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CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

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

Letter dated 10 January 1986 from the Permanent Representatives
of Bulgaria and Romania to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the Declaration-Appeal by the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceaușescu, and the President of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Jivkov, concerning the establishment of a chemical-weapon-free zone in the Balkans, signed at Bucharest on 22 December 1985.

We should be grateful if you would circulate the text of the Declaration-Appeal as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda items entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons", "General and complete disarmament" and "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

(Signed) Boris TSVETKOV
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Deputy Prime Minister
for Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of
the People's Republic of
Bulgaria to the United Nations

(Signed) Teodor MARINESCU
Ambassador Extraordinary
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Permanent Representative of
the Socialist Republic of
Romania to the United Nations

Annex

DECLARATION-APPEAL BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA, NICOLAE CEAUSESCU, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, TODOR JIVKOV, CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHEMICAL-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE BALKANS

The President of the Socialist Republic of **Romania, Nicolae Ceaușescu**, and the President of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Jivkov,

Considering the development of the international situation and, in particular, Problems **relating** to the strengthening of **peace** and **security** in **Europe**, and **expressing** their deep **concern** at the **extreme tension** which **continues** to exist in **Europe** and **throughout** the world,

Noting the **serious** threats posed **by** the continuation of the arms race and the testing, production and deployment of **new nuclear weapons** and other **means of mass destruction**,

Emphasizing the need to **take all possible measures** to rid **Europe** of nuclear weapons and all other **weapons of mass destruction**,

Reiterating the determination of their countries to work steadfastly for the **reformation** of the Balkans into a zone of **peace** and co-operation free of nuclear **weapons**, and affirming their **support** for the **launching** and implementation of **new actions** and initiatives to that end,

Proceeding from the fact that research in the area of **chemical weapons** and the **testing** and production of such weapons have continued to expand in recent **years**, and being of the view that this **further increases the threat** of the destruction of **civilization** and life on Earth,

Considering that the conclusion of an effective and verifiable international **convention would promote the complete prohibition** of chemical weapons, declare the readiness of their countries to participate in its **elaboration** and **welcome the efforts** to establish a chemical-weapon-free zone in **Central Europe**,

Desiring to **promote** the strengthening of peace and security in **the Balkans**,

Declare that **Romania** and Bulgaria are most resolutely opposed to **chemical weapons** as a **means of mass destruction**;

Solemnly appeal to the Heads of **State** and **Government** of the **Balkan countries** to **concert and co-ordinate** the efforts of all States in the **region** with a view to transforming the **Balkans** into a **chemical-weapon-free zone**;

Propose that negotiations for the conclusion of an **agreement among the Balkan countries** prohibiting the testing, **production**, acquisition and **stockpiling** of **any chemical weapons** on their territory should **be initiated** without delay.

The declaration of the Balkans as a chemical-weapon-free zone would constitute an important step towards eliminating a class of extremely **dangerous weapons** from **Europe** and would help to strengthen confidence and co-operation **among the countries** and peoples of **the region**.

The implementation of this Appeal **would make a genuine contribution** to efforts to bring **about** the general and **complete** prohibition of chemical weapons and the elimination of existing stockpiles, and would **also** provide **momentum** for the negotiations conducted to **that** end.

The President of **the** Socialist Republic of Romania and the President of the **Council of State** of the People's **Republic** of Bulgaria are **convinced** that the Declaration-Appeal concerning the transformation of the Balkans into a zone free of chemical **as** well **as** **nuclear weapons** will elicit a positive **response** from the Heads of State and **Government** of the **region**, and **that those** leaders' sense of responsibility for the lives of their peoples and the **common** interests of **peace** and security in the Balkans, Europe and the entire world will prevail over any differences of social system or other differences.

Nicolae CEAUSESCU
President of the
Socialist Republic of **Romania**

Todor JIVKOV
President of the Council of
State of **the** People's
Republic of Bulgaria