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Forty-fourth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda items 61, **62**, 63, **64**, **66**,
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SECURITY IN **ACCORDANCE** WITH THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**Letter dated 8 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of
Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the **communiqué** of the Meeting of the Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty which was held at Warsaw on 26 and 27 October 1989.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for this letter and the enclosed text of the communiqué to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 61, 62, 63, 64, 36, 71, 72 and 73.

(Signed) Stanislaw PAWLAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

COMMUNIQUE ON THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE WARSAW TREATY

1. The Committee of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty on Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance met on 26 and 27 October 1989 in Warsaw.

The meeting was attended by:

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Iwan Ganew;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr. Jaromir Johanes;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Oskar Fischer;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Polish People's Republic, Mr. Krayaztof Skubiszewski;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Mr. Ioan Totu;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, Mr. Gyula Horn;

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze.

Also present were: Minister at the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Khriato Khristov; Minister of Foreign Trade of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr. Josef Sterba; Minister of Foreign Trade of the German Democratic Republic, Mr. Gerhard Beil; Minister for Foreign Economic Relations of the Polish People's Republic, Mr. Marcin Swiecicki; Minister-secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Relations of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Mr. Cornel Pinzaru; Vice-Minister of Trade of the Republic of Hungary, Mr. Pirooska Apro; First Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Contacts of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mr. Alexander Kachanov.

2. The Ministers reviewed the condition and trends in the development of international relations. They noted the validity of the assessments contained in the documents of the session of the Political Consultative Committee of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held at Bucharest on 7 and 8 July 1989, and both regarding the positive trends in the international situation and the phenomena determining its complex and contradictory character in many respects. In this

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connection, the Ministers **reiterated** the determination of their respective States to work further towards disarmament, strengthening peace, security and confidence, **democratization** of international relations, and the development of broad international co-operation.

3. The participants in the meeting agreed that, much as the situation was undefined, conditions were ripening in Europe to achieve a radical breakthrough in the relations between the countries of the continent, to overcome gradually its divisions and to eliminate definitively the relics of the "cold war".

One of the essential prerequisites for the building of a secure, peaceful and indivisible Europe was to respect the right of each nation to decide independently about its fate and choose freely the roads of its social, political and economic development, with no external interference.

Fundamental importance for the construction of the "common European house" with the diversity of social and constitutional systems of the countries rested with the unconditional respect **for** the inviolability of the existing frontiers, territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of States, respect **for** the commonly accepted principles and standards **of** international law, the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) as well as other documents adopted within the framework of the Helsinki process. **Any** attempts to **destabilize** the situation, to question the post-war borders and to resume debate of the issue harm not only the confidence-building process, but also stability in Europe. It was **imperative** to respect fully the prerogatives of sovereign States, including the issue of citizenship, in keeping with obligations stemming from the international law.

There was a danger of stepped up neo-nazism and revanchism in some Western European States. The Ministers shared the view that the settlement of disputed bilateral issues was not facilitated by the involvement of the military-political alliances. The way to resolve such problems was solely through constructive dialogue, on an equal footing, **between the States concerned.**

4. The participants in the Meeting pointed out the importance of the progress in the Helsinki process in all fields for the establishment of solid foundations of the security and closer co-operation between all States. **They** reaffirmed their determination to facilitate in every way the implementation of the decisions reached at the Vienna Meeting and, generally, within the framework of the CSCE process. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the positive development of the Vienna negotiations involving the 23 States parties to the Warsaw Treaty and the North Atlantic Treaty **Organization** (NATO) concerning conventional armed forces in Europe. They expressed their resolve to spare no efforts for the first agreement on significant armed forces **and** conventional arms reductions to be achieved as early as next year. The agreement would be signed before the end of 1990 at a conference of the heads of State or Government of the States of Europe, the **United States** of America and Canada. The Conference would be preceded by a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs. The reductions of the armed forces and conventional armaments would be accomplished over two to three years. It would make it possible

to lower markedly the levels of armaments and military spending, to unlock huge material and human reserves, to support social and economic development and to strengthen stability and security on the continent,

The participants in the meeting came out in favour of the adoption by the negotiators in the talks of the 35 CSCE countries, concerning confidence- and security-building measures, of a net of new measures encompassing all kinds of military activity, including the activity of the air and naval forces. Of significant importance would be the establishment of a centre for the reduction of the danger of a war and prevention of surprise attack in Europe. "The Ministers expressed the hope that the seminar of the 35 CSCE countries, on military doctrine, would serve confidence-building in Europe.

The participants in the Meeting called for an urgent start of separate negotiations on short-range nuclear forces in Europe.

5. The allied States considered disarmament as the key question of the time. They declared their dedication to the cause of the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The Ministers stressed the importance of the implementation of the Soviet-American Treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles and called for the earliest possible conclusion by the USSR and the United States of a treaty on a 50-per-cent reduction of their respective strategic armaments. The meeting noted the need to observe the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems in the form in which it was signed in 1972.

The participants in the Meeting pointed to the need for a complete halt to any nuclear-arms testing. They called for reciprocal renunciation of modernising such weapons.

The Ministers called for the earliest possible conclusion of the international convention on the complete ban and liquidation of chemical weapons, and called upon the participants in the Geneva negotiations to settle the outstanding issues in 1990. They stressed the importance of greater efficiency of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament in general. The participants in the Meeting favoured the start of negotiations on naval forces, involving all the States concerned, first and foremost those with the largest naval arsenals.

The Ministers exchanged views on the proposal to establish the régime of the "open skies".

The participants in the Meeting reviewed issues relating to the conversion of arms production and expressed the preparedness to hold international consultations on the issue.

The Ministers reaffirmed the validity of the stance and proposals on disarmament issues as contained in the statement of the Bucharest Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty,

entitled "For a stable and secure Europe, free from nuclear and chemical weapons, and for a substantial reduction in armed forces, armaments and military spending". b/

6. The Ministers expressed concern over the insufficient development of general European economic co-operation. The establishment of wide-ranging economic co-operation was in keeping with the growing interdependence between the countries of the continent and constituted an indispensable prerequisite for the formation of the material basis of détente and the elevation of Europe onto a qualitatively new economic and technical level of development. Those objectives should be facilitated by a fuller and deeper participation by each State of the continent in the modern system of the international division of labour, world trade on the basis of commonly recognized principles and rules, including mutual benefit, non-discrimination and most-favoured nation status. It was necessary to eliminate the barriers and restrictions standing in the way of broader economic, trade, scientific, technical and manufacturing ties, as well as the practice of their hampering on political grounds.

The States parties to the Warsaw Treaty were in favour of expanded and deeper bilateral and multilateral co-operation, on an equal footing, in the field of economics and including co-operation between economic organizations in Europe. An important role in that work should be played by the 1990 Bonn conference.

The importance of expanded and deeper international co-operation in environmental protection was stressed. Fresh incentives to such co-operation based on the treatment of the continent as an ecological whole should be provided by the CSCE Meeting at Sofia on the protection of the environment. The participants noted the successful conduct of the Conference and expressed the hope that it would end in concrete conclusions and recommendations, which would positively affect further development of the general European process.

7. The participants in the Meeting expressed their conviction that an inseparable component of the process of building the "common European house" of a unified Europe in its diversity was full implementation by each State of the entirety of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the realization of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and other rights, irrespective of race, sex, language, religion and national origin. Co-operation and business-like dialogue between States in the humanitarian sphere was becoming an important component of international security and co-operation. In that connection, the Ministers came out in favour of broader human contacts and co-operation in the field of information, culture and education. They exchanged the views on the preparations for the Copenhagen and Moscow sessions of the Conference on the human dimension of the CSCE and to the Cracow symposium on the European and cultural heritage.

8. The participants expressed the conviction that progress in disarmament, confidence-building and development of co-operation as well as the construction of an indivisible Europe would make it possible to establish the general European system of collective security and the simultaneous dissolution of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO. The implementation of that objective should be facilitated by the establishment of contacts between the two alliances in various fields.

9. The Ministers came out in favour of the earliest possible settlement, by way of negotiations, of the existing regional conflicts and hotbeds of tension, and pointed out the need to further strengthen the role of the United Nations in that field,

The participants in the Meeting came out in favour of a comprehensive, political settlement of the Afghan problem on the basis of national reconciliation, and the existence of Afghanistan as a unified, sovereign and non-aligned State whose people had the right to decide their fate with no outside interference. They were in favour of the efforts mounted by the Republic of Afghanistan towards that end.

10. In the light of the results of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, the Meeting noted the important contribution made by the Non-Aligned Movement to the resolution of the important problems of our time. The Ministers underlined the intention of their respective States to expand and deepen their co-operation with the Movement.

11. The Meeting expressed the shared aspiration to develop further multifaceted co-operation between the allied States, on the principle of equal rights.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of friendly understanding and co-operation.

The next meeting shall be held at Bucharest,

Notes

a/ see A/44/306.

b/ Ibid., annex II.