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A COMMUNICATION FROM THE DELEGATE OF POLAND

Note by the President

The text of a letter, and of a statement transmitted therewith, which the delegate of Poland addressed to the President on 28 September is reproduced below.

"Allow me to send you enclosed the statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic on the agenda item "General debate and report for 1971-72" of the sixteenth session of the General Conference.

"I request you to bring this statement to the notice of the delegations attending the sixteenth session of the General Conference."

STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC TO THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic attaches great importance to the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency connected with the peaceful uses of atomic energy for the welfare of man. It expresses the hope that the sixteenth session of the General Conference will make a valuable contribution towards the accomplishment of this fundamental task of the Agency.

"The development of nuclear research and technology, which opens up for mankind new technological possibilities and provides new means of production of immense potential receives great attention in the German Democratic Republic. The concept underlying the development of nuclear research and technology is based on national requirements, the continuous intensification of international scientific and technological co-operation, and the obligation to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Nuclear power engineering, isotope and radiation research, nuclear solid state physics, nuclear medicine, nuclear biology and environmental protection are essential elements of the concept. The implementation of the German Democratic Republic's national economic plans for the period up till 1975 will entail a greater use of nuclear energy in industry, agriculture and the health services for peaceful purposes.

"As a member of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance the German Democratic Republic co-operates in various bodies of the Council to co-ordinate research and development in the peaceful application of nuclear energy. Because of its high standards relating to research, development, production and the use of nuclear electronic instruments, the German Democratic Republic is a member of Interatom-Instrument, an international company recently set up.

"Of particular importance are the tasks of the International Atomic Energy Agency in carrying out its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The results so far achieved in the implementation of the Treaty open up great prospects for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and widen the Agency's field of action.

"The German Democratic Republic, conscientiously complying with the obligations incumbent upon it as a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, has concluded with the International Atomic Energy Agency an agreement for the application of safeguards. With this Agreement, international treaty relations on the basis of full equality of rights have been established between the two parties, in the same way as between the Agency and other contracting States. The Government of the German Democratic Republic regards this Agreement, which is in the interests of all Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency, as an essential contribution to the strengthening of international security, the easing of international tensions and the peaceful application of nuclear energy. The results reached in the implementation of the Agreement underline the untiring effort of the German Democratic Republic to make a constructive contribution to these objectives.

"Since the fifteenth session of the General Conference positive changes have occurred in the international situation. A stage has been reached in the international political scene, especially in Europe, which makes it possible further to ease tension on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Treaties between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Federal Republic of Germany and between the Polish People's Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany contain a binding international recognition of the inviolability of all the existing frontiers in Europe, and of the territorial integrity and the sovereign equality of all European States. The Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin takes due account of the sovereign rights and legitimate interests of the German Democratic Republic. The German Democratic Republic is participating on an equal footing in the preparations for an all-European conference on security and co-operation.

"The new phase in the process of détente has also further improved the conditions for expanding and increasing the co-operation of States in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Owing to the wide scope of its objectives, the International Atomic Energy Agency has largely to rely on the co-operation of all States and is particularly committed to the principle of universality. It is therefore time to give the German Democratic Republic its due place among the Agency's Members. Membership by the German Democratic Republic is in the interests of the International Atomic Energy Agency and would undoubtedly have favourable repercussions on the process of international détente and co-operation.

"The conclusion of the Agreement between the Government of the German Democratic Republic and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in Connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons proves that it is possible to make progress in international co-operation on a basis of equality. The universal participation of all interested States in the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency would correspond to the increasing importance of the Agency in the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

"Berlin, 21 September 1972."

