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**REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND
DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH
SPECIAL SESSION**

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration
of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/43/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 16 December 1985, the General Assembly adopted resolution 40/152 L, entitled "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade", the relevant paragraphs of which are reproduced below:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"3. Calls upon all States, particularly the nuclear-weapon States:

"(a) To reaffirm their commitment to the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade;

"(b) To reaffirm their commitment to the attainment of the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control;

"(c) To adopt concrete and practical measures for preventing the outbreak of war, in particular nuclear war;

"(d) To take appropriate steps to halt and reverse the nuclear-arms race with a view to improving the international climate and enhancing the efficacy of disarmament negotiations;

"(e) To exert greater efforts in the implementation of the World Disarmament Campaign;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade."

2. The status of the activities provided for in the Declaration, from its adoption by the General Assembly in resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980 until the forty-second session of the General Assembly, and replies of Member States to the Secretary-General's note of 5 January 1987 requesting them to indicate what measures their Governments had taken or intended to take in implementation of Assembly resolution 40/152 L, are contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-second session (A/42/436 and Add.1).

3. The activities of the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament in various fields related to the implementation of the Declaration are described in the reports of the Commission 1/ and the Conference 2/ to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

4. On 16 February 1988, the Secretary-General addressed another note to all Member States, requesting them to indicate what measures their Governments had taken or intended to take in implementation of resolution 40/152 L. As at 31 July, the Secretary-General had received replies from Cuba, Ghana and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. These replies are contained in part II below. Other replies will appear in addenda to the present report.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

CUBA

[Original: Spanish]

[5 July 1988]

1. The Second Disarmament Decade is drawing to a close and, so far, the objectives which inspired this initiative have not been achieved.
2. It is well known that the machinery for achieving general and complete disarmament has not yet been brought into operation, despite the enormous efforts of the international community, and it has been impossible to neutralize the positions of those who are clearly not interested in a real disarmament process to bring us closer to peace, which is today more than ever demanded and required by mankind.
3. The Government of the Republic of Cuba, true to its principled policy in support of peace and disarmament, has made a great effort to contribute to the improvement of the international situation and to free mankind from the danger of war. All the proposals and initiatives put forward by Cuba in international forums, and many others which it has supported, were aimed at these goals. The lack of political will and readiness to negotiate of certain Governments, such as the United States Government, has been a real obstacle to the achievement of these noble objectives; nevertheless, the recently concluded talks in Moscow between General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan and the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles were an important step in the right direction.
4. The negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America should encourage the international community and, especially, our world Organization to take new and decisive action to eliminate the obstacles which until now have impeded progress towards genuine general and complete disarmament.

GHANA

[Original: English]

[9 March 1988]

As a developing country, Ghana has no ambition for the acquisition of nuclear weapons. Ghana therefore reaffirms its commitment to the objectives of the Second Disarmament Decade, in particular the halting and reversing of the nuclear arms race and the urgency of the adoption of practical measures that would lead to effective international co-operation and understanding. It is also our view that present efforts directed at educating and informing international opinion, within the context of the World Disarmament Campaign, on the dangers of the arms race be intensified. This, in spite of the current constructive dialogue between the two super-Powers.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[18 April 1988]

1. The Soviet Union, committed to the idea of achieving general and complete disarmament, and drawing on the experience of the First Disarmament Decade, in whose achievements it played no small part, is continuing to work actively to avert the nuclear threat and bring about disarmament. The USSR regards disarmament as one of the central components of the restructuring of all spheres of international relations with a view to establishing a comprehensive system of international peace and security and creating a nuclear-free, non-violent world in which the highest priority would be the preservation of human life and swifter socio-economic, scientific and humanitarian development for all members of the international community, regardless of the differences in their socio-political systems.
2. The Soviet Union believes that the most important directions for achieving this goal are the elimination of nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the limitation of the military capability of States to the level of reasonable sufficiency.
3. The signing by the USSR and the United States of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles has been a historic breakthrough in the area of nuclear disarmament and created a favourable political and moral climate for efforts in the area of disarmament in general. While advocating the early ratification of the INF Treaty, the USSR regards this Treaty as only a first step which should be followed by further agreements. A cardinal measure in the area of disarmament would be the conclusion between the USSR and the United States of an agreement on a 50-per-cent reduction in their strategic offensive weapons, while observing the ABM Treaty in the form in which it was signed in 1972, and not withdrawing from it during an agreed period.

4. The Soviet Union's withdrawal of Soviet OTR-022 missiles from the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia, in agreement with those countries, even before the entry into force of the INF Treaty is a demonstration of our country's goodwill in the process of nuclear disarmament.
5. The USSR steadily and persistently advocates prevention of an arms race in outer space. Our country counters "Star Wars" with the "Star Peace" programme. The Soviet Union has proposed that, without awaiting the conclusion of an agreement on outer space, a system of international control should be established to prevent the deployment of weapons of any kind in outer space. In the view of the USSR, a central role in such a system of control could be played by an international space inspectorate, to which States parties to the agreement would give the right of access, for the purposes of inspection, to any facilities designed for launching and deployment in outer space.
6. The Soviet Union firmly advocates the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and speedier progress towards this goal through the achievement at the Soviet-American nuclear test ban talks of an understanding on additional measures of verification with a view to the early ratification of the 1974 and 1976 treaties between the USSR and the United States and the achievement of agreement on a further reduction of the yield and number of nuclear tests.
7. The USSR considers that one of the priority goals of the Second Disarmament Decade is the elimination of the threat of the use of chemical weapons. Our country is in favour of completing in 1988 the drafting of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and destruction of stockpiles. The USSR believes that the convention should provide for reliable verification and control procedures, including mandatory inspections on demand without the right of refusal. The practical implementation of the USSR proposal to conduct a multilateral exchange of data in the near future on stockpiles of chemical weapons in connection with the drafting of the convention would help to increase openness and create an atmosphere of trust.
8. The Soviet Union's desire to rid the world of this barbaric means of destruction is demonstrated by the halting of production of chemical weapons in the USSR and the construction of industrial facilities for the destruction of such weapons.
9. The adoption of measures to limit and reduce armed forces and conventional weapons is becoming increasingly urgent. We attach cardinal importance to such efforts in Europe, where the concentration of forces and weapons is greatest. The USSR and its allies are in favour of an early agreement on the mandate for negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and the initiation of such negotiations before the end of 1988. After completing an exchange of data, at an early date, on the armed forces and conventional weapons of States parties to the Warsaw Treaty and to NATO in Europe, the USSR and its allies in Europe would be prepared to identify and eliminate on a reciprocal basis the asymmetries which exist both in Europe as a whole and in individual regions.

10. Another urgent task is to begin separate talks on the reduction of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, including the nuclear components of dual-capable systems, and the subsequent destruction of such weapons.

11. The USSR is convinced that practical advances in nuclear disarmament create more favourable conditions for the adoption at the regional level - and in the first place in Europe - of measures designed to reduce military confrontation and to strengthen trust and security. We support the proposal to establish nuclear and chemical weapon-free zones in Europe, together with zones of reduced weapon concentration and increased trust.

12. The USSR does not in its international policy apply different principles to Europe and Asia or other continents. Our country has put forward extensive proposals for safeguarding security in Asia and the Pacific Ocean region aimed at preventing the proliferation or stockpiling of nuclear weapons in Asia and, in particular, the deployment in this region of any further airborne nuclear-weapon delivery systems; reducing the activities of naval fleets in the Pacific Ocean, especially those involving vessels fitted with nuclear weapons; restricting anti-submarine activity in specified areas of the Pacific Ocean; reducing the number and extent of military and naval exercises and manoeuvres in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and the adjoining seas; gradually reducing armed forces and conventional weapons in Asia to adequate but reasonable levels; and promoting confidence-building measures and the non-use of force in the region to the level of practical discussion.

13. An important contribution to strengthening world security, in the view of the Soviet Union, would be made by the successful completion of efforts to establish zones of peace and co-operation in the Mediterranean Sea, the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic.

14. In today's interdependent world, disarmament is inseparable from development. The USSR wholeheartedly supports the recommendations of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, held in August-September 1987. We reaffirm our proposal to establish, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international "Disarmament for Development" fund and also our willingness to discuss in principle the whole range of questions of disarmament and development at a special meeting of the Security Council with the participation of the heads of State and members of the Security Council.

15. The Soviet Union attaches great importance to the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. Our country regards the third special session as an exceptional event both because of the way the questions are being framed and because it represents a new stage in the efforts of the world community to halt the arms race and proceed from declarations to the establishment of a favourable international atmosphere for the achievement of really tangible results in the negotiations on arms limitation and reduction.

16. Questions of disarmament, above all nuclear disarmament, cannot be fully solved in the context of bilateral negotiations alone. Multilateral efforts for disarmament must be intensified through maximum use of all international

disarmament machinery and a search for ways of making the transition to a nuclear-free world, duly taking into account the interests of all States.

17. The Soviet Union expects that the work of the third special session will confirm the concept of security through disarmament and other provisions set forth in the Final Document of the first special session on disarmament, map out the main directions of disarmament and the strengthening of security, give positive impetus to all relevant bilateral and multilateral negotiations, and adopt a decision to improve the negotiating and consultative machinery in this area and, in particular, to enhance the effectiveness of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament.

18. Considering that even now, if there is a constructive approach to the solution of the difficult questions of disarmament and if the political will exists, a firm foundation can be laid for building a comprehensive system of international peace and security, the Soviet Union proposes that the 1990s should be proclaimed a decade for the building of a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/43/42).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 27 (A/43/27).
