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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-ninth session
Items 46, 47, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61
and 65 of the preliminary list*
CESSATION OF ALL TEST EXPLOSIONS OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS
URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-
TEST-BAN TREATY
PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT
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38/72 ON THE IMMEDIATE CESSATION AND
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REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING
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REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 23 May 1984 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 have circulated among Member States the
Joint Declaration by Her Excellency Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India,

* A/39/50.

His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico, His Excellency Mr. Julius Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Mr. Olof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden, His Excellency Mr. Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece, and His Excellency Mr. Raúl Alfonsín, President of Argentina, issued on 22 May 1984 at Athens, Buenos Aires, Dar es Salaam, Mexico City, New Delhi and Stockholm, as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 46, 47, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 65 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Carlos M. MUNIZ
Permanent Representative of
Argentina to the United Nations

(Signed) Porfirio MUNOZ LEDO
Permanent Representative of
Mexico to the United Nations

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

(Signed) Anders FERM
Permanent Representative of
Sweden to the United Nations

(Signed) Vinay VERMA
Acting Permanent Representative of
India to the United Nations

(Signed) Asterius M. HYERA
Acting Permanent Representative of
United Republic of Tanzania to
the United Nations

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ANNEX

Joint Declaration

by

H.E. Mrs. Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister of India

H.E. Mr. Miguel de la Madrid
President of Mexico

H.E. Mr. Julius Nyerere
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

H.E. Mr. Olof Palme
Prime Minister of Sweden

H.E. Mr. Andreas Papandreu
Prime Minister of Greece

H.E. Mr. Raúl Alfonsín
President of Argentina

Issued in

Athens, Buenos Aires, Dar es Salaam,
Mexico City, New Delhi, and Stockholm

22 May 1984

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JOINT DECLARATION

TODAY, THE SURVIVAL OF HUMANKIND IS IN JEOPARDY. The escalating arms race, the rise in international tensions and the lack of constructive dialogue among the nuclear weapons states has increased the risk of nuclear war. Such a war, even using part of the present stockpiles, would bring death and destruction to all peoples.

AS LEADERS OF NATIONS, member states of the United Nations, we have a commitment to take constructive action towards halting and reversing the nuclear arms race. The people we represent are no less threatened by nuclear war than the citizens of the nuclear weapons states. It is primarily the responsibility of the nuclear weapons states to prevent a nuclear catastrophe, but this problem is too important to be left to those states alone.

WE COME FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE GLOBE, with differences in religion, culture and political systems. But we are united in the conviction that there must not be another world war. On this, the most crucial of all issues, we have resolved to make a common effort in the interests of peace.

AGREEMENTS WHICH MERELY REGULATE AN ARMS BUILD-UP are clearly insufficient. The probability of nuclear holocaust increases as warning time decreases and the weapons become swifter, more accurate and more deadly. The rush towards global suicide must be stopped and then reversed. We urge, as a necessary first step, the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as the United Kingdom, France and China, to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be immediately followed by substantial reductions in nuclear forces. We are convinced that it is possible to work out the details of an arrangement along these lines that takes into account the interests and concerns of all, and contains adequate measures for verification. This first step must be followed by a continuing programme of arms reductions leading to general and complete disarmament, accompanied by measures to strengthen the United Nations system and to ensure an urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race into social and economic development. The essential goal must be to reduce and then eliminate the risk of war between nations.

JOINT DECLARATION

WE WILL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER to facilitate agreement among the nuclear weapons states. We will continue to keep in touch with one another about the best ways and means of achieving this objective. We will be consulting with the leaders of the nuclear weapons states and with other world leaders as well as pursuing discussions through United Nations channels.

WE AFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN DETENTE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, with broad international co-operation and respect for the right of each state to a peaceful, secure and independent existence and the right of each people to organise its life according to its own aspirations. There can be no assurance of safety for one side only. That is why we attach such importance to a halt in the nuclear arms race that allows for renewed talks on nuclear disarmament.

ALL PEOPLE HAVE AN OVERRIDING INTEREST IN COMMON SECURITY and the avoidance of a nuclear war which threatens human survival. Citizens throughout the world are expressing, as never before, their concern for the future; this public discussion of peace and disarmament must continue and increase. The support and encouragement of an informed public will greatly strengthen governmental action to reverse the nuclear arms race.

WE HAVE FAITH IN THE CAPACITY OF HUMAN BEINGS to rise above the current divisions and create a world free from the shadow of nuclear war. The power and ingenuity of the human race must be used, not to perfect weapons of annihilation, but to harness the resources of the earth so that all people may enjoy a life of security and dignity in an international system free of war and based on peace and justice.

TODAY, THE WORLD HANGS IN THE BALANCE BETWEEN WAR AND PEACE. We hope that our combined efforts will help to influence the outcome.

