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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Agenda items 21, 47, 54, 55, 60,
62, 68, 126 and 141
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE
CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS
PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE
IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 40/88 ON THE IMMEDIATE
CESSATION AND PROHIBITION OF
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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
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ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
PRINCIPLE OF NON-USE OF FORCE IN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM
OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE **AND** SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 4 November 1986 from the Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the united Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of the reply by Mr. **M. S. Gorbachev**,
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet
Union, to the "**Harare Appeal**".

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English

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I request you to arrange to have **this** text circulated as **an** official document of **the General Assembly** under agenda items 21, 47, 54, 55, 60, 62, **68**, 126 and **141**, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. M. BELONOGOV
Deputy Head of the USSR delegation to the
forty-first session of the United Nations
General Assembly

ANNEX

Reply by the General secretary of the Central Committee of the
Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Harare Appeal

Distinguished Comrade **Mugabe!**

I have carefully studied the "**Harare** Appeal" which was transmitted to me on 8 October 1986 by your special representative Dr. W. Mangwende, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

This document expresses well-founded concern about the nuclear arms race and an awareness of the pressing need for urgent action to save world **civilization**. We fully understand this deep concern among the Heads of State and Government Of Countries belonging to the Non-Aligned Movement, who represent the major part of the world's population.

We deeply appreciate the position of the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries in **Harare** on questions of the nuclear threat and the unique contribution of the Non-Aligned Movement to international development; we are convinced that this contribution will grow steadily.

As you are well aware, the Soviet Union, in pursuance of its principled foreign policy and the prescriptions of the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, has recently, acting unilaterally and in concert with its allies, put forward a whole range of peace-oriented initiatives covering virtually all aspects of the problem of disarmament.

The course of world events, above all the dangerous consequences of the policy Of the United States Administration, required -- as was demonstrated at the Conference in **Harare**, where the leaders of almost 100 non-aligned States assembled -- a show of political will and the adoption of decisive measures to curb the nuclear arms race.

Recognising its responsibility for the fate of the world and international **security**, the Soviet leadership decided to arrange immediately **for** a meeting with the President of the United States, Mr. Ronald Reagan.

This meeting, on our initiative, was held at Reykjavik. The USSR position **is** honest, bold and straightforward. Breaking **the** ice on the crucial issues of reducing and abolishing nuclear weapons, it is based on the principle-z of equality and equal security and takes account of the interests of each of the countries and their allies. At the same time, and I should like to stress this point, it accords with the interests of all other countries and peoples.

The platform which we **put** forward at Reykjavik was, therefore, sympathetically received in many **countries**, including the non-aligned countries, and in the most diverse political and social circles. **We** believe that our platform of interlinked proposals, carefully balanced from the point **of** view of the interests of the actual

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participants in the talks and the entire community of States, gave concrete expression to the **new** approach and new thinking which are mandated by the facts of the nuclear-missile age.

My statements on the upshot of the Reykjavik meeting, and the special representatives we sent to a number of countries, have given a detailed factual account of the meeting and our interpretation of it. I need not, therefore, dwell again on the details of the Soviet and United States positions at those talks. I will only remark that the compromises offered **by** the Soviet Union in Reykjavik opened up a genuine opportunity for agreement on matters crucial to mankind - matters such as the abolition of nuclear weapons, the prohibition of nuclear tests and the prevention of an **arms** race in space.

The agreement **on** the greatest problems in world politics which we had in essence reached could not, unfortunately, be enshrined in a binding accord because the United States was determined to carry its militaristic **SDI** programme into effect and thus start an **arms** race in new categories of weaponry.

The Soviet Union has a constructive alternative to plans for "Star Wars": wide-ranging co-operation in the peaceful exploration and conquest of space.

The United States was not even ready to engage in talks on the reduction and prohibition of nuclear tests, a subject which prompted so much concern during the Non-Aligned Summit Conference.

I have often had occasion to say that attitudes to this question are, today, the **most** telling indication of how seriously each of the great nuclear Powers takes disarmament, international security and the cause of peace in general. We - and not just we - interpret the refusal by the United States to join the moratorium as signifying a desire to win military supremacy, continue the arms race and extend it to new domains, **outer** space in particular.

As for the question of a further top-level Soviet-American **meeting**, which is touched upon in the **Harare** Appeal, we are, as before, in favour - **but** on the strict understanding that it must produce results and acknowledge the objective fact that Reykjavik created a qualitatively **new** international situation; the problem of nuclear disarmament has advanced to a new, higher, threshold, and retreat would **be** unacceptable and inadmissible.

We have taken due note **of** the **declaration by those attending the Harare** Conference of their willingness to go on working actively to bring **about** international peace and security. I wish to assure you, Sir, that the Soviet Union, too, is full of determination to co-operate and interact actively with the non-aligned countries - an authoritative **moJern** force for progress - in resolving the burning issues that confront mankind today.

We believe no effort can be spared to ensure that the emergent opportunity to resolve the question of war and peace to the benefit of all mankind is not wasted.