on the nuclearization of space, on the prohibition of nuclear tests and on the abolition of chemical weapons still remain vitally important. Progress towards the achievement of the lofty goal of establishing a non-nuclear, non-violent world requires the ever more active involvement of the other nuclear States and the entire international community in the joint search for the quickest means of disarmament, in solving the problems of verification and in building confidence between nations.

6. The Soviet Union consistently strives to make its **proper** contribution to the easing of regional problem situations. In this field, thanks to the constructive approach of many States and also to the efforts of the United Nations, the Security Council and the Secretary-General to bring **about** peace, substantial positive changes have taken place of late.

7. In a demonstration of goodwill and in firm compliance with the spirit and letter of the Geneva Agreements concluded under the auspices of the United Nations, the Soviet Union withdrew its troops from Afghanistan, thus ensuring the existence of an important condition for the restoration of peace on Afghan soil. We are convinced that the possibilities of the United Nations and the Secretary-General for ensuring strict and non-selective compliance with the Geneva Agreements have not been exhausted. At the present stage, there is an urgent need for an end to the **bloodshed** and the establishment with the participation of the United Nations of a negotiating mechanism to bring about an Afghan settlement. The Security Council and the General Assembly played an important role in bringing about the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq.

8. The United Nations operation to ensure the transition of Namibia to independence is gathering **momentum**. As a result of the activation of multilateral negotiating mechanisms, the necessary conditions are being created for the political settlement, with the participation of the international **community**, of such conflict situations as those in Central America, the Middle **East**, Western Sahara, Cyprus and other regions. To solve the problem of **strengthening** international peace and security, the processes of conflict settlement that have already been initiated need to be made irreversible and the deadlock in the solution of other regional problems needs to be broken. Of particularly great importance is the speedy elimination of the anarchic regime in South Africa, which exercises a **destabilizing** effect on southern Africa.

9. It is important to focus efforts not only on giving effect to the peace-making potential of the United Nations in the settlement of existing regional conflicts, but also on developing more fully its capacity for preventing the emergence of new sources of tension, primarily by enhancing the effectiveness of the Security Council and the General Assembly, as well as the role of the International Court of **Justice**. In our view, peace-keeping operations have a particularly important **role** to play in this respect. The development of the preventive functions of the United Nations could be facilitated by developing agreed approaches to the establishment of a specific **system** for early warning of crises and conflicts. The United Nations could itself become the base for the establishment of an international centre to prevent the threat of war. The need is growing for an increase in the efficiency of the Organization's mechanisms for collecting information and data and investigating international disputes and conflicts.

10. The strengthening of international security should be promoted by an active joint search for solutions to the economic, humanitarian and ecological problems facing the entire world community.

11. The Soviet Union, on the basis of the decisions of the supreme organ of State power - the Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR - regarding the need to ensure international security primarily by political means, relying on the prestige and capabilities of the United Nations, is ready to engage in active and constructive dialogue with all countries at the forthcoming forty-fourth session of the **General Assembly** on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

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