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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Letter dated 14 April 1971 from the Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring the following matter to your attention.

As will be recalled, by decision of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment at its first session (A/CONF.48/PC/6, para. (38), p. 19), the United Nations Secretariat was recommended to engage in consultation with the States Members of the Organization in order subsequently to include their views and suggestions in the Secretary-General's report concerning the contents of the Declaration on the human environment.

It is clear from the text of the recommendation that the views and suggestions in question are those solely of States Members of the United Nations.

However, the questionnaire prepared by the United Nations Secretariat pursuant to the aforesaid recommendation of the Preparatory Committee (EC.114/23 (1-2-3)) was sent on 21 December 1970 not only to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations but also to the Governments of a number of States not Members of the Organization.

The Permanent Mission feels obliged to call attention to this departure by the United Nations Secretariat from the exceedingly important principle contained in the aforesaid recommendation of the Preparatory Committee and

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expresses the hope that you, Mr. Secretary-General, will make the necessary arrangements for the above-mentioned report to include only the replies of Governments of States Members of the United Nations.

I request you to have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Y. MALIK
Permanent Representative of the USSR
to the United Nations
