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Thirty-fourth session  
FIRST COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 42

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

Austria, Indonesia, Nigeria, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal  
and Sweden: draft resolution

Freezing and reduction of military budgets

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (S-10/2), according to which "gradual reduction of military budgets on a mutually agreed basis, for example, in absolute figures or in terms of percentage points, particularly by nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, would be a measure that would contribute to the curbing of the arms race and would increase the possibilities of reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries",

Recalling also its decision, inscribed in the Final Document, to "continue to consider what concrete steps should be taken to facilitate the reduction of military budgets",

Reaffirming that it is possible to achieve reductions in military budgets without affecting the military balance to the detriment of the national security of any State,

Recognizing the need for the availability of a satisfactory instrument for standardized reporting on the military expenditures of Member States, such as the one currently being tested within the framework of the United Nations,

Aware of the proposals submitted to date by States and of the activity carried out thus far within the framework of the United Nations in the field of the reduction of military budgets,

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Taking into account the fact that world military expenditures continue to grow at an alarming rate, in stark contrast with the acute development needs of States, in particular of developing countries,

1. Considers that, in the light of the above-mentioned provisions of the Final Document, a new impetus should be given to endeavours to achieve agreements to freeze, reduce or otherwise restrain, in a balanced manner, military expenditures, including adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned;

2. Requests, to this end, that the United Nations Disarmament Commission undertake during 1980 to examine and identify effective ways and means of achieving such agreements;

3. Appeals to all States, and in particular the most heavily armed States, pending the conclusion of agreements on the reduction of military expenditures, to exercise self-restraint in their military expenditures and to reallocate the funds thus saved to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of developing countries;

4. Decides to consider, at its thirty-fifth session, under the item to be included, in pursuance of its resolution 33/67, in its provisional agenda entitled "Reduction of military budgets", the most effective ways and means to adopt practical measures in this field.