



**REPORT
OF THE *AD HOC* COMMITTEE
ON THE
WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTIETH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 28 (A/10028)

UNITED NATIONS



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New York, 1975

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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INTRODUCTION

1. By resolution 3260 (XXIX), the General Assembly invited all States to communicate to the Secretary-General their comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference, in the light of the views and suggestions compiled in section II of the summary annexed to the 1974 report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference. 1/
2. By the same resolution, the General Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should resume its work in accordance with the procedure established in General Assembly resolution 3183 (XXVIII) and that, in discharging its assigned task, it should give priority: (a) to the preparation, on the basis of consensus, of an analytical report, including any conclusions and recommendations that it might deem pertinent concerning the comments received pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 3260 (XXIX); and (b) to maintaining close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons, in order to keep currently informed of any change in their respective positions.
3. The Committee held 12 meetings at United Nations Headquarters between 1 April and 27 August 1975.
4. The elected officers of the Committee continued to serve as follows:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. Fereydoun Hoveyda	(Iran)
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u>	Mr. Zdzisław Ludwiczak <u>2/</u>	(Poland)
	Mr. Patrice Mikanagu	(Burundi)
	Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuellar	(Peru)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mr. Antonio Elias	(Spain)
5. In addition to States appointed to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee as members under paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3183 (XXVIII), France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics participated in the work of the Committee by virtue of paragraph 3 of that resolution. Under the same provision, China and the United States of America maintained contact with the Ad Hoc Committee through its Chairman.
6. Cuba, the German Democratic Republic and the Holy See attended meetings of the Committee as observers.
7. The Working Group established in 1974 continued to function and held 16 meetings between 4 June and 18 July 1975. 3/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/9628).

2/ Replacing Eugeniusz Kułaga.

3/ For the composition of the Working Group, see the report of the Ad Hoc Committee for 1974 (A/9628, para. 9).

8. The Ad Hoc Committee had before it the replies received from States pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 3260 (XXIX) (see documents A/AC.167/1 and Add.1-5, A/AC.167/1/Add.3/Corr.1 (English and Russian only), and A/10068, A/10069, A/10083, A/10090 and A/10098), as well as the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session (A/9628), to which were annexed the detailed views of States on all aspects of convening a world disarmament conference.

9. In discharging its mandate, the primary focus of the Ad Hoc Committee was on reviewing the comments by States on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference while maintaining close contact with the representatives of States possessing nuclear weapons. As the result of such review and contact, it was made clear to the Ad Hoc Committee that although a world disarmament conference convened at an appropriate time with adequate preparation and with universal participation, including especially that of the nuclear-weapon States, continues to be supported by a large majority, there are differences of emphasis over some aspects of such a conference among the non-nuclear-weapon States. At the same time, however, basic divergence of opinion on many aspects of the convening of a world disarmament conference continues to exist among the nuclear-weapon States.

I. VIEWS OF STATES ON THE OBJECTIVES OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

10. A general review of the comments received from Governments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference indicates that the possible objectives of a world disarmament conference might either be of a general nature, with the air of facilitating progress in the field of disarmament, or refer to actual and concrete measures of disarmament.

11. A summarized and generalized version of the views expressed by one or several Governments, without necessarily indicating their order of priority or a measure of agreement among Governments on them, is presented in the following paragraphs:

12. The aim of a world disarmament conference should be to take the requisite decisions to provide the United Nations with an effective disarmament system. In order to achieve this and make tangible progress, it will be necessary to strengthen principles, review guidelines, develop procedures and update the international machinery dealing with the questions of disarmament.

13. A world disarmament conference could study, assess and evaluate the results already achieved in the field of disarmament and the significance and implementation of international agreements concluded in respect of partial disarmament measures from the point of view of their contribution towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament.

14. A world disarmament conference could draw the attention of the international community to the magnitude and gravity of the arms race and help to ensure that people were kept fully informed of its consequences and of the present state of disarmament.

15. A world disarmament conference could help States to determine and agree upon the most urgent aspects of the disarmament problems and to point out practical and mutually acceptable and agreed ways and means of limiting and putting an end to the arms race.

16. The conference could also elaborate constructive recommendations on military, political, economic and social aspects of disarmament negotiations and set forth proper priorities, principles and guidelines for future disarmament efforts, with a view to the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control.
17. The conference could also facilitate the co-ordination of specific disarmament measures already adopted or under consideration in a number of international forums.
18. A world disarmament conference could give a new impetus to multilateral negotiations in the field of disarmament and contribute towards universalizing and enhancing the effectiveness of disarmament efforts.
19. The conference could also help to reduce international tensions and the risks of armed confrontation. It could also provide an impetus towards the settlement of current international conflicts and the liquidation of the existing hotbeds of war, thus contributing to the securing of firm and inviolable peace and international security.
20. A world disarmament conference could bring together all States of the world, and mainly the nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, to tackle disarmament globally.
21. The conference could be conceived as a forum in which all countries of the world, on a basis of equality, would be able to express and compare their views on disarmament questions in all their aspects.
22. A world disarmament conference could also start a co-operative effort towards promoting the desirable objective of openness of diplomacy in matters of disarmament.
23. The conference should endeavour to ensure the effectiveness of the negotiating body, facilitating the participation in its work of all nuclear-weapon States and all militarily advanced States and, to that effect, so modify the body's operations as to make them conform to the principle of the sovereign equality of States.
24. There is a need for a new and universal forum to make multilateral disarmament negotiations effective and to give meaning and substance to the Disarmament Decade. A world disarmament conference, without duplicating the activities of existing negotiating bodies, could fulfil the need for such a forum. The conference, which might become permanent and meet periodically every three or four years, could, in fact, logically supplement the work already done in the sphere of disarmament; ideas and principles emanating from a world disarmament conference could strengthen the ability of existing negotiating bodies to arrive at concrete agreements.
25. The conference could develop the possibilities of effective action by the United Nations in the highly important field of disarmament.
26. The role of the conference should be to lift disarmament efforts out of the rut into which they have fallen in recent years, as regards both their objectives and the procedure which has been followed. The aim of the world conference, in which the major military Powers, and particularly the five nuclear-weapon Powers, should participate, should be to seek general and complete disarmament, by balanced stages, under effective international control, covering both nuclear and conventional weapons. For this task, it would be necessary to evolve new negotiating procedures.

27. A world disarmament conference could contribute towards the universal acceptance of, or adherence to, multilateral treaties already concluded in the field of disarmament. It could also consider and approve measures aimed at the implementation of existing international agreements and conventions on limiting the arms race and at the implementation of the resolutions on important aspects of disarmament adopted by the General Assembly.
28. One of the most important tasks of a world disarmament conference should be the consideration of all ways and means of achieving general and complete disarmament under effective international control.
29. For this purpose, the conference should have as its main objective the formulation of a co-ordinated total disarmament programme, including renunciation of rearmament, both nuclear and conventional, and the achievement of a general agreement on practical measures, both gradual and with effective international guarantees, to diminish nuclear and conventional arsenals until general and complete disarmament, under effective international control, is attained. Within such a framework, the links between nuclear and conventional disarmament and between world-wide and regional disarmament should be taken into full account.
30. The conference must have a clear aim, i.e., the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons.
31. The conference could also consider the prevention of the increasing danger of nuclear arms proliferation and all other aspects, including consequential aspects, of nuclear disarmament some of which are the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear test ban, the prohibition of use of nuclear arms, the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones etc.
32. A world disarmament conference could consider, within the framework of a scheme of general and complete disarmament, other problems of disarmament, such as reduction, as a first step, of forces and armaments, both nuclear and conventional; reduction of military budgets; creation of peace zones; elimination of military bases on foreign soil; and other practical measures of a general or regional nature.
33. The conference could also discuss any specific question whose favourable solution would help towards bringing to an end the armaments race, to induce States to restrain the production of existing types of weapons and the development of new types and systems of weapons, and to persuade them to refrain from the use of science and technology for the further development of means of destruction.
34. A world disarmament conference should give prominent place to the question of the negative economic and social consequences of the arms race for the world community and promote better results for the interrelationship between disarmament and economic and social development, particularly with regard to the developing countries.
35. A world disarmament conference could consider the question of redistribution of funds saved in possible disarmament measures and their rechanneling to provide better conditions for economic and social development for all mankind.
36. The conference could stimulate the release of resources now being diverted to armaments, which would accelerate economic and social development in general and

would create better conditions for world economic co-operation and provide additional resources for co-operation with, and assistance to, developing countries.

II. COMMENTS BY STATES ON OTHER ASPECTS OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

37. In reviewing the comments received from Governments pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 3260 (XXIX), the Ad Hoc Committee took note of the opinion expressed by several Governments to the effect that the objectives of a world disarmament conference are closely linked to the conditions under which a world disarmament conference could be convened.

38. The Ad Hoc Committee also took note of comments received from a number of States pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 3260 (XXIX) on such other aspects of the World Disarmament Conference as the agenda, preparation in stages, organization of the work and date of a world disarmament conference, etc.

39. In that connexion, the Ad Hoc Committee noted that the views of States, including those of the nuclear-weapon States, on those subjects had not changed. Those views were summarized in the report submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session (A/9628), and more detailed comments on those questions can be found in the annex to the above-mentioned document, as well as in the annex to the present report.

III. CONCLUSIONS

40. The Ad Hoc Committee, in reviewing comments made by States on the objectives of a world disarmament conference, noted that a variety of objectives for such a conference had been proposed which could assign different functions to a world disarmament conference and thus affect the scope of the conference.

41. Among the views expressed, some States proposed as the objective of the conference actual measures of disarmament, while others conceived of a world disarmament conference as a forum that would be able to review the progress in the field, propose guidelines and review the negotiation machinery.

42. The Ad Hoc Committee took note of the view that the conditions that might apply to a conference aiming at actual measures of disarmament might not, of necessity, be the same as those applied to a conference which might contemplate less extensive objectives. The Ad Hoc Committee took note at the same time of one approach according to which there could be no world disarmament conference or its preparatory work in the absence of realization of the pre-conditions.

43. The Ad Hoc Committee noted that the overwhelming majority of States continued to believe, irrespective of the task assigned to a world disarmament conference that it must be universal and should be adequately prepared. In particular, the participation of all nuclear-weapon and militarily significant States was deemed essential.

44. The Ad Hoc Committee, in discharge of the mandate under paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 3260 (XXIX), maintained close contact with the representatives of the

States possessing nuclear weapons, as a result of which it was made clear to the Ad Hoc Committee that the respective positions of those States on all aspects of the convening of a world disarmament conference remain unchanged.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

45. The General Assembly may wish to examine the advisability of the continuation of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee under an appropriate mandate.

ANNEX

Comments by States on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference and related matters

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/Original: English//22 July 1975/

1. In a note of 13 September 1972, sent in reply to the note of the Secretary-General of 2 May 1972 referring to General Assembly resolution 2833 (XXVI), the Government of Austria expressed the view that the following should be the main tasks and objectives of the World Disarmament Conference:

(a) To provide an opportunity to discuss all aspects of disarmament, arms limitations and arms control;

(b) To lead, if possible, to concrete agreements;

(c) To impart a positive momentum to further negotiations in the various fields of disarmament. Since such further negotiations may, for practical reasons, again take place in smaller bodies, one of the tasks of the conference could be the discussion of the most appropriate form and composition of such a body or bodies.

2. In the view of the Government of Austria all these points continue to be valid. In addition, however, the Government of Austria wishes to recall various suggestions made during the last years in the course of discussions on the holding of a World Disarmament Conference.

3. On several occasions Austria has drawn attention to the proliferation of bodies within and outside the United Nations concerned mainly or exclusively with questions of disarmament. Apart from the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, a number of committees or groups have been created to deal i.e. with the reduction of military budgets, the establishment of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean, napalm and other incendiary weapons, the establishment of nuclear free zones, and with peaceful nuclear explosions. Outside the framework of the United Nations, the most notable such bodies are the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT) conducted in Geneva and the negotiations on the mutual reduction of forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe held in Vienna. Obviously, the necessity of some co-ordinating measures arises from such a situation. In the opinion of the Government of Austria, therefore, the World Disarmament Conference could well discuss the question of appropriate co-ordination.

4. One of the most important objectives, that of universality, has to be achieved at the very beginning of the World Disarmament Conference by ascertaining the participation not only of all nuclear-weapon States or all militarily important States but also of all other States who of necessity are affected by the arming or disarming of others.

5. A specific example for the necessity of both nuclear and non-nuclear universality is the question of non-proliferation, where an increasing division between signatories to the non-proliferation treaty and non-signatories has begun to appear over the last years. There is, besides the General Assembly of the

United Nations itself, no appropriate body for the discussion of problems common to both groups of countries, a lack particularly deplorable in view of the above-mentioned development.

6. If progress in disarmament is to be achieved and if a new approach to this question is to be adopted, new methods to create and mobilize political will must be applied. It is apparent that such a large-scale effort, necessary to achieve a major new impact on disarmament, cannot be achieved by the method of technical negotiation in small bodies, indispensable as it is for the elaboration of concrete measures. A conference on a world scale, involving the whole of the international community, could be an instrument, however, to put dramatic focus on developments in the field of armaments and the relative ineffectiveness of measures taken since the creation of the United Nations to achieve disarmament so far. (A/AC.167/1/Add.3 and Corr.1)

BARBADOS

/Original: English/
/25 April 1975/

The Government of Barbados supports the idea of convening a World Disarmament Conference. (A/AC.167/1/Add.4)

BELGIUM

/Original: French/
/20 May 1975/

The views of the Belgian Government on this question have been expressed on several occasions and are reflected in document A/9628 of the twenty-ninth session. (A/AC.167/1/Add.4)

BOLIVIA

/Original: Spanish/
/6 June 1975/

Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX) on the World Disarmament Conference and having regard to the lofty motives of the States which support such a conference, my Government believes that it should bring to your attention some of the considerations in favour of this initiative, since it would bring into being a highly influential world forum for prompting peace.

Bolivia is a country with a proven tradition of service to peaceful ideals; for that reason, it has at every opportunity supported the search for solutions based on understanding and comprehension, with respect both to its own international problems and to those affecting other peoples.

Leaving aside the inevitable suspicions of those who try to read between the lines and form the prejudgement that projects of this nature and scope always have hidden motives, my Government feels that the World Disarmament Conference would in a sense bring this serious and fundamental concern once again within the decision-making ambit of the international community. In recent years, this question, by its very nature a delicate one and of general interest, has been virtually confined to the exclusive competence of the Disarmament Committee established by resolutions 1660 (XVI) and 1722 (XVI), which was subsequently enlarged from 18 to 26 members when its name was changed to "Conference of the Committee on Disarmament". The reports of the Disarmament Committee have been considered at each session of the General Assembly and cover such complex problems as the nuclear arms race and nuclear and thermonuclear tests, the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons, chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and the most recent threat of contamination of the environment and atmosphere for military purposes. There is no question, however, that a problem of such wide scope as the strengthening of peace through disarmament should be studied by the entire international community, particularly since the era of localized conflicts with a limited area of action is increasingly a thing of the past.

Our Organization has been unflagging in its determination to eliminate the dangers to the maintenance of peace inherent in the arms race. This effort has not, however, been an integrated one; it has been characterized by the adoption of isolated measures in each particular case as determined by the exigencies of the situation. My Government believes that the World Disarmament Conference could be the appropriate forum for negotiating agreements on a world scale which would be binding on all the peoples of the world, since it would have neither the exclusive nature of the Security Council nor participation limited, as in the case at the Disarmament Committee, to a fifth of the membership of the United Nations.

While realizing that the World Disarmament Conference could not eliminate the differences existing between the great Powers which have the power of decision and the other Members of the United Nations and that it might provoke political confrontations with negative results for the currently prevailing détente, my Government would prefer to be optimistic and trust that the possible benefits would outweigh the risks, and it therefore believes that the Conference should be held. Furthermore, there have already been some very positive steps along the road to disarmament, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its recent revision, the acceptance of international control over general and complete disarmament and the declaration of peaceful intent which led to the present decade being proclaimed the Disarmament Decade, in close association with the Second United Nations Development Decade.

Recent events, which seem to have been given new and powerful impetus by the development of science and technology, call for a new approach to peace which is devoid, as far as possible, of political passion; they call for joint action aimed at clarifying the problems of the present day at a special conference convened in keeping with the principles of the Charter at which all Members of our Organization can participate with equal rights.

My Government regards as highly useful any international forum in which nations can express their ideas and proposals for disarmament, thus reaffirming the resolutions adopted to that end, which up to the present have not been duly implemented.

Bolivia has missed no opportunity to demonstrate its steadfast devotion to peace. Throughout its history, a firm will to peace has prevailed, often sustained by sacrifice involving sacred interests whose defence could have led the country to incur heavy expenses in order to build up arsenals of war at the price of neglecting its most pressing needs. Thus, Bolivia can today state with legitimate pride that the largest item in its budget goes to education.

True to our peaceful calling, we supported the draft resolutions considered at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly under the title "General and complete disarmament", encompassing everything relating to the manufacture, stockpiling and use of weapons which, because of their dangerous, cruel and destructive effects not only on human beings but also on the ecology, should be eliminated once and for all as decisive factors in conflicts arising among peoples.

Our only concern is that political considerations may turn this conference into yet another forum which, instead of searching for the equitable, pragmatic solutions sought by mankind, will serve only to increase ill will and deepen existing grievances. But, even so, an attempt should be made to provide a new opportunity for nations to demonstrate their maturity in a matter of such crucial importance as the new arms race, representing as it does an imminent threat to the maintenance of peace. (A/AC.167/1/Add.2)

BULGARIA

/Original: English/

/2 April 1975/

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has had many occasions to set out its views on the convening of a world disarmament conference. Its position stems from its unchanging policy in support of all initiatives and efforts, the aim of which is to realize the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter with a view to strengthening further international peace and security. The proposal for holding a world disarmament conference is particularly aimed in this direction.

The détente in international relations was established as the predominant trend in international life of recent years. The efforts of the peoples are centred on broadening this trend and extending it to cover all regions of the world. Conditions were created which enabled the political détente to find concrete manifestations in the field of disarmament by commencing the implementation of different practical measures towards disarmament leading to general and complete disarmament. The international agreements concluded in the field of disarmament, such as the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, a/ the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, b/ the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor, c/ the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the

a/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480, No. 6964, p. 43.

b/ General Assembly resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

c/ General Assembly resolution 2660 (XXV), annex.

Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, d/ the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction e/ etc., show that, despite their difficult nature, the problems of disarmament have become a constant item for discussion at bilateral and multilateral fora within and outside the United Nations. The agreements signed between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the prevention of nuclear war and on the limitation of strategic weapons f/ and others, are a source of hope that it is possible to halt the arms race.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is of the opinion that recent international developments have made the convening of a world disarmament conference in the nearest future both timely and expedient. A number of resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at previous sessions on the initiative of the Soviet Union and related to this question have embodied the will and desire of the overwhelming majority of Member States.

A number of important international fora and organizations, such as the conferences of the non-aligned States, the World Peace Council and the Congress of the Peace Forces (Moscow, 1973), have spoken out resolutely in favour of the convening of a world disarmament conference. All this gives us good reason to think that the political preparatory work for a world disarmament conference has in fact been laid down.

The General Assembly has entrusted the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference with the task of preparing and submitting an analytical report, containing its conclusions and recommendations. This decision shows the desire of the overwhelming majority of the States Members of the United Nations to commence in practical terms the preparation for the conference with a view to its early convening. The positive results obtained from the work of the Ad Hoc Committee during 1974 are encouraging.

Emphasizing the importance of this decision, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria also notes with satisfaction the fact that three out of the five nuclear States take part in the Ad Hoc Committee. Their contribution to its work can only be welcomed by all who cherish the cause of peace and disarmament. The People's Republic of Bulgaria is hopeful that the other two nuclear States, whose refusal to participate in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee represents the major obstacle to reaching early progress in the preparation of the conference, will comply with the desire of world public opinion and will join forces with the other countries so that the conference can be convened as soon as possible.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria maintains that the principal task of a world disarmament conference is to be the discussion, with the participation of all countries, including the nuclear ones, of the different problems of disarmament and primarily the problem of general and complete

d/ General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

e/ General Assembly resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

f/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/9627), annex II, document CCD/439, annexes I and II.

disarmament. Such a conference will facilitate the study of the real possibilities of achieving effective results and will make it possible to focus the agreed efforts of all States in this field.

All along, the conference should also devote its attention to different partial measures involving the curbing and halting of both nuclear and conventional arms races as well.

A world disarmament conference will help to acquaint better world public opinion with the dangers of continuing the armaments race. It will also help to mobilize world public opinion to take speedy measures towards disarmament.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is firmly convinced that a world disarmament conference will be yet another impetus to the endeavour of peoples to achieve concrete results in the field of general and complete disarmament. The conference could become a turning point in such an endeavour. That is why pre-conditions cannot be accepted, for in actual fact their aim is to thwart the convening of the conference.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria believes that all countries in the world, including the States possessing nuclear weapons, must be represented at a world disarmament conference. On the basis of equality and without any discrimination whatsoever, they could take part in the consideration of the questions of disarmament and could unite their efforts to find ways of achieving further progress in this field of international relations, which is so vital to all peoples.

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, as in the past, will continue to do everything within its possibilities to help ensure progress towards disarmament and towards the discontinuation of the armaments race, convinced that this is the most effective way of guaranteeing peace and of creating an atmosphere of confidence and co-operation. The Bulgarian Government regards the convening of a world disarmament conference as a timely and important measure aimed at the realization of these noble purposes which must guide all States Members of the United Nations. (A/10069)

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[2 April 1975]

The Byelorussian SSR has actively supported and continues to support the idea that a world disarmament conference should be speedily convened. On the basis of this position, the delegation of the Byelorussian SSR, at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, supported General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX), which provides for the study of the main objectives of the conference by the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference and the submission of conclusions and recommendations on the basis of comments by States Members of the United Nations to the thirtieth session of the General Assembly.

The Byelorussian SSR views this resolution as an expression of the desire of States Members of the United Nations for the successful completion of the preparatory work with a view to the speedy convening of a world disarmament conference.

With regard to the objectives of the conference, the Byelorussian SSR considers that it should be a forum at which all States without exception, on the basis of equality, can express and compare their views on all aspects of disarmament problems, in respect of both weapons of mass destruction and conventional forms of arms and armed forces.

A broad and comprehensive exchange of views during the conference would clarify the position of all States on various aspects of disarmament and would make it possible to determine by combined efforts the most effective ways and means of solving this problem. This would undoubtedly promote more purposeful talks on disarmament and more effective activity by States in agreeing on specific disarmament measures.

In the opinion of the Byelorussian SSR, the most important objective of such a representative international forum as the world disarmament conference should be to consider and determine ways and means of attaining the main and final goal of all disarmament measures - general and complete disarmament - which, as has been stressed in many decisions of the United Nations General Assembly, will create a reliable basis for the complete elimination of the threat of war from the life of human society and for ensuring lasting international peace and security. The attainment of this important aim would undoubtedly contribute to the economic and social progress of all mankind.

This of course does not exclude the possibility of consideration at the conference of the question of separate partial measures aimed at ending the arms race and achieving disarmament. Such partial measures could apply both to weapons of mass destruction and to conventional forms of arms.

The conference could also consider and approve measures aimed at the implementation of existing agreements and conventions on limiting the arms race and at the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on "Non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons" and "Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries", on the creation of nuclear-free zones in various areas of the world, and so forth. Any specific questions contributing to the slackening and cessation of the arms race, the control of the growth of existing types of arms and of the development of new types of arms, and the renunciation by States of the use of scientific achievements for the purpose of improving means of destruction, could be considered at the conference.

In the course of discussions at the conference additional urgent questions would emerge which could be settled and agreed on in a practical manner in the course of talks.

The Byelorussian SSR is convinced that as a result of the convening of the world disarmament conference the efforts of States aimed at implementing disarmament measures will become more purposeful and more dynamic.

Of course the conference should not replace existing forms of disarmament talks which have proved their worth, particularly the Committee on Disarmament.

The Byelorussian SSR considers it inadmissible that any pre-conditions be imposed for the convening of the world disarmament conference. In the view of the Byelorussian SSR, the problems which are mentioned as conditions for the convening of a world disarmament conference could become the subject of consideration at the conference itself.

The Byelorussian SSR considers that all States - and in the first place the permanent members of the Security Council, which under the United Nations Charter bear primary responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of international peace and security - should actively join in the work which should finally lead to the convening and successful holding of a world disarmament conference.

The time which has elapsed since the Soviet Union raised the question of the convening of a world disarmament conference at the United Nations has convincingly shown the importance and expediency of this initiative, which has gained wide support in the United Nations. This is shown by the resolutions which were unanimously adopted at the annual sessions of the General Assembly from 1971 onwards. Various international governmental and non-governmental organizations, including such authoritative bodies as the conference of non-aligned States, have advocated the speedy convening of the conference.

The arms race swallows up vast material and human resources, and diverts them from the purposes of peaceful construction. The adoption of agreed measures to end the arms race would release colossal resources for the solution of urgent socio-economic problems. Disarmament is in the interest of all States without exception, because the arms race is harmful to all countries, including those which do not take a direct part in it. The holding of a world disarmament conference would undoubtedly be a substantial contribution to the solution of the disarmament problem.

The intensification and expansion of the process of détente in the world and the development of peaceful co-operation among States irrespective of their political, economic and social structure create favourable conditions for the elimination of the obstacles to the world disarmament conference and the solution of the question of its convening.

The convening of the conference and its decisions would contribute to the task of the further intensification of détente, the addition to it of military détente and its transformation into a permanent and irreversible factor of international life.

The Byelorussian SSR advocates that the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, in fulfilling its mandate, should prepare specific and positive recommendations for the thirtieth session of the General Assembly which should make it possible to advance directly to the stage of preparatory work to ensure the success of the world disarmament conference. (A/AC.167/1)

CANADA

/Original: English/

/31 March 1975/

The Government of Canada supports in principle the idea of convening a well-prepared world disarmament conference at an appropriate time. Canada believes, however, that it would not be fruitful to begin preparations or to set a date for such a conference until there is reasonable assurance that it would, in fact, lead to concrete progress towards disarmament. In Canada's view, there can be little assurance that a world disarmament conference would lead to such progress unless all nuclear-weapon States are prepared to participate and to assist actively in its preparation. The more detailed views of the Canadian Government on this question have been well outlined in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628). (A/AC.167/1)

CHINA

/Original: Chinese/

/2 October 1975/

It is quite understandable that disarmament is a matter of concern to people when the arms race, and especially the nuclear arms race, between the two super-Powers has become more intense and glaring. But hopes are one thing, reality another. For instance, we all talked about disarmament here a year ago. Now, after a year has passed, have the armaments accumulated by the two super-Powers decreased, or have they increased? In our view, they have increased. Is the danger of war greater or less than last year? In our view, at least one cannot say it is less.

Why is this so? Firstly, because the two super-Powers are fiercely contending with each other on a global scale. And their arms expansion and war preparations serve their policy of hegemonism. Secondly, because the super-Powers, when faced with increasingly acute economic troubles, inevitably turn to the further militarization of the national economy as the way out. In this regard, the present situation resembles that of the 1930s in many ways.

Disarmament is an old issue. And China's views on it were well known. We are in favour of disarmament. But we favour genuine and not sham disarmament, still less empty talk about disarmament coupled with actual arms expansion year after year. Some say that anyway to hold a disarmament conference is better than none. We understand this well-intentioned desire. But we consider that, when the arms race between the two super-Powers, which directly threatens the people of the world, is being stepped up and when the super-Power with the label of "socialism" is actually bent on using empty talk at a disarmament conference as a cover for its arms expansion and war preparations, the convening of a nominal disarmament conference or its preparatory meeting will only produce the objective effect of lulling the people of the world.

The Chinese Government is in favour of holding a genuine world disarmament conference. But the conference must have a clear aim and the necessary pre-conditions. The clear aim is the complete prohibition and thorough destruction

of nuclear weapons, and absolutely not the so-called limitation of strategic arms. The necessary pre-conditions are: All nuclear countries, and particularly the two nuclear super-Powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, must first of all undertake the unequivocal obligation that at no time and in no circumstances will they be the first to use nuclear weapons, particularly against non-nuclear countries and nuclear-free zones - for example, the Soviet Union should, first of all, undertake obligations in respect of the nuclear-free zone in Latin America - and they must withdraw from abroad all their armed forces, including nuclear missile forces, and dismantle all their military bases, including nuclear bases, on the territories of other countries. Only thus will it be possible for all countries, big and small, on an equal footing, to discuss with equanimity and resolve the question of the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and other questions free from any threat of force.

In the absence of a reduction of the armaments of the two super-Powers, what should the numerous small and medium countries do in the face of their threat? In our opinion, the small and medium countries should strive to strengthen their necessary and independent defence capabilities in the light of specific conditions. This is a fundamental and reliable approach.

As expected, the Soviet Government, which comes up with some novelties each year, has put forward this year an item entitled "Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military purposes". The memorandum requesting the inclusion of this item as an urgent matter in the agenda of this session is so profoundly worded that one cannot make out its real meaning. We would rather wait till the Soviet representative explains the matter in clear and simple language before deciding whether it deserves some comment. (A/PV.2252)

CUBA

/Original: Spanish/

/16 July 1975/

The Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Cuba once again confirms its unqualified support for the holding of a world disarmament conference in which all States of the world, whether Members of the United Nations or not, whether large or small, whether they have nuclear weapons or not, would participate under conditions of equality and with the same rights.

The holding of a world disarmament conference as soon as possible is of crucial importance for the realization of the aspirations of the progressive and peace-loving peoples in the matter of general and complete disarmament.

In recent years the General Assembly has repeatedly endorsed the holding of the world disarmament conference, meetings of non-governmental organizations have also expressed support for the conference, and on a number of occasions the non-aligned countries have called for this important world event to take place as soon as possible.

The Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Cuba endorses the following statements contained in the Final Declaration of the meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries held at Havana on 17 to 19 March 1975:

"The Bureau has reviewed the present situation with respect to problems of disarmament, reiterating the goal of achieving general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and it also supported the holding of a world disarmament conference as soon as possible.

"Efforts to reduce the enormous expenditure on armaments and utilization of the resources released for the provision of assistance to the developing countries have acquired fresh importance in the context of the economic crisis.

"The Co-ordinating Bureau appeals for the continuation of negotiations, primarily within the framework of the United Nations, with a view to adopting measures to halt the arms race, prohibit chemical weapons and nuclear tests for military purposes and, in particular, make greater use of nuclear energy in the development of the developing countries." (A/AC.167/1/Add.3)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

/Original: English/

/28 February 1975/

In its foreign policy the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has continuously devoted great attention to questions of disarmament and regarded their solution as one of the most pressing tasks of the present time.

Today, when the expanding process of international détente and increased stability in the world is simultaneously being jeopardized by a further development of the arms race, which continues to drain off immense financial, material and human resources and exposes humanity to the danger of a pernicious thermonuclear war, it is becoming clear that the only possible way out is to achieve concrete and marked progress in the sphere of disarmament. This question concerns all the States of the world, and it is therefore only just to expect that all States will take part in its solution.

A world disarmament conference, open to all States, would be a suitable forum in which to co-ordinate and activate the efforts of all the peace-loving forces in the world aimed at achieving a real progress in the field of disarmament. Such a conference would prepare the ground for all States, particularly all the nuclear States, to be able to participate in the implementation of an effective disarmament programme.

This year, the whole world will commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the termination of the Second World War. During that time several important international issues have been discussed on world-wide scale, issues concerning practically all the States, such as the question of the law of the sea, those of world population and food, living environment etc. However, disarmament problems have not, so far, been subjected to such treatment, although their importance and urgency has been generally recognized practically by all the States for a long time. That is why the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic believes that the time has come to initiate concrete preparations for the convening of a world disarmament conference. It is necessary to take advantage of the present state of gradual relaxation of international tensions and purification of the political atmosphere in the world and to add to this also a détente in the

military sphere. From the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628), it follows unequivocally, and it was also confirmed in the course of the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, that the overwhelming majority of all States advocate the convening of such a conference in the near future. One cannot, therefore, agree with the objections binding the convocation of the conference to the fulfilment of a number of pre-conditions, which is tantamount to delaying the holding of the conference indefinitely. Particularly unsubstantiated are the proposals demanding that extensive preparatory measures be undertaken in the fields of arms limitation and disarmament whereby the long-term objective of the conference is actually presented as the means and the condition for its convocation. Neither does any justification seem to exist for the fears that the convening of a world disarmament conference would be detrimental to the already existing bodies engaged in multilateral negotiations on disarmament issues. On the contrary, their work could be suitably combined with and complement that of a world disarmament conference. These bodies could cover the expert negotiations, draft the texts of the different agreements and take charge of questions which could not, for lack of time, be dealt with by the world disarmament conference. Thus, it would be possible to take advantage of the experience of many years acquired by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva during negotiations on partial disarmament questions which led to the elaboration of several important agreements and treaties representing the most significant steps made so far along the road to disarmament.

Although disarmament undoubtedly concerns all States, the main responsibility rests with the nuclear Powers, which have the decisive military potentials at their disposal. From that point of view, it would be very desirable for all the nuclear Powers to participate in the preparations of the conference and to attend, as a matter of necessity, the conference itself, if only because of the fact that the conference should, as the Czechoslovak Government believes, discuss, in the first place, questions related to a complete prohibition of all types of weapons of mass destruction. To reach agreement and co-operation among States controlling such weapons would therefore guarantee the success of a world disarmament conference.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is aware of the fact that a mutual clarification, classification and unification of the main objectives of that conference are a necessary pre-condition for the holding of a world disarmament conference, and, at the same time, it notes with satisfaction that certain progress has already been achieved in that respect. From the very clear-cut information provided on that question by the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628), it follows that the views of Governments on that issue concur to a considerable degree, that they complement each other and that there are no fundamental contradictions among them. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, none the less, considers it necessary to explain once more in greater detail and to sum up its suggestions and comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference.

A world disarmament conference attended by all the States, especially by all the nuclear Powers and countries possessing large military potentials, could search for ways and means of solving disarmament problems on a global scale.

The conference could evaluate and give support to world-wide efforts aimed at disarmament, stipulate the main principles and priorities for the achievement of the principal objective of all disarmament negotiations, i.e., general and complete

disarmament under effective international supervision. The work of the conference would undoubtedly encourage unity of purpose among States in elaborating disarmament measures. The work of such a broad and important international forum would enable States to determine the most pressing aspects of the disarmament issue and to achieve, in practice, mutually acceptable ways and means of solving that issue. All States, without exception, could, on the basis of equality, discuss the broad complex of questions relative to the halting of the arms race and to disarmament; they would have the possibility of expounding their views and of reaching jointly the most effective, concrete and mutually advantageous means and measures to solve the disarmament problem.

A world disarmament conference could draw the attention of the international community to the dimensions and the danger of the arms race and work out effective and mutually acceptable ways and means of limiting and halting that race.

A world disarmament conference could provide an impulse towards the settlement of current international conflicts and the liquidation of the existing hot-beds of war and thus contribute to the achievement of the final objective, the securing of firm and inviolable peace for the whole of humanity for all times.

The most important task of the conference should be the consideration of all ways and means of achieving general and complete disarmament.

A world disarmament conference should examine the entire complex of disarmament questions both in relation to conventional weapons and armed forces and, primarily, in relation to all the means and weapons of mass destruction, proceeding from the fact that the greatest fears of the whole mankind are generated by the nuclear arms race. First priority at the conference should therefore be given to questions relating to the complete prohibition and destruction of all nuclear stockpiles the use of which would cause irreparable damage and threaten the very existence of humanity. With a view to achieving that objective, the world disarmament conference could discuss questions relating to the prohibition of nuclear tests applying to all States and to all environments and to other partial measures in the field of nuclear disarmament. It would be useful for the conference to pursue also efforts aimed at slowing down and halting the arms race and relaxing international tension: e.g., the questions of abolition of all military bases on foreign territory, reduction of armed forces and armaments in particularly exposed areas and reduction of military budgets, especially on the part of great Powers. The conference should also focus its attention on questions relating to the complete prohibition and destruction of stockpiles of all types of weapons of mass destruction: e.g., chemical and other weapons.

A world disarmament conference could also study the results already achieved in the sphere of disarmament and evaluate the significance of the implementation of international agreements concluded in respect of partial disarmament measures from the point of view of their contribution towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament.

The conference could also consider questions relating to the negative economic and social consequences of disarmament for all States and thus

stabilize the interrelationship between disarmament and economic development, particularly with regard to the developing countries.

A world disarmament conference could prepare the soil for the elaboration and consolidation of political principles necessary for effective progress in disarmament negotiations. At the same time, the conference could create conditions and foundations on the basis of which disarmament would become not only a moral but an international legal commitment for all the States of the world.

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is of the view that, after several years of discussions in United Nations bodies on the question of convening a world disarmament conference, favourable conditions have now been created to initiate in the nearest future concrete preparations for its convocation. The Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, which has already undertaken extensive and important work of a preliminary nature, should, for that purpose, be changed into a preparatory body that would immediately tackle the questions relating to the convocation of a conference. The Ad Hoc Committee should submit recommendations in that respect to the United Nations General Assembly at its thirtieth session. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic believes that it should be the commemorative thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly that creates conditions for the achievement of tangible results in concrete preparations for the convening of a world disarmament conference. (A/AC.167/1)

DENMARK

/Original: English/

/8 April 1975/

The Government of Denmark adheres to the views concerning a world disarmament conference, which are reflected in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628). (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

EGYPT

/Original: English/

/31 March 1975/

1. The Egyptian Government thinks that the World Disarmament Conference should give a new universal political impetus to multilateral negotiations in the field of disarmament. The nature and scope of this impetus should allow clear indications towards directing such negotiations to achieve effective arms control and disarmament measures, particularly in the nuclear field.
2. The effectiveness of the collective security system as devised by the Charter needs thorough consideration. Along with the institutions of disarmament, the collective security system is a cornerstone in the maintenance of peace and security.

3. The time is ripe to tackle disarmament, in particular, nuclear weapons within a universal conference, and to start the process of laying the foundations for a phase of mutual and universal restraints, the justification for which is the interlinked security requirements and the need for arms control by all the countries of the world. Egypt, for this reason, supports in principle the convening of a world disarmament conference open to the participation of all the countries of the world.

4. The World Disarmament Conference would concentrate continuously on the urgent need to find means of halting the arms race, specifically, the progress of nuclear armament, as a first step towards the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament. In this regard, Egypt has in mind the General Assembly's resolutions during its twenty-ninth session for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East, Africa and southern Africa, as well as on the resolution concerning a comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects.

5. Egypt feels that the Conference should be non-permanent in nature and should be held under the auspices of the United Nations. The Conference, however, should not impair or halt the work of existing bilateral and multilateral forums which are considering current disarmament questions.

6. The Conference should include all countries of the world, especially nuclear-weapon States. Active participation of the developing countries as parties to the Conference should provide an opportunity to study the interconnected problems of development and disarmament. (A/AC.167/1)

FINLAND

/Original: English/

/25 April 1975/

The Government of Finland firmly supports all measures that further the cause of disarmament and, consequently, has from the beginning given its full backing to the convening of a world disarmament conference. The Government of Finland believes that a distinct opportunity exists for successful disarmament negotiations and that a world disarmament conference would play an important role in furthering such negotiations.

The World Disarmament Conference would give the international community an opportunity to rededicate itself to the aims of general and complete disarmament, to restrengthen the political aims of disarmament and thus to determine goals for the future disarmament negotiations and establish their order of importance. At the Conference, due priority should be given to mass-destruction weapons, particularly nuclear weapons, as well as to the reduction of conventional armed forces and armaments to the levels necessary for the maintenance of international peace-keeping.

In addition to the general goals of disarmament, the Finnish Government considers all measures that are aimed at regional limitation of armed forces and armaments useful for the promotion and realization of disarmament. Recalling the different efforts and achievements undertaken on a regional level with a view to the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various parts of the world, the Government of Finland took the initiative which led to the adoption of

resolution 3261 F (XXIX), approved unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1974. In this resolution, the General Assembly decided to undertake a comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all of its aspects under the auspices of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. All these regional efforts should be kept in mind also in the context of the World Disarmament Conference.

The World Disarmament Conference, adequately prepared, should be realized as soon as possible under the auspices of the United Nations. The Conference should be universal. The participation in the Disarmament Conference of all the permanent members of the Security Council, as well as all the significant military Powers, obviously remains an essential prerequisite for the attainment of meaningful results. From such a conference new ideas could emerge to the benefit of disarmament and a more peaceful world order.

The Government of Finland expresses its appreciation to the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference for the valuable work it has done, especially in preparing the summary of the views and suggestions expressed by the Governments on the convening of such a conference and related problems. It is to be hoped that further progress will be achieved in the Committee before the thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly, so that the General Assembly could take decisive steps with a view to the convening of a world disarmament conference at an early date. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

FRANCE

/Original: French/

/20 May 1975/

The French Government stated at the outset its support for the convening of a world disarmament conference in the preparation and work of which all nuclear Powers would participate.

The views of the French Government on this question have already been set forth in connexion with the survey carried out by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2833 (XXVI) and contained in document A/8817 of 25 September 1972. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

/Original: English/

/29 April 1975/

The German Democratic Republic attaches great importance to the preparation and realization of a world disarmament conference. It has therefore worked actively for the proposal submitted by the USSR to convene such a conference and has already made numerous suggestions on how to implement this proposal.

Resolution 3260 (XXIX), which was unanimously adopted at the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, reflects broad support for the holding of a world disarmament conference. The German Democratic Republic shares the view of the majority of States that calling such a conference would meet the peoples' aspirations to safeguard peace through effective disarmament measures.

The German Democratic Republic works for international détente to be strengthened and deepened, to be expanded to all regions, and to penetrate all spheres of co-operation among States.

To make peace and international security stable, a halt must be called to the arms race. This increasingly proves to be the decisive issue in the struggle to secure a lasting peace.

The States of the socialist community have submitted numerous proposals designed to put an end to the nuclear arms race, to achieve the cessation of nuclear tests in all media and by all States, to prohibit chemical weapons and to reduce the military budgets of the five States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilize part of the funds thus saved for developing countries.

A major contribution towards limiting the arms race could be made by implementing the proposal approved at the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly to draw up a convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health.

The German Democratic Republic holds the view that conditions for the calling of a world disarmament conference are more favourable now than ever before and that the time is ripe for taking the necessary steps. The continuing process of détente has had an exceedingly favourable impact on the settlement of major problems. The agreements between the USSR and the United States of America on the limitation of strategic arms and the prevention of a nuclear war clearly indicate this. As a result of their top-level meeting at Vladivostok, the representatives of the USSR and the United States of America declared that an agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons can still be concluded between the two States within this year. Such a step would, no doubt, have a favourable effect on the realization of further measures of disarmament and arms limitation.

A world disarmament conference at which all angles of disarmament issues could be considered and agreements reached would doubtlessly contribute to making

the process of international détente irreversible and to complementing it by military détente and would promote general and complete disarmament. It would be in line with this objective if all States could take part as equals in such a world-wide forum and if they could consider and agree on measures to limit and end the arms race involving nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and also conventional weapons. This should include the banning of certain types of weapons and their removal from arsenals throughout the world, as well as agreements that keep the arms race away from new fields it has not so far reached.

A world disarmament conference may give fresh impetus to the activities of already existing disarmament bodies and to the universal application of multilateral treaties already concluded.

Differences of opinion about various problems that would have to be solved by a world disarmament conference do not, in the view of the German Democratic Republic, in any way justify any further delay in preparing and holding the conference. In the past, there were quite a few occasions when world conferences were prepared and held without there having been unanimity on fundamental issues from the very beginning. This applies, for instance, to international conferences on the codification of important sections of international law, the World Population Conference and the World Food Conference.

The German Democratic Republic supports the view that all nuclear-weapon States should take part in preparing and realizing a world disarmament conference. The USSR has made special contributions to making this conference possible. The German Democratic Republic expresses the expectation that all nuclear Powers will take part in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference.

To a growing extent the solution of major political, economic and social problems hinges on whether or not the arms race can be stopped. The consequences of the arms race burden the process of the further recovery of the international atmosphere and even involve the risk of aggravating political tensions. Armaments swallow up vast financial means, rendering the solution of pressing economic problems difficult or impeding it. The safeguarding of peace, of economic and social progress of all nations, especially the developing countries, calls for greater efforts to call a halt to the arms race.

The German Democratic Republic expresses the expectation that at the thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly concrete decisions concerning preparations for, and the holding of, a world disarmament conference will be adopted. It will, for its part, contribute to attaining this lofty goal in the interest of safeguarding international peace and security. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

/Original: English/

/21 May 1975/

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany continues to support in principle the convening of a world disarmament conference at an appropriate time. In its view the conference would, however, have to be carefully prepared. As

disarmament measures in the field of nuclear weapons are likely to be one of the most important topics of the conference, it would be necessary to secure the participation of all nuclear Powers already at its preparatory stage.

The views of the Federal Government on this question have already been set out in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628). (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

GREECE

/Original: English/

/6 April 1975/

The Greek Government considers that one of the main objectives of a world disarmament conference should be the establishment of a real and efficient disarmament under international control. It is understood that such a disarmament should not be limited to the nuclear weapons, but should, also, include the conventional ones which are used in local wars. Also, one of the major concerns of the said conference should be the prohibition of weapons the use of which is contrary to universally admitted humanitarian principles, such as the use of napalm bombs etc. (A/AC.167/1)

GUATEMALA

/Original: Spanish/

/10 March 1975/

(a) Guatemala supports a policy of non-proliferation of nuclear arms and the idea that general and complete disarmament is a current necessity. Guatemala will support any General Assembly resolutions adopted in that respect.

(b) It would be appropriate before holding a world disarmament conference to try every means available to ensure the participation of all nuclear Powers and militarily significant nations in disarmament negotiations, by establishing priorities, beginning with nuclear disarmament, since the danger and destructive effects of this type of arms are overwhelming. At the same time, steps should be taken to set up procedural machinery to co-ordinate the work of the various negotiating bodies, on condition that such an initiative was very carefully prepared.

(c) On the assumption that the conference is held, the agenda should propose the achievement of clearly defined goals. The disarmament work should be conducted with great flexibility, covering both nuclear and conventional arms, and should be based on practical procedures for considering requirements of security and balance, and achieving the goal of adjustment and moderation.

(d) It would be advisable to plan and develop an information programme, the main aim of which would be to publicize the need for a world disarmament conference and to stress the magnitude and seriousness of the problem of the intensification of the arms race in the last 10 years and its adverse economic and social effects, particularly on the developing countries. (A/AC.167/1)

/Original: French//27 August 1975/

First of all, the concept of disarmament does not in itself imply the production and possession of a type of weapon, even one belonging to the category of so-called conventional weapons.

Rather, it is the purpose assigned to these means of destruction, be they nuclear, bacteriological, chemical or even conventional, which must be stressed. By way of proof, one need only consider the use of asphyxiating bombs in Viet-Nam or the so-called conventional weapons placed at the disposal of South Africa by the imperialist Powers which can be used in time of peace as well as in time of war to realize that there is actually very little difference between these two types of weapon.

In other words, the Government of the Republic of Guinea feels that while the problem of disarmament is of paramount concern to all countries, because it relates directly to the preservation of international peace and security, it is understood that the question in its technical and technological aspects concerns firstly the countries which produce nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons.

But, in addition, as we said at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, all countries must be associated in the various discussions concerning the problem of disarmament and the possible convening of a world disarmament conference. The problem of peace ... is of concern to the entire world. Peace must belong to everyone. Two, three or four countries cannot take decisions on behalf of all continents; hence the problem of disarmament, and, particularly, the problem of peace are not the exclusive concern of one nation, however great or strong it may be. All these matters, which are connected with the prohibition of the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, bacteriological and other weapons are of concern to the Republic of Guinea, but we wish to discuss them together with all other countries, without having piecemeal, biased or false solutions imposed upon us.

Moreover, we repeated at the plenary twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly that of all problems the problem of disarmament is unquestionably both the oldest and the most current, because it is the field in which so little progress has been made. It is talked about far more on an amateur level than out of real conviction. It goes without saying that a game of hide-and-seek is still being played: first between the possessors of those means of mass destruction and then between them and the rest of the world.

In conclusion, we believe that the existence of a lasting peace must be based on respect for the sovereignty and unity of peoples. Let no one tell us that it is with the purpose of establishing a certain balance of forces in the world that some Powers are arming the racist régime of Vorster or the Zionist State of Israel.

The problem of disarmament cannot be dissociated from that of the elimination of oppression and exploitation in the world, for as long as colonization persists, the germs of war will persist likewise. Therefore, what is needed is to strike at the root of the evil; in other words, to eliminate colonization in all its forms in order to open the way to international peace. (A/AC.167/1/Add.5)

/Original: English//20 May 1975/

The people of the Hungarian People's Republic have recently celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of the country's liberation and now they are preparing to commemorate the anniversary of the end of the Second World War, the historic victory over fascist oppression. When - between two such celebrations - the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic summarizes its standpoint concerning the world disarmament conference, quite understandably it cannot help recalling the situation of 30 years ago.

In consequence of the war which the ruling class had forced upon the people against their own interest, Hungary lost about 5 per cent of her population; direct military expenditures consumed two years' total national income and, together with the damages of the war, the losses amounted to the equivalent of five years' national income, counting with an average of the pre-war years. It is fully understandable, therefore, that the Hungarian people and their Government attach special importance to every step, initiative and measure which may be instrumental in averting wars and in eliminating the dangers of a new war. Their attitude, however, is determined, along with the experiences of the bitter past, primarily by a desire to protect their achievements in the field of socialist construction and to safeguard the present and the future of the country.

From the experiences of history, particularly of the last decades, the Hungarian people have drawn the lesson and conclusion that only lasting international peace and solid security can ensure the conditions favourable to their socialist construction work. That is why the Hungarian Government has set it as one of the main goals of its foreign policy to strive with all its efforts to bring about those conditions and, what is a pre-condition to that, to contribute, within the limits of its possibilities and capabilities, to eliminating the dangers of a new war, to strengthening the peaceful coexistence and wide-scale co-operation of States having different social systems.

Starting from the realization that, as a result of the steadfast peace policy of the socialist countries, first of all the Soviet Union, and through the consolidation of the world-wide process of international détente, it has become a realistic possibility in our epoch to avoid world wars and to settle peacefully, by means of negotiations, contested international problems, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is determined, in all possible ways and by all possible means, to carry that peace policy to success, to extend political détente to the military sphere also, to make existing disarmament measures truly universal and to create the proper atmosphere necessary to further steps in this field.

The aspirations of the people of this country and the endeavours of their Government are expressed in a proper and condensed form in the programme declaration which the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, the leading force of the society, has recently adopted at its eleventh congress. The programme declaration summarizing the tasks for a longer period to come, in the part entitled "International tasks and endeavours", among others, says the following:

"In our era, the preservation of peace, the prevention of the threat of a

new world war, the freeing of peoples from the nightmare of a nuclear war are in the vital interest of humanity.

"The insitutuional implementation of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems is, at the same time, a fight for the reduction and cessation of the arms race, for a ban on weapons of mass destruction, for general and complete disarmament, so that humanity can already in our time be freed forever from the danger of a new world war."

Representatives of the Hungarian People's Republic have on numerous occasions expressed the opinion that for the purpose of discussing all these tasks, as is summarized above in a condensed form, a world disarmament conference would provide the most suitable forum, where - on the basis of the results already achieved, and also having learned better in detail the views and aspirations of each other - the essential characteristics of the road leading to the goal could be defined, the steps to be taken could be outlined and the initial impetus to the practical elaboration of the most urgent measures could be given.

Not only by way of official statements and through its representatives, but also making use of all other forums, the Hungarian Government has, from the very beginning, given its full support to the proposal to convene a world disarmament conference, advanced in 1971 by the Government of the Soviet Union. On every new occasion since then, it has seen with satisfaction that the proposal enjoys the support of an ever growing majority of States, and in full harmony with them it is fully convinced that the time is ripe and the conditions are given for starting to take practical steps aimed at the convening of the conference. Therefore, the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic feels fully justified in hoping and expecting that the United Nations General Assembly, in the course of the forthcoming thirtieth session, will, without any further delay, adopt the resolution necessary to that end. At the same time, it hopes that the sense of responsibility for the future of the world will prevail also in those Governments which for various specific reasons are not now willing to give their support to the cause of the world disarmament conference. The same is expected even more of Governments which bear special responsibilities for the arms race and, respectively, for disarmament, first of all, of the nuclear Powers.

The convening of the world disarmament conference would create a very important international forum which, as yet, is still missing from the system of independent but inevitably interacting, bilateral or multilateral organs effectively dealing with various aspects of disarmament. Consequently, it also means that the world disarmament conference would not substitute for, but properly complement, the activities already going on in the present bilateral, regional and other international bodies.

The Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, which in spite of difficulties has already made some progress, could speed up its work and start practical preparations of the conference. The Hungarian delegation in the Committee, in possession of instructions given in the same spirit, is striving hard to realize that aim and has been empowered to co-operate actively to that end in the course of the next session of the Ad Hoc Committee.

On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the historic victory of the anti-fascist coalition and of the foundation of the United Nations that was born

in its wake, it is timely and proper to reiterate also here the deep conviction of the Hungarian people and their Government that the collaboration and co-operation of States with different social systems is also very timely today for the purpose of solving such immense tasks, for example, disarmament, as are facing the whole of humanity. (A/10090)

INDIA

/Original: English/

/25 March 1975/

The Government of India has carefully studied the views and suggestions of Member States on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference and is greatly encouraged to note that a consensus is emerging along the following lines.

A world disarmament conference convened after adequate preparation, at an appropriate time and with the participation of all States, can play a useful role in promoting the cause of securing lasting world peace based on disarmament. The conference can mobilize and focus world public opinion on the highest priority objective of nuclear disarmament and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction. The conference should secure the participation of militarily significant States, like France and China, in disarmament negotiations and provide a fresh impetus to disarmament efforts. The conference can work out general guidelines and establish priorities for the negotiating body. (A/AC.167/1)

INDONESIA

/Original: English/

/6 June 1975/

The Government of Indonesia continues to support the idea of convening a well-prepared world disarmament conference at an appropriate time and open to all States. Indonesia is convinced that such a conference would result in the emergence of a new and deeper perception of the multifaceted problem and would generally further the cause of disarmament. More detailed views of the Indonesian Government on this question have been outlined in note verbale A/AC.167/L.2/Add.6 dated 13 August 1974, as well as in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628). The views expressed then remain valid regarding the main objectives, preparation, agenda etc.

It is, however, necessary to reiterate that although disarmament is the concern of all States, the main responsibility rests with the nuclear Powers. From that point of view, their participation in the preparations of the conference and in the conference itself is a matter of necessity, if only due to the fact that agreement and co-operation among States possessing nuclear weapons would ensure its success. It is in this context that Indonesia shares the general understanding that the conference would serve its purpose only if all militarily significant countries, particularly the nuclear Powers, and the main arms-producing countries were to participate and an essential logic of the conference is to bring them together in a common forum.

A basic objective of such an international forum would be that a broad and comprehensive exchange of views would clarify various aspects of disarmament, while at the same time, determine the nature of the combined efforts required to promote agreement on specific disarmament measures. While priority should be accorded to the consideration of nuclear disarmament, the question of conventional disarmament should also be dealt with simultaneously within the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament. Finally, the work of the conference would enable States to determine those urgent issues most frequently mentioned in disarmament debates like universal and non-discriminatory arms control, relations between defence expenditures and development etc., and to find mutually acceptable ways and means of solving those issues.

Recent events in the field of arms control and disarmament have convinced the Indonesian Government that the need to convene without delay a world disarmament conference is greater than ever before. The Government of Indonesia is encouraged by the prospects that, after several years of discussion on the question of convening a world disarmament conference, a consensus would finally emerge at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, resulting in the formulation of proposals which would receive widespread and general endorsement. (A/AC.167/1/Add.2)

IRAN

/Original: English/

/24 March 1975/

Any consideration of the possible objectives of a world disarmament conference must recognize that this whole question is closely linked to that of the timing of such a conference, as well as the nature of the preparatory process leading up to it. It is our belief that the preparations to be undertaken should be conducted in an exhaustive and comprehensive manner.

Iran whole-heartedly supports the idea of a world disarmament conference. At the right time, a world disarmament conference, with universal participation and adequate preparation, might lead to productive results in the field of disarmament. However, to act in precipitate fashion and without paying due attention to the practical realities surrounding the question of holding such a conference would only damage the prospects for a successful outcome. The complexities of the issues involved demand that we adopt a careful and step-by-step approach.

One of the essential prerequisites of such an orderly approach is to obtain the support and the active involvement of the nuclear-weapon States, along with those of the potential nuclear and militarily significant States.

As far as the objective of the conference is concerned, it should be borne in mind that while the general and complete disarmament under effective international control should remain the ultimate goal, a world disarmament conference should strive, first and foremost, to achieve significant nuclear disarmament measures.

In order to achieve this purpose, during the preparatory stage, it is imperative that attention be focused on ways and means of halting the nuclear arms race.

Thus, according to our conception, in order to prepare the ground for the successful convening of a world disarmament conference, some of the genuine obstacles now blocking its path will have to be removed. Accordingly, only cautious and judicious planning and preparation can ensure that a world disarmament conference will be guided by realistic and tenable objectives. (A/AC.167/1)

IRAQ

/Original: English/

/25 March 1975/

The following are the preliminary views of Iraq on the convening of a world disarmament conference and its related problems:

1. It is imperative that adequate preparation for the conference should be undertaken to ensure the success of the conference.
2. Prior agreement on the necessity of a binding treaty concerning disarmament might, inter alia, facilitate the work of the conference.
3. Emphasis should be placed on respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States.
4. There should be respect for international treaties concerning territorial boundaries of States and their delineation.
5. Granting independence to peoples under foreign domination, and elimination of racial discrimination and colonialism will eliminate one reason for the resort to the use of arms.
6. The conference should deal with the problems of nuclear armament and the necessity of the accession of all States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and prevention of nuclear explosion in the atmosphere.
7. A certain percentage of the military and armament budgets should be allocated for the purpose of development.
8. The conference should reaffirm all General Assembly resolutions concerning the declarations of Africa and the Indian Ocean and other areas as nuclear-weapon-free zones. (A/AC.167/1)

ITALY

/Original: English/

/21 May 1975/

The Italian Government considers that the basic objective of a world disarmament conference should be to seek ways of achieving general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

The Italian Government is convinced of the usefulness of partial disarmament measures. However, such measures can be fully effective and produce lasting results only if they are carried out as part of a co-ordinated total disarmament programme. Within such a framework, the links between nuclear and conventional disarmament and between world-wide and regional disarmament should become apparent.

In seeking ways of facilitating the formulation of a disarmament programme, the conference should ensure that it does not duplicate the activities of bodies already working on disarmament questions and should avoid becoming involved in discussions of a general nature which could increase, rather than reduce, the divergencies between the different opinions and positions put forward. If such dangers are avoided, the world conference could not only give a new impetus to the cause of general and total disarmament but facilitate the co-ordination of specific disarmament measures already adopted or under discussion in a number of international forums.

For the above reasons, the Italian Government is convinced that the conference can succeed if it is properly prepared and if the specific topics for discussion are identified beforehand. The participation of the major military Powers, in particular, those possessing nuclear arsenals, in the preparatory work and in the conference itself appears essential if there is to be any serious and realistic consideration of disarmament questions and, above all, of nuclear disarmament. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

JAPAN

/Original: English/

/24 April 1975/

The views of the Government of Japan on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference remain as they were presented in document A/8817, annex I.

In this connexion, the Permanent Representative of Japan has further the honour to refer to his statement at the 19th meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference on 4 April 1975. The gist of this is contained in document A/AC.167/SR.19, which reads as follows:

"Mr. Saito said that, with regard to the substantive issues involved in the Committee's work in 1975, his Government's views were well known. However, it was of great importance to re-emphasize that participation of all nuclear Powers was necessary for the success of a world disarmament conference. More systematic liaison must be established with the nuclear Powers in the Committee's future work. He proposed that that should be placed among the matters to be considered by the Working Group."

(A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

KENYA

/Original: English/

/24 January 1975/

The Government of Kenya was among the first to submit its comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference in 1972 and later in 1974. The views expressed then remain the same regarding main objectives, preparations, agenda etc. (A/AC.167/1)

KUWAIT

/Original: English/

/21 April 1975/

Kuwait has consistently supported the convening of a world disarmament conference, because it believes that all countries, big and small, have an equal stake in disarmament. For the past two decades disarmament negotiations have not been very productive, because they have been conducted in the form of a dialogue between the two super-Powers. Disarmament agreements have changed the nuclear arms race from a race of quantity to a race of quality. Kuwait, as a developing country, would like the race to end altogether.

The conference should seek to safeguard the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States.

The conference should be mindful of the fact that foreign occupation, colonialism and apartheid sow the seeds of conflict and compel the oppressed to seek arms in order to liberate themselves through armed struggle from these evils.

One of the essential prerequisites for the success of the conference would be to secure universal participation in it.

The agenda of the conference should include a wide range of topics which have not been successfully broached or dealt with by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

Kuwait attaches particular importance to resolutions adopted by the General Assembly aimed at the establishment of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world, including the Middle East. Kuwait believes that universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons would be a first and essential step for the implementation of these resolutions.

In addition to horizontal non-proliferation, the conference should secure vertical non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Disarmament measures can only be successful if applied against the big Powers themselves.

Kuwait believes that practical steps to realize general and complete disarmament, in stages, are an essential prerequisite for employing the world's

scarce human and natural resources for constructive purposes and for channelling valuable resources to accelerate the pace of economic and social development in the developing countries. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

MADAGASCAR

/Original: French/

/5 May 1975/

The views of the Malagasy Government are already set forth in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628). These views were reaffirmed by the representative of Madagascar in the First Committee in his statement of 8 November 1974.

The Malagasy Government considers that the primary objective of the conference should be the total elimination and destruction of all nuclear weapons and weapons of mass annihilation.

It shares the view that the conference should provide an opportunity for all Powers, large and small, nuclear and non-nuclear:

- (1) To evaluate the disarmament measures already taken at the international, regional and bilateral levels;
- (2) To engage in a free exchange of views on:
 - The various aspects of the threat to international peace and security, such as nuclear or conventional weapons, or the establishment of military bases and of a foreign presence;
 - The responsibilities of each State in the gradual or immediate attainment of general and total disarmament;
 - The means to be used jointly in order to achieve these aims.

(A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

MEXICO

/Original: Spanish/

/27 March 1975/

1. At its 2309th plenary meeting, held on 9 December 1974, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted resolution 3260 (XXIX) entitled "World Disarmament Conference".

2. This resolution - the fourth adopted by the General Assembly on this question - invited "all States" to communicate to the Secretary-General, before 31 March 1975, "their comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference in the light of the views and suggestions compiled in section II of the

summary appended to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference".

3. This memorandum, submitted in response to that invitation of the General Assembly, contains the comments on the subject of the Government of Mexico.

4. The Mexican memorandum entitled "Opinion of the Government of Mexico on the convening of a world disarmament conference" (A/8693), which was transmitted to the Secretary-General on 14 June 1972 in response to the invitation extended by the General Assembly in resolution 2833 (XXVI), contains the following paragraphs concerning the "main objectives" of a world disarmament conference:

"The aim of the Conference should be to take the requisite decisions to provide the United Nations with an effective disarmament system capable of obtaining more encouraging results than those achieved to date in the vitally important task which the Charter conferred on the Organization by specifically instructing it to turn its attention to promoting 'the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources'.

"In order to achieve this end and make tangible progress both towards the ultimate goal of the elimination of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament under effective international control and towards the immediate adoption of partial measures to limit and reduce nuclear armaments and suppress other weapons of mass destruction, it will be necessary to strengthen principles, review rules, develop procedures and update the international machinery dealing with these questions.

"With regard to that machinery, it would seem advisable, in the light of the experience acquired during the 25 or 30 years since the San Francisco Conference was held in 1945, for the Conference to recommend to the General Assembly that in future there should be three main organs for the promotion of disarmament.

"(1) The General Assembly, which should continue to be the supreme organ, would receive and consider reports from the other two, which it could entrust with specific tasks.

"(2) The World Disarmament Conference - replacing the Disarmament Commission, which would be dissolved in order to avoid duplication and for other obvious reasons - would be open to 'all States'; it would meet every three or four years in order to review progress in the field of disarmament, compare the development in regard to armaments and disarmament and adopt the decisions which the general review calls for. In short, within the United Nations the World Conference would have the same position in the field of disarmament as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in the economic and social field.

"(3) A negotiating body of about 30 members, preferably the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, which celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. Naturally, for this to be possible, various changes would have to be made which would both increase its effectiveness and enable the People's Republic of China and France to take part in its work. First and foremost

among such changes should be the abolition of the unusual institution whereby the nuclear super-Powers act as Co-Chairman, and its replacement by a procedure more consistent with the principle of the sovereign equality of States, such as the annual election of a chairman from among the non-nuclear States members or monthly rotation among all members as in the Security Council."

5. Since 1972, the Government of Mexico has had occasion, through its representatives at various international meetings, to refer repeatedly to the question of the world disarmament conference. Among the numerous statements made by representatives of Mexico, not only in the general debate and in the discussion in the First Committee during the last three regular sessions of the General Assembly but also at the 1972, 1973 and 1974 sessions of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and last year in the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, reference may be made to the following paragraphs from the statement made by the representative of Mexico on 23 October 1972 in the discussion in the First Committee of the General Assembly on the item "World Disarmament Conference":

"Today we bring consideration of the item that I should not hesitate to call the most outstanding of all those dealing with disarmament and allocated to the First Committee, namely, the convening of a world disarmament conference open to all States.

"If, as the General Assembly of the United Nations declared in 1959 and emphatically reaffirmed 10 years later, the question of disarmament is the most important one facing the world today and if, as that same General Assembly stated last year, all peoples have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and it is, therefore, imperative that all States exert further efforts for the adoption of effective measures of disarmament and, more particularly, nuclear disarmament, it becomes axiomatic that the system which for 10 years has been available to the United Nations to deal with disarmament has proved itself obviously inadequate, primarily with regard to the question of allowing all peoples of the world to make an effective contribution to this matter which is of such interest to them, since, when all is said and done, it is the very survival of man that may well be at stake.

"It is a fact that the General Assembly meets every year, but it is also known that its agenda is always laden with the most diverse subjects. Submerged among more than 100 items, the outstanding importance of the items on disarmament cannot be correctly assessed. Even in the First Committee itself where these items are usually discussed, it is almost impossible for them to receive the attention they deserve since they have to compete with many others, some of which possess an importance that cannot be underestimated, such as those dealing with the law of the sea and the peaceful uses of outer space. And therefore, after three or four weeks of hasty debate in which, in order to gain time, we generally examine these items jointly and not separately, the Assembly is reduced every year to adopting a series of somewhat routine resolutions. These resolutions are very similar to those that were adopted at previous sessions and, regardless of their tone of profound concern, of justified alarm or of imperative urgency, practically all of these resolutions, for reasons which we doubtless all deplore but have thus far been unable to modify, find their burial in inertia, resignation or oblivion in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

"The primary aim of the World Disarmament Conference, we believe, would be to develop the possibilities of effective action by the United Nations in that highly important matter, completing existing international machinery through the addition of an organ of universal membership which would meet every three or four years and which - without in any way infringing on the supremacy of the General Assembly, on which it would be dependent - would in matters of disarmament play a similar role to that of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in its own field, that is, in economic and social questions.

"We are firmly convinced that the institutionalization of a world disarmament conference, open to all States without exception and meeting with the regularity that I have just mentioned, for two or three months, would fill an obvious gap and make an invaluable contribution to the fulfilling of its own responsibilities by the General Assembly. Among other tasks, the conference would be entrusted with the tasks of conducting a careful study of the practical implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly, making an objective assessment of the progress achieved in the field of disarmament, comparing the respective development of armaments and disarmament, and adopting decisions which it deemed appropriate as a result of its work.

"Thus the Conference would considerably strengthen what we might term the deliberating machinery which has been available thus far to the United Nations and which, as I said earlier, has in the last decade proved to be entirely inadequate. If we want the new decade which started in 1970 and which was proclaimed as the Disarmament Decade to give all States a chance to contribute to the huge task of disarmament, then it will be imperative that a new organ be created. A matter of this importance can then be considered in that new organ with the thoroughness and care it deserves and that organ will at the same time offer an adequate forum to all peoples so that the voice of the human conscience can be heard."

6. Both the above paragraphs and the relevant passage quoted previously from the memorandum of 14 June 1972 continue faithfully to reflect the position of the Government of Mexico with regard to the main objectives of a world disarmament conference. This position is, moreover, in conformity with the position which the great majority, if not all, of the other Governments have conveyed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations or have expounded at various international meetings, as can be seen from section II of the summary appended to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference and from paragraph 18 of the report itself. (A/AC.167/1)

MONGOLIA

/Original: Russian/

/5 April 1975/

The position of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic on the question of convening a world disarmament conference is set out in the letter of 30 August 1972 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. a/ Mongolia continues to advocate the

a/ A/8817, annex I.

speediest possible convening of the conference because it believes that the holding of the conference, with the participation of all States, would be a constructive contribution to the attainment of the goals of disarmament.

The World Disarmament Conference should help to direct the efforts of all States towards the immediate solution of the most urgent problems of disarmament. It could very usefully discuss practical measures for limiting and halting the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, and for banning other types of weapons of mass destruction.

The urgent need to convene a world disarmament conference derives from the legitimate desire of the peoples of all countries to live in peace and tranquillity and to avert the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war.

Mongolia suggests that the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference should immediately undertake practical preparations for the conference, i.e. draw up a provisional agenda and rules of procedure and agree on other questions of an organizational nature.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic believes that the successful holding of a world disarmament conference will represent an important step in strengthening the process of détente, which is in the long-term interests of the peoples of the world. (A/10098)

NETHERLANDS

/Original: English/

/20 May 1975/

The views of the Netherlands Government on this question have been expressed at several occasions and are reflected, among others, in documents A/8817 and A/9628. These views remain unchanged. (A/AC.167/1/Add.4)

NORWAY

/Original: English/

/14 April 1975/

A world disarmament conference, held under the auspices of the United Nations, and with the full participation of all militarily important States, including, in particular, the nuclear Powers, could help to focus the attention upon the urgent need to reduce and control the armament race in all parts of the world and could give additional insight into the complex problems of arms control and disarmament.

Such a conference could thus serve as a stimulus for intensified efforts in the field of disarmament. It could provide an opportunity for all States Members of the United Nations to participate more actively and directly in the various aspects of this work. A world disarmament conference with participation of all nuclear-weapon States could be the starting point for constructive world-wide efforts in the area of disarmament.

Neither the preparations for nor the holding of a world disarmament conference should delay or interfere with the ongoing arms control and disarmament talks in other fora. On the other hand, such a conference could contribute in a positive way to make disarmament efforts more effective by serving as a co-ordinator of current global and regional disarmament efforts. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

PAKISTAN

/Original: English/

/13 February 1975/

Pakistan supports, in principle, the idea of convening a world disarmament conference at the appropriate time. In the proper circumstances, the conference would provide a suitable forum for dialogue and carry forward efforts towards global disarmament. To assure positive results, it is necessary that all the five nuclear-weapon Powers should support the holding of the conference. The Government of Pakistan considers that a reduction of the nuclear stockpiles and armament expenditures of the Powers which have the largest arsenals would help in bringing about the climate of confidence necessary for the success of the conference. It is also the view of the Government of Pakistan that if the conference is to be productive, it must devise measures to ensure non-nuclear States against nuclear threat or attack. (A/AC.167/1)

PERU

/Original: Spanish/

/27 August 1975/

Peru, a traditionally peaceful country and proud of its long efforts to promote conciliation and international friendship, has always been in favour of appropriate consideration of the subject of disarmament as an effective means of achieving peace and security. Among many other actions aimed at achieving that objective, Peru can cite its initiative in urging the Andean countries to limit expenditures for the acquisition of arms and thus promote the economic and social development of their peoples, resulting in the solemn "Declaration of Ayachucho", signed at the end of last year, of which the States Members of the United Nations have been informed. Peru can also mention its active participation in the work of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament which it recently joined and in the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference established by the General Assembly at its twenty-eight session.

In view of the foregoing and within the guidelines established by resolution 3260 (XXIX), I am pleased to inform you that Peru is in favour of the holding of a world disarmament conference with universal participation, particularly that of the nuclear Powers, and adequate preparation.

The purpose of this conference, which should be held under United Nations auspices, should be the consideration of all matters relating to disarmament in general, including the negotiation and conclusion of specific agreements within the

conference, without interfering in or duplicating the work which in the sphere of concrete agreements may be developing satisfactorily elsewhere.

A conference of this nature should therefore serve as the supreme body for dealing with questions of disarmament, backed by the moral and political authority of universality, and can make viable the essential objective of achieving general and complete disarmament, giving guidance to States, evaluating progress and achievements in the matter facilitating the establishment of the necessary machinery and, finally, promoting the conclusion of agreements.

A world disarmament conference should as a matter of priority consider the problem of nuclear disarmament, which curtails the suspension of nuclear tests in all environments and, consequently, the gradual elimination of stocks of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, and then consider, at a later date, the problem of conventional weapons.

It should be noted that the holding of a world disarmament conference was originally an idea of the non-aligned countries reflecting the universal feeling which inspires the continuation of efforts to achieve disarmament.

Peru, which devotes most of the enormous effort it is making to the task of development, notes with concern the growing acceleration of the arms race and believes that a world disarmament conference which had the over-all objective indicated above and could rhaps be held periodically, if convened in the conditions which have also been outlined, should make it possible to give impetus to the current negotiations, alert world public opinion to the dangers of the present situation, centralize the consideration and discussion of the essential and ancillary aspects of disarmament and, by virtue of all this, strengthen the peace and the security of all States. (A/AC.167/1/Add.5)

POLAND

/Original: English/

/31 March 1975/

1. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 concerning a world disarmament conference, and with reference to its replies to the notes verbales of the Secretary-General of 2 May 1972 and 21 February 1974, contained in documents A/8817 and A/AC.167/L.2/Add.1, respectively, the Government of the Polish People's Republic wishes herewith to reaffirm its consistent support for all moves and initiatives which could contribute towards the implementation of the fundamental purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, especially with regard to the strengthening of international security and world peace. Within that context, the Polish Government reaffirms emphatically its complete support for the postulate of convening such a conference promptly, with the participation of all States.

2. The current year demonstrates with particular aptness the pertinence of holding such a conference at an early date. The year 1975 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the victory over fascism and the end of the Second World War unleashed by the Hitlerite Germany, a war to which tens of millions of human beings

fell victim. Poland was the first victim of the Nazi armed invasion. The aggression by Nazi Germany against Poland spelled the beginning of the Second World War. The criminal fascism took the life of 6 million Polish people, 22 per cent of the entire population; it ravaged over 40 per cent of Poland's national wealth; it set back the socio-economic development of many nations for years.

3. Throughout the 30-year period of its existence under the socialist system, People's Poland - mindful of the tragic experiences of its own people and of the other victims of fascism - has never ceased in its efforts towards the limitation and arrest of the arms race and towards disarmament, including general and complete disarmament, which have become an integral and important factor of its foreign policy. The active role which Poland has consistently played in the process of negotiation of a number of significant agreements elaborated thus far within the United Nations, by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and in other negotiating forums, is telling evidence of its efforts in the field of disarmament. Poland stands ready to continue its traditionally active involvement in the endeavours seeking to work out further concrete measures, including regional ones, so that by advancing the cause of general and complete disarmament, it might at the same time contribute to the consolidation of international security, including the security of Europe. The latter was eloquently expressed by Mr. Edward Gierek, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, who, in his address at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, stated:

"The halting of the arms race, full implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the elaboration of agreements which would ban the use and production of such weapons and open the way to general and complete disarmament are measures which are inextricably linked to the consolidation of international security. The steps that have been taken in these vital areas in recent years have laid the groundwork for the early convening of a world disarmament conference and for progress in the implementation of other important proposals, such as the reduction of military budgets, a ban on chemical weapons or the elaboration of a convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military purposes, as proposed by the Soviet Union at the current session. Poland will continue to make a constructive contribution to the realization of all those initiatives." (A/PV.2264)

4. Expressing its satisfaction at the positive development of the international situation, characterized as it is by the steady progress of the process of political détente, particularly in the bilateral Soviet-American relations and on the continent of Europe, Poland welcomes with profound gratification the new signs gaining momentum in the Soviet-American dialogue, including the efforts within the framework of SALT. Among the major milestones of that dialogue have been such momentous agreements as those concerning the prevention of nuclear war and the limitation of anti-ballistic systems, the Interim Agreement on Certain Measures with Respect to the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and the Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests, as well as the announcement concerning the possibility of joint initiatives of the two great Powers with regard to other partial measures of disarmament.

5. The process towards a successful conclusion of the work of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, a Conference whose idea was first advanced by Poland from the rostrum of the United Nations a decade ago, the Vienna talks on

the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, pursued - as it is well known - on the basis of the principle of undiminished security of the parties concerned, and the advanced stage of disarmament negotiations on other planes are, at the same time, indicative of the growing role and involvement of all States, including medium-sized and small countries, irrespective of their social systems and the level of economic development, in the solution of the vital problems of today concerning the international community, especially the problems relating to security and disarmament.

6. Poland received most favourably and extended its full support to the latest Soviet initiative with respect to the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health. The draft convention on the matter placed on the agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly - as well as the Soviet initiatives at the previous General Assembly sessions, especially those concerning the reduction of military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and the non-use of force in international relations and permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons - has turned out to be yet another proof of the will of the Soviet Union to explore the possibilities of negotiating further agreements pertaining to arms limitation and disarmament.

7. Proceeding on the assumption that each State, regardless of its size or the degree of its development, can and should make its own contribution to the search for the best possible solutions in the field of disarmament, corresponding to the current state of international affairs and commending themselves for acceptance at the present stage, and that the consolidation and irreversibility of the process of political détente make imperative its extension into the military sphere, Poland holds the view that early convening of a world disarmament conference would be the most appropriate step towards universalizing and enhancing the effectiveness of the disarmament efforts. Indeed, it is Poland's firm belief that the easing of the burden of armaments, which the peoples of the world have to bear, is becoming the imperative of the day, if not a historical necessity. The release of the vast sums now being spent on armaments would accelerate economic and social development in general; it would create better conditions for world economic co-operation, and it would also provide additional assistance to developing countries, thus contributing to the implementation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

8. Noting with gratification the progress made in the past year by the Special Committee and, more recently, by the Ad Hoc Committee, Poland welcomed the constructive and active participation of representatives of three nuclear-weapon Powers in the work of the latter organ. Poland would wish to believe that, at an appropriate time, the logic of the positive international developments will eventually persuade the other two nuclear-weapon Powers to change their attitudes and to put on record their willingness to make their indispensable contribution to the preparation to and the successful outcome of such a world disarmament conference. Bearing in mind the evolution of the political climate in the world, favouring the convocation of such a conference, as well as the broad support for that postulate demonstrated anew in the unanimously approved General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX), the Polish Government is convinced of the indisputable necessity for the Ad Hoc Committee to undertake specific preparatory work, including the elaboration of the agenda and procedure of such conference. As one

of the members of the Special Committee and, at present, of the Ad Hoc Committee, Poland stands ready to contribute actively to the Committee's efforts towards such ends.

9. With respect to paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX), by which the Assembly invited all States to communicate to the Secretary-General their comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference, the Polish Government wishes to refer again to its position, as communicated to the Secretary-General in its earlier replies to his notes verbales, as well as in the statements of its representatives at the United Nations. Still valid, that position is that the main objective of a world disarmament conference should be to encourage disarmament efforts by formulating guidelines and priorities with a view to the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament. To that end such a conference should seek to ensure that all aspects of disarmament which are of interest to States, in both the nuclear and conventional fields, on a global and a regional scale, are discussed.

It is entirely obvious that for practical reasons such a conference can hardly be expected to embark upon negotiation of specific measures or replace the existing negotiating bodies, or, for that matter, reform either the procedures or the manner in which such bodies are currently pursuing their disarmament negotiations. Such a conference, with the participation of all States, should make an over-all review of the present state of disarmament negotiations. The elaboration on such a basis of constructive recommendations as to the military, political, economic and social aspects of disarmament negotiations, and the setting forth of proper priorities, principles and guidelines for future disarmament efforts, would amount to a major success of such a conference, one which would be greatly instrumental to facilitating and accelerating the substantive negotiations now in progress in such organs as the Geneva Disarmament Committee.

10. Poland is firmly convinced that successful implementation of objectives and goals of a world disarmament conference thus conceived would be a significant step towards the consolidation and irreversibility of political détente and tantamount to the latter's practical transposition onto the military sphere.
(A/AC.167/1)

QATAR

/Original: English/

/13 May 1975/

The Government of the State of Qatar supports the convening of a world disarmament conference with all Member States participating.

We believe that the holding of such a conference which aims to effect general and complete disarmament by banning the future production of nuclear weapons and the destruction of stored nuclear weapons would constitute a concrete step in our efforts to maintain world peace and security. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

/Original: French/

/13 May 1975/

The Socialist Republic of Romania on the main objectives of the World Disarmament Conference was stated in the reply from the Romanian Government, reproduced in document A/8817 of 25 September 1972, from which I quote the following paragraphs:

"Main objectives

"The Socialist Republic of Romania conceives the World Disarmament Conference as a high-level forum for debate and negotiation, with the participation of all States, which would closely scrutinize, and make an effective contribution to the adoption of, concrete measures aimed at halting the arms race and achieving disarmament and, in particular, at the prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons.

"The Romanian Government sees this conference as a major political action for which all States and all Governments are called upon to act in a spirit of responsibility towards their own peoples and the peoples of the whole world and to contribute to the adoption of effective disarmament measures, in conformity with the hopes for the peace and progress of mankind.

"The general discussions on disarmament held hitherto should be replaced by effective negotiations, and concrete disarmament programmes should be prepared and implemented in stages without further delay.

"Within the framework of the World Disarmament Conference and during the annual sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, States should periodically consider the manner in which the conference is carrying out its mandate and review the progress achieved in implementing specific disarmament programmes, at the same time agreeing on any further measures and action which might be required at each new stage.

"The preparation, convening and work of the conference should induce States to redouble their efforts to achieve disarmament, concentrating such efforts on the most important and pressing disarmament problems, the taking of concrete steps towards general disarmament and, in particular, the abolition of nuclear weapons.

"Not only would disarmament be a step of major importance for peace throughout the world, it would also directly accelerate the advance of human civilization by releasing substantial material and human resources.

"If the developing countries were given but a fraction of these resources to bolster their efforts, they would have the possibility of eliminating under-development more quickly and making swifter progress along the path of economic and social advancement.

"By its composition, organization, activities and working methods, the

World Disarmament Conference should provide a democratic forum, based on the principle of the equality of rights of States. On the premise that in the contemporary world no problem affecting a number of States can be solved without the direct participation of all concerned and respect for their interests, and since all peoples are deeply interested in disarmament problems, the Romanian Government considers it essential to ensure that all countries, large, small and medium-sized, whether or not possessing nuclear weapons, Members and non-members of the United Nations alike, can participate effectively and on an equal footing in the discussions and negotiations of the conference and in the adoption of all its decisions.

"Any preparatory measures concerning the convening of the conference and any agreement on disarmament reached at the conference should respect the legitimate rights and interests of all peoples and help to strengthen peace and security everywhere.

"At the same time, the World Disarmament Conference should help to ensure that people are kept fully informed of developments in the arms race, with its serious consequences, and of the present state of disarmament; the Conference should also help to mobilize all the forces of peace and progress to promote the struggle for a rapid halt to the arms race and the implementation of disarmament measures. World opinion should be informed of all the activities of the world conference, the efforts deployed, the results obtained, and the views, suggestions and proposals of States, so as to be able to exercise constant and effective control."

The recent course of international events confirms anew the correctness of the Romanian Government's view as to the need to convene without delay the World Disarmament Conference, whose main objective should be to consider and adopt specific measures for achieving general disarmament, and in particular nuclear disarmament. (A/10083)

SPAIN

/Original: Spanish/

/14 March 1975/

Comments of the Government of Spain on the main objectives
of a world disarmament conference

(1) Resolution 3260 (XXIX) invites all States to communicate to the Secretary-General before 31 March 1975, their comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference in the light of the views and suggestions compiled in section II of the summary appended to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Government of Spain wishes to submit its observations following the approach indicated in that resolution. It believes, however, that it is difficult to separate consideration of the objectives from consideration of the reasons which have been advanced both for and against convening the conference, and that consideration of both is in turn linked to the question of the necessary conditions for holding the conference.

(2) In section III of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee submitted to the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly (document A/9628), under the title "Examination of views and suggestions expressed by Governments", there are summaries in separate paragraphs of points of view on the convening, conditions, objectives and organizational aspects of the world conference. It may easily be seen that the points of view on the different groups of questions are closely related, and occasionally identical. Attention was also drawn to that fact during the discussions, and this constituted one of the technical difficulties which the Committee had to overcome in order to be able to arrange its examination of the views received, in implementation of resolution 3183 (XXVIII).

(3) Paragraph 18 of the report of the Committee concerns suggestions by Governments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference (submitted before 5 August 1974). That summary of the objectives suggested by Governments, together with the more detailed summary contained in section II of the annex to the report, are therefore the basic elements to be taken into account when submitting further comments for the Ad Hoc Committee to study in 1975 under the terms of resolution 3260 (XXIX), before it submits its analytical report and its conclusions and recommendations for the benefit of the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

(4) Paragraph 18 of the report of the Committee provides a summary in nine subparagraphs of the objectives suggested by Governments. The enumeration does not follow a strictly logical order, and it would therefore be more appropriate to list the objectives in a different order, while respecting the contents, so as to be able to analyse them more easily. One possible logical order would be the following:

Evaluation of the results achieved in the field of disarmament negotiations and agreements (h)

A global approach to the problem of disarmament and to ways and means of solving it (d)

Encouragement of disarmament efforts and formulation of guidelines for practical disarmament measures and preparation for the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament (c)

Denunciation of the continued arms race and preparation of a line of action to reverse it (i)

Helping States to agree upon the most urgent aspects of disarmament and of control of the arms race (b)

Recommendations on the related aspects of disarmament problems (e)

Study of the negative economic and social consequences of rearmament (f)

Saving of funds for development (g)

Prohibition and elimination of weapons of mass destruction (a)

(5) A study of these nine groups of objectives reveals that they may be

classified in three groups which are quite clearly distinguishable: I. objectives which would play an auxiliary role with regard to disarmament (evaluate, encourage efforts, formulate guidelines, draw attention to dangers, plan measures, and help States; in other words, the objectives set forth in subparagraphs (h), (d), (c), (i) and (b) of paragraph 18 of the report); II. objectives which would be complementary to the disarmament efforts (related aspects, economic and social consequences, channelling of funds saved; in other words, the objectives in subparagraphs (e), (f) and (g) of paragraph 18 of the report); III. objectives of a substantive nature directly related to disarmament (elimination of weapons of mass destruction, and preparation of general and complete disarmament; in other words, the objectives contained in subparagraphs (a) and (c) of paragraph 18 of the report).

(6) In the new phase ushered in by resolution 3260 (XXIX), the objectives of a world disarmament conference should be made more specific, particularly those which are substantially and directly related to disarmament per se. The discussion of such concrete objectives will necessarily influence and shed light on the questions which continue to divide States with regard to the timeliness of the Conference and the pre-conditions for convening it.

If a consensus were reached that the objectives of a world disarmament conference should be clearly defined and duly graduated practical measures of disarmament, with sufficient guarantees to ensure that no State should feel that it endangers its own security in the intervening stage, between the preparation and the conclusion of the Conference, then the conditions which certain Powers continue to maintain regarding a world disarmament conference would be fulfilled, and their fears dispelled.

(7) Bearing in mind that the inherent logic of the disarmament process and widespread opinion give priority to nuclear disarmament - although the ultimate objective must also include conventional disarmament - the Government of Spain considers that the necessary sequence in which the measures will have to be adopted must be the following:

A. To halt simultaneously the horizontal and vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The interdependence between the two dimensions of proliferation is the *raison d'être* of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (General Assembly resolution 2373 (XXII)), to such an extent that the Treaty remains inoperative, as far as its fundamental purposes are concerned, precisely because an attempt has been made to apply it to horizontal proliferation alone - limitation of the number of States actually or potentially possessing nuclear weapons - while ignoring vertical proliferation - the growth of existing nuclear arsenals - as if only the former fell within the competence of the international community, while the latter was the exclusive concern of the States which so far have stated that they possess nuclear weapons.

Once it is seen that the two dimensions of nuclear proliferation are interdependent and inseparable, an important step will have been taken towards reaching agreement on the non-proliferation treaty. The General Assembly unanimously adopted resolution 3261 G (XXIX) in the preamble of which it is recognized that the non-nuclear-weapon States wish to obtain assurances from the

nuclear-weapon Powers that they will not use nuclear weapons against them. In the same preamble, the General Assembly stated that it believed it was necessary to consider ways to strengthen assurances against nuclear attack or threat and thus give greater confidence to the non-nuclear-weapon States.

It is significant in this connexion that two nuclear Powers have indicated that they favour self-restraint in the use of nuclear weapons, which would be used solely as a deterrent or in response to an attack against their own territory.

B. At the same time as controlling horizontal and vertical proliferation, by means of a combination of declarations of self-restraint by the nuclear-weapon Powers, bilateral negotiations, particularly the SALT talks, and the non-proliferation Treaty, initiatives should be taken at the multilateral level, either through the United Nations Disarmament Commission or through another suitable body, in order to establish an appropriate link between the agreements reached in the field of nuclear non-proliferation and the preparations for the future World Disarmament Conference.

C. Once the above conditions are fulfilled, the path towards a world disarmament conference will have been cleared of the major obstacles which have existed hitherto, and it will be possible to proceed relatively quickly to establish a preparatory body to draw up a provisional agenda of specific subjects to be dealt with in the Conference and an outline of the administrative and organizational aspects of the Conference.

In sum, the Government of Spain believes that at the present stage the United Nations should concentrate on creating in a concrete manner the necessary conditions to begin preparing for a world disarmament conference. Hitherto there has been a general discussion of the necessary preparations, suitable timing and the conditions for holding the Conference. It is now necessary to specify exactly the prior conditions which must be fulfilled so as to be able to proceed to the actual preparation of the Conference itself.

The considerations expressed above sufficiently portray the opinion of the Government of Spain concerning the prerequisites for the preparatory stage of a world disarmament conference. With regard to the objectives, to which resolution 3260 (XXIX) particularly refers, the Government of Spain repeats its earlier statements to the effect that a world disarmament conference should have as its main objectives the formulation of a general renunciation of rearmament, both nuclear and conventional, and the achievement of a general agreement on practical measures, both gradual and with effective guarantees, to diminish nuclear and conventional arsenals until general and complete disarmament is attained and the transformation of military establishments into bodies possessing the necessary minimum of arms to maintain international order and security under effective international control. (A/AC.167/1)

TURKEY

/Original: French/

/31 July 1975/

The views of the Turkish Government regarding the convening and main objectives of such a conference have already been set forth in the report of the

Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference (A/9628), as well as within the Ad Hoc Committee. In principle those views remain unchanged.

The Turkish delegation nevertheless takes this opportunity to repeat that the Turkish Government continues to favour the idea of convening such a conference. The Turkish Government feels that such a conference, suitably prepared and with the participation from the preparatory stage onwards of all countries, including especially the five nuclear Powers, which are also permanent members of the Security Council, as well as the militarily important States, could open up a new phase in the field of general and complete disarmament.

The Turkish Government feels that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the convening of a world disarmament conference must be carried out carefully. The aim of that work must be to establish a solid basis for the success of the conference rather than merely to convene it, since the failure of such a conference would only be prejudicial to the achievements already attained in that field.

In the view of the Turkish Government, the principal aim of such a conference must be to seek ways of achieving general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, with efficient and strict international supervision, taking into consideration the needs of each country and of each region.

It is obvious that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee could not have a negative influence on the other discussions still in progress on the question of disarmament. (A/AC.167/1/Add.4)

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/

/8 April 1975/

The Ukrainian SSR, which has consistently called for the speediest possible convening of a world disarmament conference, believes that the processes of improvement in the political climate and the shift towards détente which have taken place in the world in recent years create favourable conditions for progress in solving the problems of disarmament and make the convening of this conference all the more necessary and urgent.

Noting with satisfaction the important international agreements in the matter of limiting and ending the arms race which have been achieved in recent years, including in particular the Soviet-United States agreements on the prevention of nuclear war, the limitation of strategic weapons and other measures, the Ukrainian SSR is in favour of further progress in this field and the implementation of broad new multilateral measures aimed at curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament.

It is essential to make a joint effort to halt the continuing arms race and the growth in military expenditure which adversely affect the most varied aspects of human life and hinder the economic and social development of all States, large and small, developed and developing.

All of this brings to the forefront the task of supplementing political

détente with military détente and of urgently seeking solutions leading to the speedy limitation and ending of the arms race and to a more active effort by all States to formulate effective measures in the sphere of disarmament. The speedy convening of an appropriately prepared world disarmament conference is precisely what is called for by this task. The unanimous adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 3260 (XXIX) convincingly demonstrates that the States and peoples of the world are in favour of decisive action in the sphere of disarmament and of the convening of this conference. The General Assembly's approval of resolutions 2833 (XXVI), 2930 (XXVII) and 3183 (XXVIII) on this question also attests to this fact.

The speedy convening of a world disarmament conference is gaining increasingly active and broad public support in countries on every continent.

In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, a world disarmament conference should provide an opportunity for all the countries of the world without exception and on the basis of equality to consider the full range of disarmament problems to express their views on them and by joint efforts to determine the most effective, constructive and acceptable ways and means of solving these problems both as regards weapons of mass destruction and as regards conventional weapons.

This would help not only in determining the most urgent tasks in the sphere of disarmament but also in formulating agreed international measures in this sphere in a more purposeful and practical way.

The Ukrainian SSR believes that, in this connexion, the world disarmament conference should give priority to the problems involved in achieving the main goal - general and complete disarmament.

Naturally, the conference should also concern itself with ensuring further progress in formulating specific measures aimed at limiting and ending the arms race and achieving disarmament.

Among these measures, the conference could discuss, in particular, such questions as the renunciation of the use of force in international relations and the simultaneous permanent banning of the use of nuclear weapons, the strengthening of the international system governing the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the comprehensive banning everywhere and by all States of all nuclear tests, and the creation of denuclearized zones in various parts of the world.

The world disarmament conference can also, of course, discuss other measures aimed at limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament.

In view of the tangible results of the work already done and the urgency of the problem, the Ukrainian SSR believes that a world disarmament conference should be convened in the near future.

As was noted at the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference has already done important and useful work and has overcome a number of the obstacles artificially created by the opponents of disarmament. The participation in its work of three of the nuclear Powers was a positive development.

General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX) entrusted the Ad Hoc Committee with new tasks in connexion with more specific consideration of questions linked with the preparation and convening of a world disarmament conference. This fact, together with the increasing support for the conference in the United Nations and throughout the world, creates favourable conditions for the completion of the preparatory work for the convening of the world disarmament conference. The solution of the urgent task of drawing up an agenda for the conference would, in particular, be a step in this direction.

Practical considerations suggest that, in seeking new ways of solving the problems of disarmament use should be made of the favourable experience already gained in negotiations. The convening of a world disarmament conference should thus in no sense replace or eliminate the methods and forums which have proved their value in disarmament negotiations. On the contrary, such a conference would logically supplement the work already done in the sphere of disarmament and would bring about the further improvement of existing forums for disarmament negotiations, partly by enlisting the participation in them of the Powers with a major military potential.

The Ukrainian SSR wishes once again to stress the urgent importance of speedily convening a world disarmament conference, for the successful holding of a conference would be a substantial contribution to the intensification and expansion of the process of détente, to making this process irreversible and to supplementing it with military détente.

The Ukrainian SSR will, as in the past, actively work for the speedy convening of a world disarmament conference, and it calls upon all States to co-operate actively in the preparation and successful holding of a conference.
(A/AC.167/1)

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

/Original: Russian/

/31 March 1975/

In connexion with General Assembly resolution 3260 (XXIX) on the World Disarmament Conference, the USSR Mission to the United Nations wishes to draw the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Soviet Government's comments concerning the convening of the world disarmament conference.

1. The Government of the USSR, as has been repeatedly emphasized, consistently favours the convening of a world disarmament conference, believing that the holding of such a conference could make a substantial contribution to the solution of the disarmament problem.

The favourable developments now taking place on the international scene makes the convening of a world disarmament conference all the more urgent. The time is ripe for taking new broad steps on a multilateral basis in the field of disarmament with a view to strengthening the favourable trend that has resulted in recent years from the conclusion of a number of important international agreements restricting or eliminating certain forms of armaments and reducing the danger of an outbreak of nuclear war: the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of

Nuclear Weapons, the convention on the prohibition and destruction of bacteriological weapons, the treaty on the prohibition of the emplacement of weapons of mass destruction on the sea-bed and the ocean floor, the Soviet-United States agreements on the limitation of strategic weapons and the prevention of nuclear war, and others. It is important to ensure the further development and strengthening of this trend and to give it a new impetus.

This task is made more timely by the fact that it has not yet been possible to halt the armaments race, even though, at the initiative of the Soviet Union, the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session adopted a resolution on the reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries. The armaments race has already led to the expenditure of incalculable material and human resources which are diverted from the purposes of peaceful construction. Agreed measures to halt the armaments race would free enormous amounts of resources for the solution of urgent social and economic problems.

The armaments race harms all States, including those that do not participate in it directly. Consequently, disarmament concerns all countries without exception.

2. At every session since 1971, the United Nations General Assembly has spoken out consistently in favour of the holding of a world disarmament conference. In addition, calls for the early convening of such a conference have been issued by authoritative international forums of the non-aligned States at Cairo, Georgetown, Lusaka and Algiers. Many international social organizations have supported the proposals for the holding of such a world conference.

3. A world disarmament conference must be a forum at which all the countries of the world, on a basis of equality, will be able to express and compare their views on disarmament questions in all their aspects, both with regard to weapons of mass destruction and with regard to conventional weapons and armed forces. A comprehensive exchange of views at the conference would make it possible not only to make clearer the positions of all States on the various aspects of the problem of disarmament but also to join forces in determining the most effective ways and means for its solution. The work of the conference would undoubtedly promote more effective action on the part of States to agree on measures in the field of disarmament. It would help in determining the most timely aspects of the problem of disarmament which require immediate solution and planning practical ways and methods of limiting and halting the armaments race.

4. The Soviet Union believes that the conference should devote special attention to the problem of general and complete disarmament, the principal and final purpose of all disarmament negotiations. It would also be necessary to discuss at the conference ways of ensuring progress on further measures to halt the nuclear-weapons race and bring about nuclear disarmament, to prohibit other types of weapons of mass destruction and to reduce conventional arms.

The conference might also consider - and the Soviet Union would be prepared to join in considering - any specific questions whose favourable solution would help to attenuate the armaments race, to induce States to act with restraint in

the increase of existing types of weapons and the development of new types and to persuade them to refrain from the use of scientific advances for the further development of means of destruction.

5. The discussion of all of these questions at the conference should not, of course, be a substitute for disarmament talks which have proved their value, in particular those in the Committee on Disarmament. An important purpose of the conference would be to involve in disarmament negotiations all the militarily important States.

The Soviet Union reaffirms its readiness to co-operate actively with all States, both within and outside of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, in attempts to solve the problems involved in the preparations for the conference and in its convening at an early date. The time has come for vigorous efforts to carry out the preparatory work for the convening of the conference, including the preparation of an agenda. Taking account of the work done by the Ad Hoc Committee over the past two years, there is every reason to believe that a world conference can be convened in the near future.

The convening of a world conference has become a necessity. Its realization will help to strengthen and improve the détente now taking place in the world, to convert it into an irreversible process and to add to it détente in the military field. (A/10068)

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

/Original: English/

/21 May 1975/

The United Kingdom Government have already expressed detailed views on the objectives of a world disarmament conference in response to a previous communication from the Secretary-General and in the Ad Hoc Committee. These views remain unchanged. However, the United Kingdom take this opportunity to remind the Secretary-General that it is a major element of the policy of the Government of the United Kingdom to play a full part in efforts to achieve general disarmament. They believe that multilateral disarmament under effective international controls is an essential ingredient for a safer world and the means of reducing world expenditure on armaments and devoting greater resources to peaceful purposes.

In the light of this policy, the Government of the United Kingdom see the main objective of a world disarmament conference as being to promote efforts to reduce international tensions and the risks of armed conflict by reviewing in depth, with the active participation of all the major military Powers including all the nuclear Powers, all such aspects of arms control and disarmament as might thereby be given new purpose and direction. New direction could be given by, inter alia, the review by the conference of the efforts and composition of existing disarmament bodies with a view to making recommendations for the continuation and extension of their work.

The achievement of these objectives by a world disarmament conference will require thorough and careful preparation. It will be necessary to define clearly

the subjects which it is to study and for the participants to see a genuine prospect of a broader and more constructive discussion of the issues than is already possible in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. The Government of the United Kingdom believe that the expertise of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, to which the United Nations has entrusted the conduct of the negotiations on disarmament, should be fully utilized in the preparations for a world disarmament conference.

In the light of such considerations and of the attention which the United Nations has given to this question, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom affirmed together with General Secretary Brezhnev in their joint statement of 17 February 1975, the belief that "the convocation of a world disarmament conference may contribute to the solution of the pressing problems of disarmament" and confirmed the intention of continuing co-operation with the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference. (A/AC.167/1/Add.1)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/Original: English/

/20 June 1975/

In view of the fact that the position of the United States Government on the question of a world disarmament conference remains unchanged, it has no comments on the possible objectives of such a conference. (A/AC.167/1/Add.2)

UPPER VOLTA

/Original: French/

/26 March 1975/

The Government of the Upper Volta believes that the purposes of a world disarmament conference should be:

1. To bring together all countries, large and small, nuclear and non-nuclear, for a frank discussion of all problems relating to the subject; this approach would avoid the risk of always seeking to deal with the problem in restricted circles.
2. To conclude a general agreement on halting the arms race through the cessation of nuclear weapons production and the reduction of military budgets.
3. To bring about general and complete disarmament, which would entail:
 - Dissolution of the military alliances which came into being during the cold war;
 - The dismantling of all military bases in every part of the world;
 - The establishment of zones of peace.
4. To set up an international agency which would essentially have the task of overseeing general and complete disarmament. (A/AC.167/1)

/Original: English/

/14 April 1975/

The Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia supports resolution 3260 (XXIX) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which, inter alia, invites all States to communicate their comments on the main objectives of a world disarmament conference and interprets it as an expression of the desire and serious efforts of the United Nations, i.e., of the large majority of the countries of the world, that this conference should be convened as soon as possible and should achieve the best results.

Proceeding from the positions set forth in its reply to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 31 August 1972 (A/8818), the Government of Yugoslavia, taking into account the development of international relations and, in particular, the present disturbing situation in the field of disarmament, wishes to point out the following:

(1) Despite the wishes and endeavours of the largest number of Member States of the United Nations to achieve positive results in the field of disarmament, the arms race is continuing and is even becoming more intensive from year to year, as reflected in the enormous increase of military expenditures; in the further development of existing systems of armaments, especially nuclear armaments; in the development of new, even more effective systems; as well as in a considerable increase of investments into scientific research for military purposes. The arms race is taking place between the largest and richest countries of the world in the first place; but, at the same time, it imposes on small and medium-sized countries, developing countries, the necessity to set aside for their own armaments - in order to ensure their own security - considerable resources of which they are in such a dire need for solving their own burning economic, social and other problems.

The international situation is rendered even more complex by the deterioration of the economic situation in the world, particularly by the difficult position of the developing countries and inadequate assistance to such countries; by the existence of areas of crisis where sharp conflicts and wars break out from time to time; and, especially, by the lack of an adequate system of security in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations. Consequently, it is all the more necessary to convene a world disarmament conference which could - provided it is thoroughly prepared - contribute towards halting the arms race and undertaking resolute and planned actions for the implementation of disarmament measures.

(2) Owing to the complexity and scope of the problems of disarmament and their importance for world peace and security, it is indispensable that all their aspects should be examined and negotiated within the framework of the United Nations, as the most universal and authoritative forum of the international community. Without negating the efforts that are being exerted for the solving of these questions outside the United Nations, as well as certain results attained in the negotiations between the United States and the USSR, the Government of Yugoslavia, however, feels that the United Nations should bear full responsibility for activities and negotiations concerned with measures of

disarmament. In this respect, it would be necessary to reaffirm the role of the United Nations Disarmament Commission, which, owing to the tendency to narrow down the framework within which the negotiations are conducted, has not been able to accomplish its tasks fully. The returning to the United Nations of the role in this sphere that was entrusted to it under the Charter could create the necessary conditions for transforming the results achieved so far and embodied in numerous United Nations decisions, by means of conventions or other agreements, into obligatory international norms.

(3) In the reply of the Government of Yugoslavia of 31 August 1972, it was proposed that the world disarmament conference should be held in the first half of 1974. Aware of the reasons for which the conference could not be convened within the aforementioned period, the Government of Yugoslavia continues to believe that it is indispensable to convene the conference as early as possible. Therefore, after a study of the replies and proposals of Governments concerning the main objectives of a world disarmament conference and of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, it is necessary to determine, at the thirtieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the agenda and the tentative date for convening the conference, taking into account the necessity of rendering possible most careful and thorough preparations.

(4) Bearing in mind the necessity of an urgent solution of the acute problems of disarmament, primarily with a view to creating conditions for a lasting and stable peace and security for all, as well as for solving other complex international problems, a world disarmament conference should, in the opinion of the Government of Yugoslavia, proceed to an analysis of the measures taken and the results achieved so far within the United Nations and organs under the auspices of the world Organization. In connexion with this, it would be necessary to elaborate draft documents for submission to the States participating in the conference.

(5) All the States of the world should be invited to take part in the world disarmament conference on a footing of equality. All international organizations, including non-governmental organizations, dealing with the question of disarmament should be invited as observers. (A/AC.167/1)

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