

CMEA (COMECON) SUMMIT, 12-14 JUNE 1984

A summit of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the CMEA (or Comecon, the name used in the Western press) was held in Moscow on 12-14 June 1984. A statement on Guidelines for Furthering Developing and Deepening the Economic, Scientific and Technological Co-operation of the CMEA Countries, and a Declaration: Safeguarding Peace and International Economic Co-operation were adopted by representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Mongolia; Poland, Romania, The USSR and Czechoslovakia. The texts of the two documents, which were provided by the Soviet Embassy, Canberra, follow.

STATEMENT

**On the Guidelines for Further Developing and
Deepening the Economic, Scientific and
Technological Cooperation of the CMEA
Member Countries**

The leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties and the heads of government of the countries participating in the economic summit Conference of the CMEA member countries have discussed the most important questions of the present stage of and prospects for the economic development and mutual cooperation of the fraternal countries and unanimously agreed on the urgent need further to expand and enhance the effectiveness of this cooperation.

The participants in the Conference noted that in the 1970s, after the 23rd (special) Summit Session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance in 1969, the countries of the socialist community, thanks to the selfless labour of the peoples under the guidance of the Communist and Workers' Parties, substantially consolidated their economic, scientific and technological potential, carried out major social programmes, and ensured the stable growth of the standard of living, and the further development of science, education, culture, public health and social security. The cooperation of the fraternal Parties and states became deeper and acquired more aspects. This facilitated considerable achievements in the building of socialism and communism.

The practical experience of the CMEA member countries convincingly demonstrates socialism's fundamental advantages over capitalism, such as social and national equality, the planned development of the economy,

the ideological cohesion of society, confidence in the future, and constant concern for man and the all-round development of the individual. On this basis the socialist way of life is enriched, socialism's political system is developed, and socialist democracy, which in practice guarantees the most extensive rights and freedoms, is perfected.

The economic and social progress of the CMEA member countries contrasts sharply with the crisis situation in capitalist countries. Capitalism's inability to rid itself of deep economic crises and acute socio-political upheavals is being once again confirmed.

The increased economic might of the CMEA member countries has become the material basis of their policy of peace, detente, and mutually advantageous cooperation with other states. The international prestige of socialism, which is vital for mankind's social progress, has grown considerably and its influence on world development has increased.

The collective policy of deepening cooperation and developing socialist economic integration, which has become an important factor in the all-round progress of each of the fraternal countries and in closing the gaps in the levels of their economic development, has been once again proved correct and timely.

The principles of socialist internationalism, respect for state sovereignty, independence and national interests, non-interference in the internal affairs of countries, full equality, mutual advantage and comradesly assistance, which are recorded in the CMEA Charter and the Comprehensive Programme of Further Deepening and Perfecting Cooperation and Developing Socialist Economic Integration, have become established in relations between the CMEA member countries. These principles are being, and will continue to be, consistently implemented. Each CMEA member country, especially the Soviet Union, makes a considerable contribution to deepening the all-round cooperation of the fraternal states and to strengthening their unity and cohesion.

The participants in the Conference noted the relevance

of the Comprehensive Programme of Further Deepening and Perfecting Cooperation and Developing Socialist Economic Integration and of the long-term multilateral and bilateral cooperation programmes, the provisions of which are being realized in practice.

The planned development of the national economy and the mutual cooperation of the CMEA member countries have made it possible substantially to ease in many areas the impact on their economy of the economic crisis which has erupted in the capitalist world and to counteract the aggressive policy of the imperialist circles and the attempts of the United States and some of its allies to pursue a policy of economic pressure and discrimination.

At the same time the participants in the Conference noted that there are still considerable reserves that could be used to expand mutual cooperation, deepen production specialisation and co-production, increase mutual trade in the interests of more effective utilisation of the production, scientific and technological potentials of the fraternal countries and raise the standards of living of their peoples. The leaders of the fraternal Parties and governments have focused their attention on solving tasks stemming from internal and external conditions which have changed in recent years.

They have agreed to instruct the planning and economic bodies of their countries, when drafting economic development plans for the rest of the current five-year period and coordinating annual protocols on trade turnover, to look for ways to expand, on a mutually advantageous basis, trade with CMEA member countries in excess of the volumes provided for in existing long-term agreements.

The participants in the Conference are confident that the CMEA member countries have everything they need to raise mutual cooperation to a new level. They believe unanimously that the most important tasks of the CMEA member countries in the field of the economy and mutual cooperation at the present stage are:

to transfer the economy more rapidly to intensive development and to increase its efficiency by improving the structure of social production, by making rational

and thrifty use of the existing material and manpower resources, and by making better use of fixed assets and the scientific and technological potential;

to ensure the further growth of social production as the main way of strengthening the material and technical base of socialist society and improving the standard of living;

to raise the technical standards, reliability, durability and quality of output, and to expand and speed up the introduction of new products;

to develop export potential, primarily of the manufacturing industries;

to distribute the productive forces more rationally;

to speed up the process of gradually evening out the levels of economic development of the CMEA member countries, and primarily to bring the levels of economic development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Republic of Cuba and the Mongolian People's Republic up to those of the European CMEA members.

The Conference has decided to take a new step in deepening the coordination by the CMEA member countries of economic policy in areas where they cooperate, and in deepening coordination by countries interested in doing so in other fields of socio-economic development to the extent to which these countries find it necessary. By this coordination the CMEA members mean working out on a collective basis ways of solving major economic problems of common interest and of great importance for each of the fraternal countries in determining the long-term directions of economic development and cooperation, and jointly charting ways of direct collaboration in the spheres of science, technology, material production and capital construction.

All this activity is designed to facilitate the mobilisation of the potentials of the countries and the strengthening of their mutual cooperation for the purpose of dynamic and balanced development of the economy of each country and of the entire CMEA community on the basis of the all-round intensification of production and the introduction of world scientific and technological achievements. It

should facilitate the provision of the necessary resources, in particular fuel, power, raw materials, food and consumer goods, modern machinery and equipment. It should encourage the active participation of the CMEA member countries in the international socialist and world division of labour and the more rapid evening out of their levels of economic development.

It is believed useful to intensify the collective work of the Communist and Workers' Parties and the governments of the CMEA member countries to develop cooperation and socialist economic integration and to exchange experience in economic development. It is thought expedient to hold regular meetings at top Party and government level to coordinate the fundamental directions of the strategy for the long-term economic development of the CMEA member countries and to deepen the international socialist division of labour.

The participants in the Conference proceed from the fact that the coordination of national economic development plans will be aimed primarily at solving priority tasks and will be the main instrument of coordinating economic policy in areas where the CMEA member countries cooperate and in other areas where it meets the interests of individual countries. It will also serve to establish stable economic scientific and technological ties between the CMEA members and provide the basis for drafting their national development plans in areas of mutual cooperation.

When coordinating economic development plans the planning and foreign trade bodies should, with the participation of bodies of sector management, and when necessary also of economic organisations, coordinate primarily the main directions of the specialisation of countries within the international socialist division of labour, measures to increase mutual deliveries of the most important goods, the main proportions and the structure of mutual trade, and areas of production cooperation.

Measures will be taken to have the coordination of plans completed before the commencement of the new plan period and to have the results of this coordination

formalised in corresponding agreements and included in national plans.

The participants in the Conference view the extensive development of production cooperation and the establishment of direct ties between amalgamations, enterprises and organisations as an important way of improving the economic mechanism of cooperation and increasing its effectiveness. For this purpose the CMEA member countries will take measures to grant them the necessary powers and to create appropriate conditions for cooperation. Favourable conditions will also be created for setting up joint firms, enterprises and other international economic organisations on a cost-accounting basis.

Considering it particularly urgent to accelerate as far as possible scientific and technological progress, the participants in the Conference have agreed to draft together, on the basis of national programmes, a Comprehensive Programme of scientific and technological progress for a period of 15-20 years as a basis for developing a coordinated, and in some areas a single, scientific and technological policy in order to solve rapidly and through joint efforts the most important questions in the field of science and technology and introduce the results achieved in production in the interested countries on mutually advantageous terms.

It is believed necessary to strengthen cooperation in the field of standardisation and unification and to expand the mutual exchange of information on scientific and technological achievements.

It has been agreed that in machine-building cooperation will be comprehensive and directed mostly at supplying the key branches of production with machinery and equipment of a high quality and meeting world technical standards. It is envisaged that countries shall produce both finished products and parts and assemblies, as well as products used in the whole of the machine-building industry, and that the mutually delivered equipment shall be fully provided with spares. Special attention will be given to the development of electronics, microprocessors and industrial robots.

The participants in the Conference believe that by mobilising their own resources and intensifying mutual cooperation it is possible to ensure that all the CMEA member countries will solve their raw materials and fuel-and-energy problems. For these purposes the CMEA members will carry through a set of measures directed primarily at making economical and rational use of energy-producing materials and raw materials, reducing the per-unit consumption of energy and materials in production on the basis of introducing progressive technological processes and modern machinery and equipment, and changing the structure of production and the consumption of raw materials and energy. At the same time they will take the appropriate measures to develop cooperation in the field of the production and mutual deliveries of fuel, energy and raw materials.

In order to create economic conditions ensuring current and continued deliveries from the Soviet Union of certain raw materials and energy-producing materials to meet import requirements as determined on the basis of the coordination of plans and long-term agreements, the CMEA member countries concerned will, within the framework of a coordinated economic policy, gradually and consistently develop the structure of their production and exports and make the necessary capital investments in their industry, renovating it and improving its efficiency, in order to supply the Soviet Union with the goods it needs, especially food and consumer goods, certain kinds of structural materials, and high-quality machinery and equipment, meeting world technical standards.

Mutually acceptable decisions on these questions will be worked out with due consideration for the objective economic conditions of the USSR and other CMEA members, as well as for the structure of production and mutual trade of these countries. This will ensure mutually advantageous compensation of the expenses incurred and make it possible further to deepen the stable and long-term specialisation of production within the framework of the socialist community.

It is considered expedient to change the structure

of energy production and to expand cooperation in the field of the predominant development of atomic power generation and the fuller utilisation of all types of energy-producing materials, including new non-traditional energy sources. The CMEA member countries will jointly work out programmes to build atomic power stations and atomic heat-supply stations for the period up to the year 2000.

The CMEA member countries will direct their efforts and mutual cooperation at improving the structure of metal production, raising the quality and expanding the range of output, lowering the per-unit metal consumption of products, and increasing the production of high-quality steel and other high-quality materials for the manufacturing industry.

Agreement has been reached on substantially increasing in the immediate future the output and deliveries of chemical products on the basis of mutual cooperation, specialisation and co-production, and on ensuring fuller utilisation of the raw material resources of the chemical industry.

The participants in the Conference regard as a top priority task maximum development of branches of the agro-industrial complex and cooperation in this sphere. The CMEA member countries will direct their efforts at increasing food production on the basis of the introduction of progressive technologies and the development and improvement of the material and technical base of agriculture and the food industry, and also at increasing mutual deliveries of food with the aim of improving supply and the structure of consumption.

They will take appropriate measures, including the participation of the interested countries in capital investments and in providing exporter countries with other economic incentives on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

In order to ensure a better supply of high-quality consumer goods the CMEA member countries will take joint measures to strengthen the raw materials base of their production, equip with new technology and modernise the relevant branches of industry, substantially increase the output of these goods for mutual delivery,

expand the co-production of durables and increase the exchange of high-quality consumer goods.

The CMEA member countries will take coordinated measures to develop comprehensively mutual transport links, providing in particular for the closer coordination of transport development plans, the coordination of capital investments in developing the transport infrastructures of mutual interest, an increase in the capacity of border railway stations, improvement in the system of planning and in the conditions of foreign trade freightage by all types of transport, with special attention paid to the need to improve the conditions of shipment to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Cuba.

Mutual trade will further increase on the basis of the expansion and deepening of cooperation and economic integration.

The CMEA member countries consider it their international duty to continue, on the existing fair basis, to assist the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Republic of Cuba and the Mongolian People's Republic in accelerating the development of their national economies and increasing their effectiveness with due account for the tasks of socialist industrialisation set by these countries, and to facilitate their extensive participation in the international socialist division of labour.

The CMEA member countries find it necessary in present-day conditions to make the mechanism of cooperation within CMEA more effective, answering the tasks of improving the international socialist division of labour and increasing its effectiveness, promptly solving urgent problems and increasing the interest of the CMEA members in the priority development of mutual cooperation. The task of organically combining cooperation in the field of planning with the active utilisation of commodity-money relations is still relevant.

The existing system of price-setting in mutual trade and the monetary and financial instruments of cooperation will be improved further, and the collective currency, the convertible rouble, will be strengthened.

The development and improvement of the mechanism

of cooperation should also be facilitated by the proposals currently being worked out in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance to bring the structures of the economic mechanisms of the CMEA member countries closer in those areas which are of paramount importance for the development of mutual economic relations.

The leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties and the heads of government of the CMEA member countries find it necessary further and consistently to develop economic cooperation with other socialist countries that are not members of CMEA, in the light of the important role that this cooperation plays in the economic development of each country and in the strengthening of socialism's positions in the world.

The CMEA member countries will further pursue the principled line of developing trade, economic, scientific and technological ties with all countries of the world on the basis of mutual advantage, equality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and respect for international commitments.

They will further expand cooperation with developing countries in view of the fact that this will facilitate the growth of the national economies and the strengthening of the economic independence of these countries and the development of mutually advantageous economic ties with them.

They are in the future, too, prepared to develop mutually advantageous trade, economic, scientific and technological ties with developed capitalist countries, with all states of the world.

They confirm their conviction that the development of these ties will promote understanding among peoples and the easing of international tension.

The participants in the Conference find it necessary to enhance the role of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance in organising cooperation between the CMEA member countries and to improve the activity of its bodies, and also the activity of international economic organisations set up by these countries.

The participants in the Conference express their firm

conviction that the consistent fulfilment of the decisions adopted will give a new and important impetus to the further steady development of their economies and mutual cooperation, to the growth of the prestige and appeal of socialism in the world, and to the still closer and generally stronger unity of the CMEA member countries on the basis of common fundamental class interests and the ideology of Marxism-Leninism.

FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Todor ZHIVKOV
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

FOR THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Janos KADAR
First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party

FOR THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Le DUAN
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam

FOR THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Erich HONECKER
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

Carlos Rafael RODRIGUEZ
Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Deputy Chairman of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba

FOR THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Yumzhagiin TSEDENBAL
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic

DECLARATION

of the Member Countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance

"Safeguarding Peace and International Economic Cooperation"

The leaders of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the German Democratic Republic, the Republic of Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, who have met in Moscow for an Economic Conference of the Member Countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, consider it their duty to draw the attention of the peoples and governments of the world to the need to take urgent measures to ensure the normal development of international political and economic relations in order to strengthen world peace and promote mankind's progress.

The Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty Member States adopted in Prague on January 5, 1983, and the Joint Statement of the Party and state leaders of Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia made in Moscow on June 28, 1983, put forward a constructive and realistic programme for solving the most urgent world problems. In accordance with those documents, the participants in the economic summit Conference of the CMEA member countries confirm that they are resolved to act in the interests of ensuring peace and improving international economic relations.

The leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties

FOR THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Wojciech JARUZELSKI
First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic

FOR THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA

Nicolae CEAUSESCU
General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania

FOR THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Konstantin CHERNENKO
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet

FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Gustav HUSAK
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

Moscow, June 14, 1984

and the heads of state and government of the CMEA member countries proceed from the fact that the world political and economic situation concerns more than ever before the interests of all countries and peoples, and express their deep anxiety that the threat to peace has grown. International tension has increased substantially as a result of the policy aimed at confrontation pursued by the aggressive forces of imperialism, primarily US imperialism, and their attempts to achieve military superiority, to carry out a policy from the position of strength, to interfere in internal affairs, to encroach upon the national independence and sovereignty of states and to consolidate and redivide "spheres of influence". Old hotbeds of tension are being fanned and new conflicts and crisis situations provoked in different parts of the world.

The escalation of the arms race by those forces is one of the main causes of the growing political and economic instability in the world. It increases the threat of nuclear war, jeopardizes mankind's very existence and is an ever heavier burden on the peoples of the world because it diverts huge material and financial resources and slows down economic and social progress.

The already tense situation was further aggravated by the deployment begun in certain NATO countries of US medium-range nuclear missiles, which ushered in a new, very dangerous phase of the nuclear arms race on the European continent. This development forced the Soviet Union to take a number of measures in response. The talks on nuclear weapons in Europe and on strategic armaments were halted.

The ruling circles of the US are trying to exploit international economic contacts for the achievement of their political ends. Violating the commonly recognized norms of relations between states, they breach existing agreements, organise trade, credit and technological blockades and resort to all sorts of methods of pressure, embargos and "sanctions", even where the food trade is concerned, against those countries which reject their encroachments and dictation. They attempt to impose this policy on their allies and also on other states.

Such actions are aimed not only at socialist countries. These forces use different pretexts and preach anti-communism in pursuit of their goal of resolving their domestic problems at the expense of others, of weakening their rivals and squeezing them out of world markets, of establishing control over whole regions of the world and of undermining the positions of countries and even individual companies maintaining business contacts with socialist countries. This is detrimental to international economic relations as a whole.

Reliance on force, the escalation of the arms race and the subordination of economic relations to aggressive policy prevent the solution of the basic problems of world economic development and make it difficult to overcome the economic crisis in the capitalist world, which is aggravated by energy, raw materials, food and monetary crises. Disorganisation and restrictions in international trade and instability on the world commodity markets are growing, protectionism is increasing and international monetary and financial relations are collapsing, one of the reasons being the artificial raising of interest rates.

All this aggravates economic difficulties and leads to a further deterioration in the position of the working people in capitalist countries. Runaway price rises continue, unemployment has reached unprecedented proportions and people feel more and more uncertain of their future. The attack on detente has developed into an attack on the rights and social positions of the working class and the peasantry, on the broadest sections of society.

The overwhelming majority of developing countries find themselves in a particularly difficult situation. Using every means of political and economic pressure, the imperialist states are making the peoples of those countries bear the burden of the economic crisis, continuing to intensify their neo-colonialist exploitation, and creating conditions conducive to the infiltration of their economies by foreign capital, first and foremost transnational corporations. The economic growth of the liberated countries is gravely complicated and sometimes paralysed by the impact of

such factors as worsening conditions for exchange on the world markets, particularly because of substantial falls in real raw materials prices, huge foreign debts, tougher terms for credits and cuts in the funds set aside by developed capitalist states for developing countries. As a result, the gap between the level of the latter's economic development and that of the developed capitalist states is widening and the poverty and hunger of hundreds of millions of people are increasing.

This situation also makes it less possible to solve such major problems which concern all humanity as the provision of food for the world's growing population, the rational use of fuel and raw material resources, the exploration and development of new energy sources, outer space and the World Ocean, and environmental protection.

The dangerous policy of heightening international tension is being opposed by the socialist countries, by the communist and working-class movement, by other revolutionary and democratic forces, and by the growing and powerful peace movement, which express their resolve to put an end to aggressive policy, to remove the threat of nuclear war, to protect the independence and freedom of the peoples and to cooperate in peace and on the basis of equality. The policy of impeding mutually beneficial cooperation and the restructuring of international economic relations on a fair and democratic basis is also encountering the growing opposition of the progressive public of the world, the Non-Aligned Movement, other states, and realistic politicians and businessmen in capitalist countries, in particular, in the United States itself. This trend is evident in the fact that, despite pressure, many capitalist countries are continuing to extend economic contacts with socialist states.

The CMEA member countries resolutely denounce and reject the policy of undermining the peaceful foundations of relations between states and oppose every form of exploitation and any attempt to intervene in the internal affairs of other countries and use economic contacts as a means of political pressure. This they regard as a gross violation of the commonly recognized norms of

international law, the principles of the UN Charter and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

This policy towards the countries of the socialist community, as history shows, is absolutely futile. With their growing economic, scientific and technological potential, the advantages of the socialist planned economy and their increasing unity and cooperation, the socialist countries have everything they need to counter any pressure or discriminatory measures and any attempt to impede their development and participation in international economic cooperation.

Socialism can successfully solve the most complex national and international problems. As a result of the dedicated work of their peoples and thanks to their close collaboration, the socialist countries have overcome difficulties and achieved outstanding successes in the development of the economy, culture, education and health care, in the establishment of equality and friendship among nations and in the provision of favourable conditions for the individual to fulfil himself. These successes are proof of the vitality of the socialist system and its superiority over capitalism.

The example of the CMEA member countries, their achievements in building socialism and communism and the strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation among them have a great and positive impact on world development. The socialist states, consistently implementing in practice the principles of the new type of relations between states in their mutual cooperation and also in contacts with other countries, are effectively contributing to the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

The participants in the Conference stressed that the further development and improvement of cooperation and the extension of specialisation and co-production among the CMEA member countries would help them jointly resolve urgent problems of their economic development, and in particular meet their energy, raw materials and food requirements, speed up the development and introduc-

tion of advanced technology and production processes, and improve the use of material resources, manpower and production, scientific and technological potentials. This will promote the economic and social progress of each individual country, raise material and cultural standards of their population and strengthen the might, unity and cohesion of the socialist states.

At the same time the CMEA member countries are in no way indifferent to how the political and economic situation develops in the world. They have every interest in its improvement, and not only because it affects the fulfilment of their economic development plans and the normal growth of their economic, scientific and technological contacts with other states. Socialism, which has asserted itself as the most progressive world system, naturally acts from positions of great responsibility for the future of mankind because its supreme goal is concern for man, for the good of man.

The leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties and the heads of state and government of the CMEA member countries believe that it is necessary not to work for confrontation between states belonging to different social systems, for the creation of ever new obstacles in relations between them but to search for constructive ways to develop stable and peaceful international political and economic relations with due regard for the real situation in the world and for the interests of all countries. They firmly believe that no world problems, including the historic dispute between socialism and capitalism, can be resolved by military means. The CMEA member countries have also always consistently opposed economic isolationism and have persistently advocated broad, mutually beneficial cooperation with other states, the normalisation of international economic contacts and the removal of barriers of all kinds standing in the way of their development.

The experience of the past decade convincingly demonstrated that all the peoples of the world need and benefit from detente. It contributed to improving international relations and developing mutually beneficial economic

contacts between countries. As the threat of war decreased it became possible to render greater economic assistance to newly-free countries. The developing states and socialist countries have begun and are continuing a struggle for the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis.

The participants in the Conference believe that it is important to consolidate and augment everything positive that was achieved in international relations during the 1970s and to work for greater mutual trust and for the development of equitable cooperation between states regardless of their social systems. This will require the constructive efforts of all states, both politically and economically.

There is no more important task today than that of safeguarding world peace and averting a nuclear catastrophe. Priority is attached to halting the arms race, followed by arms reductions, and maintaining a military and strategic balance at increasingly lower levels. This is also the major condition for improving the world economic situation.

The participants in the Conference are convinced that if the principle of equality and equal security is strictly observed, the nuclear arms race can be halted and states can begin to take real nuclear disarmament measures. This requires political will and honest, equal and constructive dialogue respecting the security interests of all countries. On this basis it will be possible to rid Europe completely of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons.

An end to the stockpiling of new nuclear weapons in Europe is imperative today for peace and security on the continent. In this context the states represented at the Conference insist that the deployment of US medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe be stopped. They declare that if measures leading to the withdrawal of the missiles already deployed are taken, steps to cancel the measures taken in response will be made simultaneously. This will provide a basis for resuming talks to achieve proper agreements on ridding Europe

of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. Major importance is also attached to the proposals of the socialist states on reaching agreement without delay on the complete and universal prohibition of nuclear weapon tests; on the prohibition of the militarisation of outer space and the use of force in space and from space against the Earth; on the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons on a worldwide scale and, as a step towards that goal, on their elimination on the European continent.

The states represented at the Conference draw attention to the exceptionally important proposal on concluding a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of military force and maintenance of peaceful relations between the Warsaw Treaty member states and the NATO member states. They strongly advocate that the nuclear powers which have not yet renounced the first use of nuclear weapons should do so.

In view of the task of resolving world economic problems, it is of particular importance today to ensure the earliest possible start to talks between the Warsaw Treaty countries and the NATO countries on practical ways to reduce military spending on the basis of the detailed and specific proposal recently put forward by the allied socialist countries in their address to the member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Agreement on reducing military spending should naturally cover all the states with large military potentials. The funds released as a result of reductions in military spending could be used for purposes of economic and social development, in particular, for aiding the developing countries.

These and other proposals of the socialist community states on defence and disarmament are well known. The CMEA countries are prepared actively to participate in their practical implementation as well as in the carrying through of constructive initiatives put forward by other states.

The successful completion of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe could have played a great

role in reducing the threat of war and scaling down armed confrontation.

International economic relations require mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation between all countries. Otherwise no solid material base for consolidating and extending detente can be created.

Loyal to the principles of peaceful coexistence, the leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties and heads of state and government of the CMEA member countries call on all peoples and state and government leaders to make energetic efforts to extend international economic cooperation.

The proposals put forward by the socialist countries at the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, at the United Nations and at other international forums to this effect are still valid. As an extension of these proposals, the participants in the Conference call for a programme of action to improve international economic relations, to ensure economic security and to establish confidence in that most important area of relations between states.

It is necessary first and foremost to achieve the practical implementation of all the recommendations and agreements aimed at promoting mutually beneficial and productive economic cooperation which have been worked out together by the states and reflected in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in the final document adopted at the Madrid Meeting of the states which participated in that conference, and also in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on Establishing a New International Economic Order and in other UN resolutions.

All methods of economic aggression, such as the use or threat of embargo, boycott or trade, credit and technological blockade, should be excluded from the practice of international relations.

It is necessary strictly to observe in economic relations among all states the principles of respect for national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, the non-use of force or the threat of its use,

complete equality, respect for national interests and the right of every nation to decide its destiny, mutual benefit, non-discrimination and most-favoured-nation treatment.

The CMEA member countries are consistent supporters of effective solutions and actions aimed at removing all exploitation from international economic relations, at ensuring unimpeded international scientific and technological cooperation, at removing discrimination, artificial obstacles and unfair exchange from trade relations, at balancing in a just and economically sound way prices for raw materials, foodstuffs and manufactured products and, to this end, at tightening control over the operations of transnational monopolies. They advocate the regulation of monetary and financial relations, oppose the policy of high interest rates and support the normalisation of terms under which credits are granted and repaid so that those terms, particularly where the debts of the developing countries are concerned, should not be used as an instrument of political pressure and interference in internal affairs.

The participants in the Conference once again confirm the resolve of their countries to develop productive commercial, economic, scientific and technological contacts with all socialist, developing and developed capitalist states which are ready to do so. They believe that it would be expedient to extend these contacts primarily on the basis of long-term programmes and agreements and to employ various mutually beneficial forms of cooperation, in particular cooperation in the provision of technological equipment for and construction of projects, industrial production, joint work on scientific and technological problems, etc.

The CMEA member countries stand for more energetic use of the potential for developing businesslike cooperation with capitalist states and also with their enterprises and companies. It is very important in this respect to broaden economic, scientific and technological contacts between European states in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and the accords reached at the Madrid Meeting. Mutually beneficial cooperation among them could contribute to

broader trade, to the provision of energy and raw materials, to the acceleration of technological progress, to the development of international transport, to environmental protection and to the creation of more jobs in countries with a high level of unemployment.

The CMEA member countries favour the establishment of mutually beneficial relations between the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and economic organisations of developed capitalist and developing countries. In this context they confirm their readiness to conclude an appropriate agreement between CMEA and the EEC with a view to facilitating the further expansion of the commercial and economic contacts existing between the member countries of those organisations.

The leaders of the Communist and Workers' Parties and the heads of state and government of the CMEA member countries believe it imperative to step up work on restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and on establishing a New International Economic Order.

The participants in the Conference note with satisfaction the increased importance of the Non-Aligned Movement as a powerful factor in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism—the forces of war and aggression—and the efforts made in that direction since the 6th Non-Aligned Summit in Havana. They express their solidarity with the resolutions and message of the 7th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi, aimed at resolving the vital issues of our time—the struggle for the strengthening of world peace, peaceful coexistence, disarmament, national independence and the ensuring of the economic and social development of each country.

The CMEA member countries support the progressive demands of the developing states in the struggle for economic decolonisation, complete sovereignty over their natural and other resources and their economic activity, broad and equal participation in solving international economic problems, an end to the outflow of capital and the drain of skilled personnel, and for the unconditional

application of the global system of trade preferences in view of the need to counter the deterioration of the economic situation of the developing countries and to contribute to their progress.

The eradication of backwardness, the gradual closing of the gap in economic development levels and the provision of conditions for the harmonious development of international economic, scientific and technological contacts are one of the fundamental factors of economic stability and an improved international political climate.

International economic relations should be restructured in such a way as to enable all the countries of the world to develop their economic potentials to the utmost and to advance along the road of development in conditions of peace, justice and mutual cooperation.

The CMEA member countries will continue to do what they can to give economic and technological assistance to the states, which have won freedom and independence, in their efforts to develop their national economies.

Since responsibility for the age-old backwardness of the developing countries lies with the former metropolitan states and is inseparable from the policy pursued by the imperialist states nowadays and from the activities of international monopolies, the CMEA member countries view as perfectly justified the demands of Asian, African and Latin American countries that those who are to blame for the difficulties they are experiencing should step up considerably the transfer of resources by way of compensating for the damage caused by colonial plunder and neo-colonialist exploitation, reduce the burden of the debts of the developing states and give them easier access to international credit sources on easy terms.

The participants in the Conference reaffirm the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and its agencies as a major forum for pooling the efforts of states to strengthen peace and international security and to facilitate the solution of vital world problems. To this end the CMEA member countries are prepared to continue energetically to contribute to their work. They advocate the early start within the framework of the UN of global

talks on the more important international economic problems in accordance with the resolutions of that organisation, with the participation of all states and with due account for their legitimate interests.

The CMEA member countries will cooperate in the implementation of the proposals put forward in the present declaration with all those who have an interest in strengthening international peace and security and in improving international economic relations. They expect other states to show similar goodwill, understanding and a desire to work together and are prepared to consider any constructive proposals in this context.

The participants in the Conference are convinced that today it is more necessary than ever for all parliaments and governments, for the world public as a whole and for all sober-minded people to work together to safeguard and strengthen peace, curb the arms race, promote disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and normalise international economic relations in the interests of all countries and peoples.

FOR THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

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FOR THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLES REPUBLIC

Janos KADAR
First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party

FOR THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Le DUAN
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam

FOR THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Erich HONECKER
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FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

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FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

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Moscow, June 14, 1984