## UNITED NATIONS





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### REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Letter dated 2 October 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the text of the declaration by the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, in connection with the initiative of President George Bush announced on 27 September 1991.

I would very much appreciate it if you would have the text of this declaration distributed as a document of the General Assembly.

(<u>Signed</u>) Svetlomir Baev Ambassador Permanent Representative

#### Annex

### Declaration

By H.E. Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, President of the Republic of Bulgaria, on the 27 September 1991 initiative of H.E. Mr. George Bush, President of the United States of America

The Republic of Bulgaria resolutely supports the initiative launched by President George Bush of the United States on 27 September 1991, on the elimination of all land- and sea-based short-range nuclear weapons. We appreciate this initiative as a significant step forward to the nuclear-free world that has been the dream of mankind for decades.

Indeed, the elimination of nuclear artillery ammunition and the nuclear warheads of the land- and sea-based short-range missiles, the lowering of the alert levels for several types of strategic nuclear weapons, result in substantially decreasing the nuclear threat to the world, Europe and the Balkans in particular.

As is known, no nuclear weapons have ever been deployed in Bulgaria. Yet, bloc confrontation between the Warsaw Treaty and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization had caused the deployment of tactical nuclear weapons in Greece and Turkey, Bulgaria's southern neighbours. Although placed under NATO control, these might well present a definite potential threat to the Balkans. The initiative launched by President Bush provides a favourable opportunity for solving that problem in the best interest of all peoples in this region.

We are well aware of the difficulties that have to be dealt with for the full implementation of President Bush's proposal, as well as of the inevitably ensuing other measures for enhancing political stability in the world at large and in Europe in particular. Still, the important thing is that the process of disarmament continues and Bulgaria remains warmly supportive of it.