



GENERAL

A/1993
4 December 1951ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIANDual Distribution

COMMUNICATION DATED 30 NOVEMBER 1951 FROM THE HEAD OF THE
DELEGATION OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS,
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Paris, 30 November 1951

As reported in the press, the World Federation of Trade Unions recently addressed the following communication to the sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly:

"The General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions, at a meeting in Berlin, draws the attention of the General Assembly of the United Nations to the poverty of the workers in capitalist and colonial countries, aggravated by the crazy armaments race which is being carried on by imperialist governments. These governments are spending enormous sums on preparation for war and decreasing considerably their expenditure on cultural and social needs. Real earned wages are falling, prices are rising incessantly, the burden of taxation is increasing, the cost of living is rising, inflation is growing and trade union rights are being violated.

"At the same time, capitalist monopolies are making fabulous profits at the expense of the starvation and poverty of the working masses. The steady deterioration of the economic position of the workers causes anxiety and disquiet to all honest people throughout the world. The workers and employees in capitalist, colonial and dependent countries are protesting and denouncing more and more resolutely the policy of destitution imposed upon them by imperialist governments.

"The World Federation of Trade Unions, which reflects the interests of the workers of the whole world, cannot disregard their demands. It therefore appeals to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

"We are forced to do this for the further reason that many of the constructive proposals made by the World Federation of Trade Unions in the

Economic and Social Council of the United Nations have been disregarded. That was the case, as you know, with such proposals as those on liquidation of unemployment and guarantees of full employment, the campaign against lowering the standard of living of the workers, in connexion with the armaments race, the abolition of racial discrimination,

"In the existing circumstances, it is absolutely essential to take realistic measures to alleviate the position of the workers. The General Council of the WFTU requests the General Assembly to recommend that the Economic and Social Council should give consideration to the proposals submitted to it by our organization. We invite the General Assembly to draw the attention of the Economic and Social Council to the urgent necessity of drawing up a practical programme of measures to raise the standard of living of the working masses, to improve social legislation, to develop and guarantee trade union rights and to promote normal economic relations between all countries.

"The General Council of the WFTU fully supports the appeal made by the World Peace Council to the United Nations and to the peoples of the world. The WFTU insists that effective measures should be taken against the armaments race and the unleashing of a new war; such measures should include, in the first instance, the progressive and simultaneous reduction of armaments, the prohibition of atomic weapons, the cessation of military operations in Korea, the withdrawal of invading troops from the territories and territorial waters of other countries and non-interference in the internal affairs of nations and the conclusion of a peace pact between the five great Powers. The workers of the world demand that the colossal sums which are now being spent on the production of armaments should be used for raising the standard of living and cultural level of all peoples."

I would ask you, Sir, to have this letter issued as a General Assembly document and distributed to all delegations.

(Signed) A. VYSHINSKY

Head of the Delegation of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics