Thirty-fifth session
Agenda item 50

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

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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I. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]
[24 October 1980]

1. Ten years ago the General Assembly of the United Nations, on the initiative of the USSR, adopted the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, which focused the activities of the United Nations on the consistent fulfilment of its principal task under the Charter, the maintenance of international peace and security.

2. As a result of the constant and unremitting struggle by the Soviet Union and other countries of the Socialist community, with the support of all peace-loving forces, for the realization of the objectives affirmed in the Declaration, some improvement in the international situation was achieved in the 1970s. These years were a period of strengthening of co-operation and good neighbourliness between States with different social systems. Progress was made on certain aspects of the limitation of the arms race, inter alia, in the field of the most dangerous types of weapons - strategic nuclear armaments. The SALT-II Treaty was signed. One new positive element in the practice of international relations was the implementation of confidence-building measures.

3. More favourable conditions were created for resolving controversial issues and international conflicts by political means. As a result of the anti-imperialist national liberation struggle of the peoples, some new and serious blows were dealt to the system of colonial and neo-colonial domination and to racism and apartheid.

4. In general, radical changes in the world correlation of the forces of progress and reaction, of peace and war and of colonial oppression and national liberation created the necessary conditions for joint action by all peace-loving States and peoples, and for important positive moves in solving the problems of strengthening peace and international security in the whole system of international relations.

5. Recently, however, as a result of the further activation of the forces of imperialism and reaction, the international situation has become more complicated and the threat to the cause of peace and détente has increased considerably.

6. The countries of the NATO military bloc, and primarily the United States of America, have adopted a course aimed at upsetting the military balance in the world in their own favour, to the detriment of the Soviet Union and the countries of the Socialist community and to the detriment of détente and international security. On an anti-Soviet basis, and contrary to the cause of peace, a rapprochement is taking place between the aggressive circles of the West and the hegemonists of Peking.

7. On the part of the imperialist and hegemonist forces, in spite of their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, there have been an increasing
number of cases of the use or threat of force in international relations, of gross violation of the sovereignty and independence of States, and of interference in their internal affairs. Additional obstacles have been created to the restructuring of international economic relations on a democratic and just basis.

8. Other dangerous factors in the complication of the international situation have been the decisions taken by the NATO countries to speed up their long-term armament programmes and increase their military budgets. As a result, new difficulties have arisen on the way to strengthening European security. A particular danger is presented by the NATO decision to produce and deploy in Western Europe new United States medium-range nuclear-missile weapons. Application of this decision would inevitably entail a sharp deterioration in the political situation on the European continent.

9. Through the fault of the United States of America, negotiations on a number of important aspects of the limitation of the arms race have been suspended or have come to a standstill, and ratification of the Soviet-United States Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-II) has been postponed. The United States of America has unilaterally abrogated a number of international treaties and agreements which it had concluded previously.

10. The Byelorussian SSR, like all States of the Socialist community, is countering the policy of imperialism and reaction by its efforts to strengthen détente and transform it into the dominating factor in international life, to create firm guarantees of the security of States, to achieve détente in the military field, to halt the arms race and to reduce the armed forces and armaments of States.

11. These tasks can be accomplished only through negotiations based on the principle of equality and non-impairment of the security of the sides.

12. In the wide range of measures to strengthen international security, one measure of exceptional importance is the consolidation of the political and legal foundations of peace, particularly the conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations.

13. The political dialogue between States belonging to different social systems must be continued and deepened.

14. The USSR and other countries of the Socialist community are resolutely opposed to the recrudescence of a situation of hostility and mistrust on the European continent. To this end, it is necessary to ensure that all States which participated in the All-European Conference unswervingly comply with the principles by which they undertook to be guided in their mutual relations in accordance with the Final Act of the Conference. One joint manifestation of goodwill by European States, the United States of America and Canada might be an understanding to the effect that, from a certain agreed date, no State or group of States in Europe would increase the strength of its armed forces in the region defined by the Final Act of the All-European Conference.

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15. A central place among the problems on which the strengthening of peace and security in Europe depends belongs to the problem of military détente and disarmament on the continent. Accordingly, careful preparation for the forthcoming conference in Madrid of representatives of States which participated in the All-European Conference, and the adoption of positive concrete decisions in the course of this meeting, are of great importance. In particular, agreement might be reached at the Madrid meeting on practical questions of convening a conference on military détente and disarmament in Europe. As is known, this proposal was made more than a year ago by the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty.

16. The USSR and other countries of the Socialist community are consistently advocating the adoption of effective measures to achieve a break-through in solving questions of limiting and halting the arms race and implementing concrete measures of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament. The group of Socialist countries has put forward a whole series of proposals embracing all aspects of the problem of disarmament. The Socialist countries affirm once again that there is no type of armament which they would not be prepared to limit or reduce on a mutual basis, without impairment of the security of any of the sides.

17. They strongly advocate the successful completion of all negotiations now in progress on arms limitation and disarmament, and the resumption of all such negotiations that have been suspended.

18. The interests of strengthening peace and international security would be served also by the proposal formulated by the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty for considering the question of limiting and lowering the levels of military presence and military activities in the respective regions - the Atlantic, the Indian or the Pacific Ocean, the Mediterranean or the Persian Gulf.

19. The USSR and other countries of the Socialist community are constantly advocating a just and lasting peaceful settlement of conflict situations, in whichever region of the world they may arise. The Socialist countries are convinced that there are no global or regional problems which cannot be solved by political means. They call for the extension of détente to all regions of the world and they believe that genuine détente presupposes the elimination, from inter-State relations, of methods of pressure, diktat and hegemonism and violation of the sovereignty of States and interference in their internal affairs.

20. Rejecting the slanderous fabrications regarding Afghanistan, which is a sovereign non-aligned State, the Byelorussian SSR together with other Socialist States strongly advocates a political settlement of the situation which has arisen in regard to Afghanistan, on the basis of the proposal by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan dated 14 May 1980.

21. The Byelorussian SSR supports the efforts by Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea to transform South-East Asia into a zone of peace and stability.

22. The States parties to the Warsaw Treaty, bearing in mind the complexity of the present-day international situation and striving to maintain and strengthen détente, have taken the important initiative of proposing the convening as soon as
possible of a meeting, at the very highest level, of the leaders of States of all regions of the world. The main objective of such a meeting would be to eliminate hotbeds of international tension and to prevent war. Particular attention should at the same time be given to questions of strengthening security and maintaining peace on the European continent.

23. The task of the United Nations in the 1980s is to contribute in every possible way to the preservation and multiplying of all the positive achievements of the past decade, and to the strengthening of international peace and security. All the possibilities of the United Nations must be mobilized in order to intensify its efforts in favour of consolidating détente, reducing the danger of war, maintaining and strengthening international peace and further developing international co-operation. All the foreign policy activities of the countries of the Socialist community in and outside the United Nations are subordinated to these noble objectives.

24. The thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in observing the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and reviewing its implementation, might once again affirm the overriding responsibility of the United Nations and its Member States for the maintenance and consolidation of détente and for the strengthening of peace and international security. One concrete and constructive contribution by the Socialist States to the elaboration and adoption of the measures necessary to liquidate hotbeds of tension and trends in international development which are dangerous for all peoples is the programme of measures contained in the Declaration and Statement by the Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty held in May 1980.

25. Foiling the plans of the aggressive forces, protecting peace, halting the arms race and defending détente - these now are the historic tasks of everyone who values peace on our planet.
II. LIST OF DOCUMENTS ISSUED SINCE THE CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM
BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

A/35/554
Letter dated 21 October 1980 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of two notes sent to China on border incidents

A/35/558-8/14231
Letter dated 23 October 1980 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Communiqué of the meeting of the Committee of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, Warsaw, 19-20 October 1980

A/C.1/35/7
Letter dated 21 October 1980 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the appeal of the World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace, Sofia, September 1980

A/C.1/35/9
Letter dated 30 October 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires of Afghanistan and the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the statement signed by the two countries on 16 October 1980 in Moscow

A/35/609-8/14254
Letter dated 7 November 1980 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General