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WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

CONTENTS

Page

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

Mexico .....	2
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MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[10 September 1987]

1. In the past decade, the world has witnessed an arms race, mainly in the nuclear sphere, that is unprecedented in history and poses a daily threat to international peace and security and the survival of mankind. In addition, the arms race has serious economic and social consequences today for much of the world's population, since it takes up a tremendous proportion of the human, material and financial resources that could be used to meet the basic health, food, housing and educational needs of all countries, especially the developing countries.
2. In the light of the foregoing, the Government of Mexico takes the view that all the inhabitants of the world and all States have a responsibility to work to halt and reverse the spiral of the arms race. In that connection, Mexico agrees with the second preambular paragraph of General Assembly resolution 41/61 on the World Disarmament Conference, in which the General Assembly reiterated its conviction that "all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal".
3. The Government of Mexico considers that the United Nations has a pre-eminent role to play in consolidating peace and achieving disarmament, as provided for in the Charter of the Organization and in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (tenth special session).
4. In that connection, Mexico considers that a World Disarmament Conference could strengthen the role of the United Nations in this area by affording increased opportunities for effective action. This requires that, as the General Assembly has stated in resolution 41/61, the Conference must be adequately prepared, must be convened at an appropriate time and must receive the co-operation of all States, especially the nuclear-weapon Powers, in order to ensure its viability and success and to make substantial contributions to multilateral disarmament efforts.
5. The course of action outlined above would strengthen the "deliberative machinery" of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, opening up new vistas for the conclusion of agreements on the subject.
6. Accordingly, the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference should continue its preparatory work for the Conference and should keep abreast of developments in the positions of States on the question of convening it.

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