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

Letter dated 12 May 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the appeal "For Peace and Disarmament: the appeal of communists to the peoples of Europe" of the communist and workers parties which held their meeting in April 1980 in Paris.

I shall be grateful if you would have this letter and the text of the appeal annexed to it circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Ryszard FRELEK
Ambassador

* A/35/50.

ANNEX

FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT: THE APPEAL OF COMMUNISTS
TO THE PEOPLES OF EUROPE

The senseless acceleration of the arms race arouses your concern.

Peoples of Europe, you are right to be vigilant.

The means of destruction and death stockpiled on or aimed at our densely populated continent pose a major threat to our common destiny. But you are also aware what monstrous foolishness they represent, what an intolerable diversion of resources that are vital to satisfying the future day-to-day needs and development needs of the peoples and nations of Europe. You see how detrimental to peace, détente, mutual trust and international co-operation are the recent campaigns of war psychosis, designed to plunge the world back into cold war. Yet now there are plans to establish more nuclear arsenals in the heart of Europe and new attempts to destroy the gains of détente; efforts are being made to undermine existing agreements, ongoing negotiations and economic, cultural, sporting and human relations.

The peoples of our continent paid dearly for the privilege of knowing the price of solid and lasting peace, friendship and co-operation. The thirty-fifth anniversary of the victory over Hitlerism reminds us to what extent peace is one of the prime human rights, an essential human value.

All of us who are building a life for ourselves in a European country have everything to lose from a continuation of this perilous escalation. Let us reject the very idea of the devastation of this region of the world, whose great human and economic potential is vital to mankind as a whole; let us protect its cultural and historical wealth, which forms part of the heritage of mankind on earth.

All of us, whoever we are and wherever we live in Europe, have everything to gain from a search for negotiated solutions to the problems which exist; we have everything to gain from a reduction of armaments and armed forces, from progress towards disarmament, in accordance with the requirements of equal and guaranteed security for all States and peoples.

We have the power to do this.

We, as communists, are peace-loving men; we want disarmament, co-operation and friendship among peoples. That is why we say to you: peace is everyone's concern, and if we all act peace will prevail.

Together, let us:

Work for cancellation of the NATO decision to produce and station new United States missiles in Europe or effective suspension of its implementation, and for

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the launching of meaningful negotiations on terms of equality and guaranteed security, on the question of medium-range missiles;

Act to bring about the early ratification of SALT II and continued negotiations on later reductions in strategic weapons;

Fight for decisive progress in the Vienna negotiations and for a reduction of armed forces and armaments, and support all partial measures towards that end, including the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones guaranteed against the use of such weapons;

Fight for the holding in 1980 of the Madrid meeting on security and co-operation in Europe. Let us aim at further advances in the application by all States of all the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, in particular by consolidating political détente through military détente;

Work for the holding in Warsaw of a European conference on military détente and disarmament on our continent;

Demand the practical application of the decisions of the United Nations special session devoted to disarmament;

Fight to ensure that the resources thus released are channelled to the struggle for development and against hunger, as the non-aligned countries have urged. This is in the interests of mankind as a whole.

Yes, today the struggle for disarmament is a matter of overriding importance!

We, communists of all the countries of Europe, when it comes to struggling for peace and disarmament, are ready for any dialogue, any concentration, any joint action. We hope that all peace-loving forces will come together for this purpose. Whatever our national origins, our beliefs, our way of life, we say to everyone - communists, socialists, social democrats, Christians and members of other faiths - we say to them: "Peace is our common good!".

From this meeting, we declare that we wish to seek the launching of an open initiative leading to the broadest possible meeting and the broadest possible dialogue. We are ready to enter into consultations and exchanges of views, in whatever forms are acceptable to everyone, with all those forces which, in Europe, are resolved to act in the spirit of Helsinki and in anticipation of Madrid to promote détente and open the way for arms reduction on our continent.

Men and women of good will, let us act together in every country and on a Europe-wide scale.

If we are united, the cause of progress, happiness and peace will prevail.

Paris, 29 April 1980.