

**IInd General Assembly of Peace Messenger Cities
Warsaw, Poland, September 1 - 2, 1989**

To coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the outbreak of World War II, the Municipality of Warsaw has organised a series of commemorative ceremonies, which took place to remind us of the great assault suffered by the city.

Amongst the activities programmed by the city, on September 1st and 2nd there was a Peace Conference, during which the General Assembly of the World Union of Cities for Peace and General Assembly of Peace Messenger Cities jointly were held.

At the conference discussion focused also on rivalry between two organizations, to which a portion of a city belongs at the same time.

WARSAW PEACE APPEAL

was adopted at the Conference and read out at the Nike Monument during the gathering of Participants in the World Conference of the Cities for Peace as well as Participants in the ecumenical Days of Prayer for Peace

On the 50th anniversary of the beginning of World War II the Participants in the General Assembly of the Cities for Peace and the Cities Messengers of Peace gathered in Warsaw, the capital city of Poland which today is open to great hopes and which was the first victim of the Nazi German aggression, launch an urgent appeal to all the cities of the world, to all nations and parliaments and the people of good will to act for further disarmament, for consolidation of security in the world and in Europe, co-operation among nations and people. Having in mind the image of this heroic city and its 800,000 killed inhabitants, the sacrifice and destruction of towns and cities all over the world, the victims of war, we appeal to the inhabitants of all continents to redouble their effort to avoid conflicts threatening the world, to grant active support in the creation of a system of collective security based on the principle of the UN Charter and mutual and balanced reduction of the armed forces. Remembering the 15 million victims of the Second World War, the tens of thousands of wounded and crippled and other victims of the conflicts which occurred later, we, in this place where armed resistance against the attackers was born, declare ourselves for containment and solving of conflicts exclusively through dialogue and constructive negotiations. We address this appeal especially to heads of states, the big powers in particular, to totally free our planet from nuclear threat. New advantageous tendencies have arisen out of East-West co-operation, especially in Europe in the wake of the signing of the historical agreement on the elimination of Euro-missiles. It offers all nations a chance to build a better future and establish mutual contacts on the basis of human and humanitarian values, and the principles of partnership, mutual confidence and solidarity.

Our globe must become a real common home for all people independently of their colour, political and philosophical convictions or religion. We state that the world can

no longer be interpreted or governed in the categories of the opposed blocs. No social problem of a big system can be solved between the two opposed blocs.

People will be unable to build a new society as long as freedom for each person does not mean freedom for all. Disarmament is increasingly becoming an essential thing not only in order to avoid the destruction of mankind but also to save and tap arms spending for peaceful ends, to oppose the great contradictions of our time and especially those between North and South. In the practice of democracy as a multi-national value only a

peaceful development of the world can allow us to materialize common and humanitarian values, and ideals stemming from the common accomplishments of mankind.

It is necessary to disavow from confrontation and then search for the identity of Europe in pluralism and democracy, in rotations between states and peoples. This also is respect for human rights guaranteeing total freedom of proclamation and materialization of one's own convictions. May the right to life and to life in peace come into force. This must be not only the supreme ideal but also the precondition for history to become human history.

Sufficient conditions have been provided today to deepen mutual contacts between states allowing to give law a bigger dimension than to arms.



Visit to the execution site in concentration camp Auschwitz during the Warsaw Conference, 1989.

At the threshold of the 20th century, if the world wants to survive and develop further, it must live up to the biggest challenges of the present time to eliminate threats to the environment and the inequity, the indebtedness of the poorest countries. We have no right to wreck the great hope which today is rising before all mankind. All of us are working together to build a common home on our planet. There is only one world we are living in, for better and for worse. We shall build the Earth, one people - one family, one future that we want to be reasonable and happy.