

STATEMENT

The People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic have outlined in a spirit of complete unanimity the following position on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Proceeding from the policy of socialist states in the struggle for consolidating international peace and security, the above-mentioned countries believe that the task of preventing further proliferation of nuclear weapons is urgent and pressing for strengthening peace. They are convinced that the solution of the question of nuclear non-proliferation and the conclusion of an appropriate international treaty will create more favourable conditions for the further struggle for ending the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, for adopting effective measures to ban and destroy nuclear weapons. They declare their determination to continue

the struggle for the realisation of these aims.

The above-mentioned states believe that the draft nuclear non-proliferation treaty submitted by the Soviet Union on January 18, 1968, for consideration by the 18-Nation Disarmament Committee and which was the subject of profound consultations between many states during various stages of the talks meets the needs of the task outlined. They declare their support for this draft, urge the conclusion of talks at the 18-Nation Committee by the set date (March 15, 1968), for the approval of the draft by the United Nations General Assembly, for the signing of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and making it effective.

The above-mentioned states express the hope that all countries will make their contribution to the solution of the important problem of nuclear non-proliferation and thereby to the consolidation of international peace.

Sofia, March 7, 1968.

(Pravda, March 9, 1968.)