

**Proposal by Foreign Minister (János Péter) Regarding
the Strengthening of the Political Structure of the Warsaw Pact**

19 January 1966

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

TOP SECRET
Appendix No 2

Subject: Strengthening the political structure of the Warsaw Treaty

I request authorization from the Politburo to present the following organizational proposals at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty which aim at strengthening and developing the political system of the Warsaw Treaty.

I.

1. The highest body of the Warsaw Treaty is the Political Consultative Committee (henceforth PCC) both in a political and in a military sense.
2. The participants of the meetings of PCC are: the first secretaries of the Communist and workers' parties, the prime ministers, the ministers of foreign affairs and the ministers of national defense of the member states.

The PCC may also invite observers to its meetings.

3. The PCC holds one regular meeting annually that lasts usually for one or two days. The invitations to attend the regular meeting of the PCC must be sent out 14 days before the time of the session. The preparation of the regular sessions of the PCC is done by the Council of Foreign Ministers, the Military Council, the Permanent Secretariat, and the Unified Command. The agenda of the meetings is decided by the PCC. The meetings of the PCC do not have a fixed place or time. It is always the given regular meeting that decides on the place and time of the next session.
4. The PCC hold a special meeting in case it is proposed by any of the member states because of some internationally significant situation or for some other important reason, and the member states endorse this proposal. The member state that makes the proposal also volunteers to organize the special session. The agenda of this special session includes only that issue because of which the meeting was convened. Otherwise the same principles apply to a special session that are valid for a regular session.
5. The functions of the chairman and the deputy chair of the meetings of the PCC are filled by the leaders of the delegations of the member states in rotation following the order of the Russian alphabet. The meetings are chaired by the chairman, or in case of incapacitation, by the vice chairman.
6. At its meetings the PCC may adopt a resolution and issue a joint communiqué. A unanimous decision is needed for the adoption of a resolution and the approval of a joint communiqué.
7. The working language of the sessions of the PCC is Russian. While simultaneous interpreting is provided,

the representatives of the member states may also speak in their own native language.

8. Generally the meetings of the PCC are confidential. The joint communiqué adopted at the meeting is made public.

9. The keeping of the records of the sessions is ensured by the Permanent Secretariat of the PCC.

II.

Subordinated to the Political Consultative Committee the following political bodies must be established:

1. The Council of Foreign Ministers, whose main task is to make preparations for the upcoming meeting of the PCC and attends to all other matters which are relegated to its scope of authority.

2. The Permanent Secretariat, which is a permanently functioning political body of the Warsaw Treaty. The Secretariat is headed by the first secretary. The costs of establishing and maintaining the Permanent Secretariat is provided by each of the member states in proportion to their national income.

Budapest, January 19, 1966.

János Péter

[Translation by Andreas Bocz]