



General Assembly    Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/42/319✓  
S/18894  
3 June 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Forty-second session

Items 50, 51, 57, 58, 63, 64 and 67 of  
the preliminary list\*

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE

NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

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SPECIAL SESSION

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-second year

Letter dated 28 May 1987 from the representatives of  
Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the  
United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to request you to circulate the joint statement subscribed on 22 May 1987 by His Excellency Mr. Raúl Alfonsín, President of Argentina, His Excellency Mr. Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece, His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico, His Excellency Mr. Ingvar Carlsson, Prime Minister of Sweden, and His Excellency Mr. Julius Nyerere, First President of the United Republic of

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Tanzania, as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 50, 51, 57, 58, 63, 64 and 67 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Marcelo DELPECH  
Permanent Representative of  
Argentina to the United Nations

(Signed) Mario MOYA PALENCIA  
Permanent Representative of Mexico to  
the United Nations

(Signed) Mihalīs DOUNTAS  
Permanent Representative of  
Greece to the United Nations

(Signed) Henrik AMNEUS  
Acting Permanent Representative of  
Sweden to the United Nations

(Signed) C. R. GHAREKHAN  
Permanent Representative of India  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Wilbert K. CHAGULA  
Permanent Representative of the United  
Republic of Tanzania to the United  
Nations

ANNEX

Joint statement dated 22 May 1987 of the President of Argentina,  
the Prime Minister of Greece, the Prime Minister of India, the  
President of Mexico, the Prime Minister of Sweden and the  
First President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Three years ago, on 22 May 1984, we demanded that humanity's survival should not be jeopardized by the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. Today, we make an appeal not to jeopardize the opportunity to start a process of nuclear disarmament.

Since our first appeal, we have welcomed the resumption of the dialogue on nuclear and space issues. At the Geneva summit meeting in November 1985, President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev declared that "a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought". At Reykjavik, there was a clear demonstration that given political will, far-reaching agreements on nuclear disarmament measures could be achieved.

Disarmament negotiations are now at a crucial point. There is a real possibility for an agreement in at least one important area. A breakthrough on the issue of nuclear arms in Europe appears to be within reach.

An agreement to eliminate all intermediate nuclear forces from Europe would be of considerable significance and would constitute the crossing of an important psychological threshold, since, for the first time, it would lead to mutual withdrawal and destruction of fully operational nuclear weapons systems. We, therefore, urge the United States and the Soviet Union to conduct their current negotiations with a view to bringing them to a successful conclusion during 1987.

However, an agreement of intermediate nuclear forces would be only the first step toward our common goal: the total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. In the New Delhi and Mexico Declarations, we had called for two important measures: a halting of all nuclear testing and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. We reiterate the crucial importance of these measures.

In Mexico, we made a concrete offer on verification of a halt to nuclear testing. That offer remains.

For too long, fear and mistrust have prevented progress in disarmament. Arms and fears feed on each other. Now is the time to break this vicious circle and lay the foundation for a more secure world. The present momentum should not be lost.

We urge President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev to live up to this challenge so that future generations are spared the nightmare of a nuclear holocaust.