

It is to be regretted that the government of a non-European power—the United States—not only hastened to declare its negative attitude to the proposal for the establishment of an atom-free zone in the centre of Europe, but also considered it possible to bring pressure to bear upon its European NATO allies so as to complicate the submission of this proposal to the summit conference and its subsequent examination. This initiative, however, is aimed at achieving a detente in Central Europe and at reducing the possibility of an atomic war breaking out in this region. The implementation of this initiative, directed as it is towards a partial solution, would facilitate the achievement of broader agreements in the field of disarmament, thus contributing to reaching the main goal of all the peoples, that is to say, the removal of the danger of an atomic war in Europe, and thereby war in general. It should be noted that it is precisely in this sense that this initiative has been interpreted by broad circles of public opinion and various political circles in the West.

The ruling circles of some members of NATO, professing their desire for successful negotiations, are actually going all out to make it more difficult to convene a summit conference if not to avoid such a conference altogether. It is with this aim in view that the trumped up question is raised of the so-called situation in the East European countries—a question which in actual fact does not exist. The participants in the conference resolutely reject any discussions of this question as inadmissible interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign states which is incompatible with international law and the United Nations Charter. The states taking part in the conference declare that they will not tolerate any interference in the internal affairs of their countries, whose peoples have firmly and irrevocably taken the road of building socialism and who are determined to safeguard the work of their peoples and their security against any schemes from outside.

As to the attempts to bring before a summit conference the question of German unity, they can only serve the purposes of those who want to prevent the calling of a summit conference and do not want to see it brought to a successful conclusion. The states that are parties to the Warsaw Treaty fully understand the desire of the German people for the elimination of the division of the country and they are in favour of the restoration of Germany's unity and the establishment of a peaceful, democratic German state. But they believe that this problem can only be solved by the German people themselves as represented by the two German states now in existence, and only through agreement between them. There is no other way of solving the German question.

Other states, no matter what rights they may claim, are not competent to tackle this problem over the heads of the German people and the governments of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany by which they are represented.

The participants in the conference fully share the opinion of the Soviet government that a summit conference should discuss that part of the German problem which is the responsibility of the four powers, namely, the question of a German peace treaty. The participation of representatives from both German states in the preparation of a peace treaty, as proposed by the Soviet Union, would give the German people a clear prospect of Germany's future development and would serve as an impetus to uniting the efforts of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany in the restoration of the German people's national state unity.

The states that are parties to the Warsaw Treaty attach great importance to the participation in a summit conference of neutral states which are not bound by military obligations to either of the opposing military groupings and which have proved their adherence to the cause of peace and international co-operation. The participants in the conference cannot but express their regret that the U.S.S.R.'s proposal on the participation of neutral states in a summit conference meets with no support from the western powers.

In view of the fact that the western powers are not inclined to hold a conference with a broad representation, the governments of the countries parties to the Warsaw Treaty find it possible, in the interests of achieving the necessary agreement, not to insist on the participation in the summit conference of all states that are members of the North Atlantic Pact and all states parties to the Warsaw Treaty and agree at the present stage to a more limited number of participants in the meeting so that the North Atlantic Pact and Warsaw Treaty are represented in the talks by three (four) countries each.

For this purpose they give full powers to the Soviet Union, the Polish People's Republic, the Czechoslovak Republic (the Rumanian People's Republic) to take part in a summit conference on behalf of the countries that are signatories to the Warsaw Treaty.

The participants in this conference have come to the unanimous conclusion that the present situation demands of all states new efforts towards easing international tension and solving the most important outstanding problems of our time. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries parties to the Warsaw Treaty have consistently sought agreement with the western powers on questions connected with the dis-

armament problem. With these aims in view, they have not only put forward specific proposals but have unilaterally taken a number of practical steps in this sphere. However, the governments of the United States, Britain, France and other countries that are members of the North Atlantic Pact have not responded to all these proposals and continue to pursue the policy of the "cold war" and of building up their armed forces and armaments in a dangerous way.

Taking advantage of the fact that they commanded the majority in the United Nations Disarmament Commission and its sub-committee, the western powers evaded business-like, honest negotiations and on August 29, 1957, put forward such proposals as, in fact, not only failed to provide for the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons and the reduction of the armed forces and armaments of states but also flung the door wide open for a further arms race.

Having imposed these proposals upon the last session of the General Assembly and taken steps to maintain in the U.N. Disarmament Commission the predominance of members of the military blocs organized by them, the western powers have created in the U.N. Disarmament Commission a situation that precludes all hopes of a positive solution to the question of disarmament within that body. In these conditions the best prospects for a solution to urgent questions of disarmament on which there already exists a possibility of coming to mutually acceptable agreements, are opened up by a summit conference with the participation of heads of government.

The states parties to the Warsaw Treaty consider it their duty to exert the maximum efforts to urge the western powers genuinely to take the path of disarmament and thereby to prevent military conflict on the continent of Europe and to avoid the tragedy of a new war. Representatives of the states that are parties to the Warsaw Treaty have met to substantiate, not by words but by new and definite deeds and proposals, their heartfelt desire for the strengthening of peace and security in Europe. Desirous of breaking the deadlock on the disarmament problem and of achieving a turn towards the strengthening of confidence and peaceful co-operation among states, the governments represented at the conference have taken a decision to bring about unilaterally a further reduction of the armed forces of the states that are parties to the Warsaw Treaty by 419,000 men. Armaments, war material, and military expenditures will be reduced accordingly.

The participants in the conference have heard and discussed the proposal of the Soviet government, agreed upon with the government of the Rumanian People's Republic, to withdraw from the territory of

the Rumanian People's Republic the Soviet troops stationed there under the Warsaw Treaty. The participants in the conference approve of this proposal and express their confidence that it will be received by all the peoples as further proof of the consistent peace-loving policy pursued by socialist countries.

The governments of the states parties to the Warsaw Treaty express the hope that the United States of America, Britain, France and other North Atlantic Pact countries will, for their part, take steps to reduce their armed forces and armaments and thus prove by deeds their desire to strengthen peace and security in Europe. The association of the NATO members with the measures of the socialist countries for the reduction of armed forces and armaments would contribute not only to a detente in relations between European countries and to the ending of the arms race, but would also provide a possibility of relieving the peoples of Europe of the inflated military budgets which year by year devour an ever-increasing part of the material resources of states, and would open the way towards the economic and spiritual well being of the peoples.

The parties to the Warsaw Treaty advocate the abolition of all military blocs and groupings since the existence of those blocs and groupings leads to the worsening of relations between states and creates a constant danger of a military conflict between them. However, taking into consideration the fact that the western powers are not ready to disband the military groupings created by them and to establish instead an effective system of collective security in Europe and also in other regions of the world, the participants in the conference consider it necessary to take preventive measures to ease the frictions that arise and to prevent contradictions between the two major groupings of states from growing into a military conflict. For this purpose they propose that the countries that are parties to the Warsaw Treaty and the North Atlantic Pact should conclude a non-aggression pact which could be based on the following reciprocal commitments:

1. Not to resort to the use of force against each other, or to the threat of force;
2. To refrain from any interference in each other's internal affairs;
3. To solve all disputes that may arise between them by peaceful means only, in a spirit of understanding and justice, through negotiations between the parties concerned;
4. To hold mutual consultations when a situation arises that might endanger peace in Europe.

The conference has drawn up a draft of a non-aggression pact



between the NATO member-states and the Warsaw Treaty countries which it has been decided to hand over to the governments of the NATO countries.

The states parties to the Warsaw Treaty call upon the NATO countries to accept this proposal to conclude a non-aggression pact. They are convinced that if the NATO powers finally found it possible to agree to the conclusion of a non-aggression pact with the Warsaw Treaty states, this would constitute a beginning of the desired turn in the development of the international situation towards confidence and peaceful co-operation between the states now opposing each other as members of military groupings. It is, after all, clear to everybody that a new war can break out only as the result of a conflict between these two groupings. On the other hand, it is no less clear that if the machinery of these military groupings, embracing 23 states with the most developed war industries, is not set in motion for attack against each other, there will be no such war.

Furthermore, the obligation of non-aggression is an efficient deterrent and violation of this obligation, as the experience of history proves, places an aggressor in a position of international isolation facilitating the consolidation of the forces opposing aggression, and thereby facilitating the defeat of an aggressor.

The participants in the conference note as a positive sign the fact that the idea of a non-aggression pact met with a favourable response on the part of the British government, which was made clear by Mr. Macmillan, the Prime Minister of Britain, some time ago.

The states parties to the Warsaw Treaty are ready at any time to appoint their representatives for an exchange of views with representatives of the NATO members on matters arising from the proposal to conclude a non-aggression pact. Such an exchange of views could take place immediately before a summit conference and could facilitate the adoption by that conference of the final decision concerning the conclusion of the pact.

The international situation is such that in taking new steps to end the "cold war," to reduce armed forces and to create conditions for peaceful co-existence, we all have to show sober minds and a sense of responsibility for the security of our socialist countries. We must not allow the sense of vigilance of the peoples of the socialist countries to weaken, for the peaceable efforts by the Warsaw Treaty states do not as yet meet with a response from the governments of the NATO countries which are seeking to continue to worsen the international situation and intensify the arms race. It is necessary to continue in the future