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Proposals by the USSR Representative to the Working Group
of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development with
regard to the preamble of the draft declaration on the
right to development

It would seem expedient to include the following among the statements in the preamble to the future declaration:

1. Emphasis on the fact that the main aspect of the right to development is the right of all States and peoples to peaceful, free and independent development;
2. An indication that the realization of the right to development embraces the provision to every member of society of the possibility of exercising the entire complex of rights that are necessary for the comprehensive development of the personality and above all the social and economic rights that determine the material basis and the conditions of human existence;
3. Confirmation that the Government of every State bears prime responsibility for the country's social and economic development;
4. Confirmation that the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the curbing of the arms race and the diminution of the threat of war are necessary preconditions for the securing of the right to development;
5. A reminder of the need to eliminate such serious obstacles to the social and economic development of developing countries as: the vestiges of colonialism; neo-colonialism; apartheid; racial discrimination; foreign aggression and occupation; and interference in the internal affairs of States;

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6. A reminder of the right of peoples who have freed themselves from colonial and foreign domination and exploitation to full compensation for the damage caused to their natural and any other resources;
7. Emphasis on the full and inalienable sovereignty of every State over its own natural resources and all its economic activity;
8. Mention of the need to rebuild unjust and inequitable international economic relations on just, equitable and democratic bases.

Note: The above proposals are based on relevant provisions of a number of the United Nations documents mentioned in the report of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Right to Development.