REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA
OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION

CONCLUSION OF A TREATY ON THE COMPLETE AND GENERAL PROHIBITION
OF NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS

Letter dated 11 September 1975 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the
Secretary-General

The Soviet Government proposes the inclusion in the agenda of the thirtieth
session of the United Nations General Assembly, as an important and urgent question,
of the question "Conclusion of a Treaty on the Complete and General Prohibition of
Nuclear Weapon Tests".

The thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly will take place
in an international atmosphere characterized by major positive developments. The
process of relaxation of tension is steadily gaining ground and embracing new
spheres of international relations. The essential need in the present international
situation is to supplement and consolidate political détente with measures in
the military field, to halt the arms race, to achieve a reduction in arms production
and, ultimately, to embark upon general and complete disarmament.

In recent years, the first significant steps have been taken towards curbing
the arms race, with a positive effect on the normalization of the international
situation; a number of important agreements have been concluded, including the
Moscow Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and
Under Water, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Treaties
prohibiting the emplacement of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass
destruction in outer space, on the sea-bed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil

At the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, agreement has been
reached on mutual notification of major military manoeuvres and other confidence-
building measures between the participating States.
Of special importance in strengthening world peace and eliminating the threat of a nuclear conflict are the Soviet-United States agreements on averting nuclear war and limiting strategic weapons. In accordance with the understanding reached at the summit meeting at Vladivostok, a new long-term Soviet-United States agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons is being worked out in negotiations at Geneva. Negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe are continuing at Vienna.

Despite the measures taken to curb the arms race, especially in recent years, it has not yet proved possible to halt it altogether. Huge military expenditures place a heavy burden on the peoples of the world, and in a number of States military expenditures are being systematically increased. The expansion of the arms race goes on. This situation cannot but create serious concern among States Members of the United Nations and concern and alarm among all peoples.

Of great significance in the task of eliminating the danger of nuclear war and halting the nuclear arms race is the problem of the prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. The Moscow Treaty of 1963, the nuclear Power signatories of which are the USSR, the United States and the United Kingdom, bans nuclear weapon tests in three environments - in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water. Underground nuclear weapon tests are still outside the scope of the prohibition.

An important step towards the comprehensive prohibition of nuclear weapon tests was the Soviet-United States Treaty of 3 July 1974 on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests. This Treaty holds out the prospect of further progress towards a final solution of this problem.

The Soviet Union considers it of the utmost importance to take measures at the international level on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. To this end, it would be necessary to prepare and conclude an appropriate international agreement with wide participation providing for the complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests in all environments by all States.

The conclusion of an international treaty outlawing all nuclear weapon tests would be a major contribution to limiting the arms race and would thus promote the further development and intensification of the process of détente and the consolidation of peace and international security.

Please regard this letter as an explanatory memorandum in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and circulate it as an official General Assembly document.

(Signed) A. GROMYKO
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
ANNEX

DRAFT TREATY ON THE COMPLETE AND GENERAL PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS

The States Parties to this Treaty,

Proclaiming their intention to bring about, as speedily as possible, the cessation of the nuclear arms race, the adoption of effective measures towards nuclear disarmament and the conclusion of an agreement on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Taking into account the appeals by the United Nations General Assembly, to put an end to nuclear weapon tests in all environments,

Noting that the prohibition of all nuclear weapon tests would be in the interests of strengthening peace and slowing the arms race and would be a contribution to the process of international détente,

Reaffirming that the potential benefits of any peaceful application of nuclear explosions should be available to nuclear as well as non-nuclear States in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and of this Treaty,

Noting the great positive significance of the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water,

Stressing the importance of strict compliance with the above-mentioned Treaty up to the time of the entry into force of this Treaty,

Seeking to achieve the permanent cessation of all test explosions of nuclear weapons by all States,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

1. Each State Party to this Treaty undertakes to prohibit to prevent and to refrain from carrying out any test explosions of nuclear weapons anywhere under its jurisdiction or control in all environments - in the atmosphere, in outer space, under water and underground.

2. Each State Party to this Treaty undertakes to refrain from encouraging, inciting or in any way participating in the carrying out of nuclear explosions prohibited by paragraph 1 of this article.

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Article II

1. Control over compliance with this Treaty shall be conducted by the States Parties through their own national technical means of control in accordance with the generally recognized rules of international law.

2. In order to promote the objectives of and ensure compliance with the provisions of this Treaty, the Parties to the Treaty shall co-operate in an international exchange of seismic data.

3. In order to promote the objectives of and ensure compliance with the provisions of this Treaty, the Parties shall, when necessary, consult one another, make inquiries and receive appropriate information in connexion with such inquiries.

4. Any State Party to the Treaty which ascertains that any other State Party is acting in violation of obligations deriving from the provisions of the Treaty may lodge a complaint with the United Nations Security Council. Such a complaint must contain all possible evidence confirming its validity and a request for its consideration by the Security Council. The Council shall inform the States Parties to the Treaty of the results of its consideration.

Article III

1. The provisions of article I shall not apply to any underground nuclear explosions conducted by nuclear weapon States for peaceful purposes on the territory under their jurisdiction and in compliance with the agreements under which, in accordance with article V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, non-nuclear weapon States are to benefit from any peaceful applications of nuclear explosions.

2. The explosion referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be conducted as follows:

(a) In the case of non-nuclear weapon States, in conformity with the provisions of article V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

(b) In the case of nuclear weapon States, in conformity with a procedure to be established under a special agreement concerning which the nuclear weapon States will conduct negotiations with due regard for the IAEA recommendations on the subject and which will be concluded as speedily as possible.

Article IV

The provisions of this Treaty shall not affect obligations assumed by the States Parties to the Treaty under other international agreements.

Article V

1. Any Party to the Treaty may propose amendments to the Treaty. The text of any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Depositary Governments, which
shall circulate it to all Parties to the Treaty. Thereupon, if requested to do so by one third or more of the Parties to the Treaty, the Depositary Governments shall convene a conference, to which they shall invite all the Parties to the Treaty, for the purpose of considering such amendment.

2. Any amendment to this Treaty must be approved by a majority of the votes of all the Parties to the Treaty, including the votes of all nuclear weapon States Parties to the Treaty. The amendment shall enter into force for each Party depositing its instrument of ratification of the amendment upon the deposit of such instruments of ratification by a majority of all the Parties, including the nuclear weapon States Parties to the Treaty. Thereafter, it shall enter into force for any other Party upon the deposit of its instrument of ratification of the amendment.

**Article VI**

1. This Treaty shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign the Treaty before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Treaty shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification and accession shall be deposited with the Governments of .........., which are hereby designated the Depositary Governments.

3. This Treaty shall enter into force upon the deposit of the instruments of ratification by .......... Governments, including the Governments of all nuclear weapon States.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Treaty, the latter shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The Depositary Governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession, the date of the entry into force of this Treaty, and the date of receipt of any requests for convening a conference of Parties to the Treaty or of other notifications.

6. This Treaty shall be registered by the Depositary Governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

**Article VII**

This Treaty shall be of unlimited duration.

Each State Party shall, in the exercise of its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from the Treaty if it decides that extraordinary circumstances, connected with the subject-matter of this Treaty, have jeopardized its supreme...
interests. It shall give three months' notice of such withdrawal to all other Parties to the Treaty and to the United Nations Security Council. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary circumstances which it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

Article VIII

This Treaty, the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depositary Governments. Duly certified copies of this Treaty shall be transmitted by the Depositary Governments to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized for the purpose, have signed this Treaty.

DONE in .......... copies, in .......... on the ........ day of ...........