Twenty-fourth session  
FIRST COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 29 and 104

QUESTION OF GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

QUESTION OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Letter dated 8 October 1969 from the Permanent Representative of Poland addressed to the President of the General Assembly

On the instruction of my Government and as Chairman of the Eastern European Group of States - on behalf of the Group, I have the honour to draw your attention to the cable addressed to you by the President of the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic, Gerald Goetting, containing the text of a message to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the General Assembly, which I enclose herewith as an annex to my present letter.

I am also authorized to inform you that on September 29, 1969, the Chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic, Walter Ulbricht, signed the instrument of ratification of the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Chairman of the State Council of the GDR instructed the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the GDR Otto Winzer to deposit the instrument of ratification with the Government of the Soviet Union as one of the depositaries.

The message from the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic which is in the annex to my letter deals with extremely important questions relating to United Nations activities, in particular items 29 and 104 of the Agenda of the Twenty-Fourth Session.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter as well as the annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Eugeniusz KULAG
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations
ANNEX

Excellency,

In its session on 24 September 1969 the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic unanimously adopted a message to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the United Nations General Assembly. I take the liberty to transmit to you this message and should be grateful if you would have it circulated among the Member States of the United Nations.

Guided by the strong will to contribute towards ensuring peace and security, the supreme elected body of the German Democratic Republic, acting in full accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations, on 24 September 1969 gave its unanimous approval to the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. On this occasion the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic addresses itself to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the United Nations General Assembly and expresses the expectation that everything will be done so that this treaty on the implementation of which largely depend peace and security in the world may take full effect within the shortest time.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic considers it imperative that the General Assembly should give top priority to the questions of strengthening international security. In this connexion it welcomes and supports the draft appeal to all States of the world submitted by the USSR Government. Adoption of that appeal by the United Nations General Assembly would help ease international tension and enhance international security.

Peace and security in the world largely depend on the elimination of the dangers which arise for mankind from nuclear, bacteriological and chemical weapons. So, the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic welcomes the draft convention on the prohibition of the development, production and storage of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their destruction, which was jointly submitted by socialist States to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the General Assembly. The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic fully backs this draft.

Her Excellency Angie E. Brooks
President of the Twenty-Fourth Session
of the United Nations General Assembly
United Nations Headquarters
New York, N.Y.10017
convention because it constitutes an important step towards the banning of these terrible arms of mass annihilation. The German Democratic Republic has always resolutely worked for a ban on the development, production and storage of B and C weapons and their destruction.

Two world wars launched by German militarism have brought about devastating destruction in Europe and have demanded large numbers of victims. In view of the geographical situation and the high density of population in Europe the amount of destruction and the number of victims in a war waged weapons of mass annihilation would be immeasurable. The life of the present and future generations demands that these barbarous weapons are moved once for all from the military arsenals of the world.

The conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and storage of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their destruction is of particular topicality because of the notorious striving of the West German Federal Republic for weapons of mass annihilation. The State which is the only one in Europe not recognizing the territorial status quo and demanding a revision of the results of the Second World War still refuses to sign the treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, is developing and producing chemical and bacteriological weapons, and insists on such means of mass annihilation to be stored in West Germany.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic expects and is confident that the Member States of the United Nations give preference to discussing a comprehensive ban on B and C weapons and make special efforts so that the convention on the prohibition of the development, production and storage of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their destruction will be concluded and become fully effective as soon as possible.

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic declares to the Twenty-Fourth Session of the United Nations General Assembly that it will energetically support the efforts of the United Nations for attaining this aim.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

Gerald GÖRTING
President of the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic