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

Dissemination of information on the arms race and disarmament

Report of the Secretary-General

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

/Original: Russian/

/16 October 1979/

1. At the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic supported the Final Document adopted at the session and it is in favour of the implementation of the recommendations contained therein, including those dealing with the mobilization of world public opinion on behalf of disarmament.
2. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Constitution of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic prohibiting war propaganda and the constitutional provision stating that the achievement of general and complete disarmament is one of the main goals of Soviet foreign policy, the mass information media of the Republic widely reveal the pernicious nature of the arms race and systematically publish material emphasizing the need for decisive measures designed to halt the arms race and bring about disarmament. The press, radio and television give a prominent place to the elucidation and explanation of the important new initiatives with regard to disarmament put forward recently by the Soviet Union and the other States parties to the Warsaw Treaty.
3. The work of various international forums dealing with questions related to the halting of the arms race and disarmament are publicized in the Republic, due account being taken of the recommendations of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session. The mass information media regularly report on the activities of the United Nations in that field. Thus, for example, the text of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament was published in the periodical press throughout the Republic in full and in detail. The most important United Nations resolutions dealing with the questions of disarmament are regularly published and commented upon.
4. Public organizations in the Republic, which organize meetings and other activities dealing with problems relating to disarmament and participate in All-Union international meetings on questions relating to the strengthening of peace and international security in the interests of disarmament, play an important role in the mobilization of public opinion to counter the arms race and promote disarmament.
5. Scientific organizations in the Republic take an active part in the study and analysis of the most important problems of contemporary international relations, including problems relating to disarmament. Scientists play a great part in spreading scientific knowledge on questions relating to disarmament.
6. The "Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion

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of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid and Incitement to War", adopted at the Twentieth General Conference of UNESCO, is of great importance. For the first time in international practice, this document gave the mass information media a general mandate agreed by all countries: to promote the rapprochement of peoples in the name of the noble goals of peace and progress.

7. It follows from the foregoing that the Byelorussian SSR undertakes all necessary measures for the broad dissemination of objective and truthful information on the arms race and disarmament in full accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

/Original: Russian/

/2 October 1979/

1. The Soviet Union supports the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and is in favour of implementing the ideas and recommendations which received general approval at that session. This also applies to the provisions of the Final Document regarding the mobilization of world public opinion on behalf of disarmament.
2. In accordance with the Soviet Constitution, which prohibits war propaganda, the achievement of general and complete disarmament is one of the most important aims of Soviet foreign policy, and the mass information media in the USSR, including television, radio, and the periodical press systematically and widely disseminate information on the dangers of the arms race and on efforts designed to halt and reverse it.
3. The Soviet mass media provide detailed information on the steps taken by the Soviet Union and other States with a view to putting an end to the arms race. Negotiations on questions related to limiting the arms race and achieving real disarmament are given full coverage. The activities of the United Nations in the field of disarmament are described in detail. For example, the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly was first printed in the USSR in detail by the main newspapers, each of which has a circulation of several million copies, and was subsequently published in full in publications widely distributed in the USSR and abroad, such as the periodical International Life and the weekly magazine New Times. The Soviet press regularly publishes the most important General Assembly resolutions dealing with disarmament.
4. Soviet public organizations make great efforts to involve the broad masses of the population in the struggle to halt the arms race and achieve disarmament. They organize public meetings devoted to that question. Representatives of Soviet public organizations participate in international meetings and discussions of questions relating to disarmament, including, in particular, the sessions of the General Assembly.

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5. Soviet scientific organizations study and analyse in depth the problem of disarmament. A significant milestone in the scientific life of the USSR was the establishment, on the initiative of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, the Board of the State Committee on Science and Technology and the Presidium of the Soviet Committee for the Defence of Peace, of the Scientific Council for Research into Problems relating to Peace and Disarmament, which is designed to become a centre of scientific and social thought in the Soviet Union in the field of peace and disarmament and to promote the in-depth study of these acute problems of contemporary international life with a view to the speedy adoption and practical implementation of effective measures to halt the arms race and strengthen peace. Scientific symposia and conferences on disarmament are held every year in the Soviet Union. Scientific conferences on such questions with a practical orientation have recently been held in the Institute of Foreign Relations and the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the USSR. Furthermore, each year the Soviet Union publishes a large number of research articles and monographs dealing with those problems. A number of institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR actively participate in the preparation of United Nations research on the interrelationship between disarmament and development.

6. The broad measures for the dissemination of information on the arms race and disarmament implemented in the Soviet Union help to focus the attention of Soviet and world public opinion on the dangers of escalating the arms race and the need to embark on real disarmament, leading to general and complete disarmament, under effective international control, as stated in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.
