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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-fourth session  
Items 52, 58, 62 and 63 of the  
preliminary list\*  
URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE  
NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY  
PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN  
OUTER SPACE  
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL  
(BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS  
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 9 June 1989 from the Permanent Representatives  
of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United  
Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to  
the Secretary-General

We have the honour to forward the text of the Declaration issued from our capitals on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the launching of the Six-Nation Initiative (see annex).

\* A/44/50/Rev.1.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 52, 58, 62 and 63 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Marcelo E. R. DELPECH  
Permanent Representative of Argentina  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jorge MONTAÑO  
Permanent Representative of Mexico  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Constantine D. ZEPOS  
Permanent Representative of Greece  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jan ELIASSON  
Permanent Representative of Sweden  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Chinmaya R. GHAREKHAN  
Permanent Representative of India  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Wilbert K. CHAGULA  
Permanent Representative of the  
United Republic of Tanzania to  
the United Nations

ANNEX

Text of the Declaration issued on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the launching of the Six-Nation Initiative

When the Six-Nation Initiative was launched in 1984, the international situation presented a sombre picture. Relations between the super-Powers were marked by distrust and suspicion, and absence of constructive dialogue. The arms race continued unabated with little being done to alleviate and eventually eliminate the threat of nuclear war. There was urgent need for common action, an impulse to peace. The Six-Nation Initiative was born out of this conviction.

We come from diverse parts of the globe but are united in our common concern for the future of humankind. We seek to represent not only our own people but the aspirations of millions spread over all continents and countries, including those within nuclear-weapon States, who want to see a world free from the threat of war, free from the fear of nuclear annihilation.

In the five years since May 1984, the international situation has seen important changes. The relationship between the two super-Powers has improved. There has been progress on arms limitation and disarmament measures. It has given us grounds for optimism. Perhaps for the first time since the Second World War, a genuine opportunity exists for a radical departure from the confrontationist policies of the past. Events of the last two years have shown that, given political will, no obstacle is insurmountable.

At our meeting at Stockholm last year, we hailed the INF Treaty as the first step in the process of nuclear disarmament. We also welcomed the political commitment of the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce their strategic nuclear weapons by 50 per cent. We urge them not to lose the momentum towards disarmament, but instead to give an added impulse to accelerate the process. We call upon them to conclude negotiations on strategic arms reductions as soon as possible.

We, as members of the Six-Nation Initiative, also stress that much more remains to be done before one can be confident that the disarmament process is irreversibly under way. We take satisfaction that one of our initial objectives has been achieved with the creation of a more conducive climate of international relations.

But other challenges remain:

- (a) A comprehensive Test Ban Treaty to be adhered to by all States is now more imperative than ever;
- (b) Nuclear warheads from dismantled arms systems must not be allowed to be used in other weapons systems;

- (c) A multilateral verification system in the field of disarmament should be established within the framework of the United Nations as soon as possible;
- (d) An international agreement banning all use of nuclear weapons, under any circumstances, should be concluded;
- (e) The threat of chemical warfare must be eliminated, through the speedy conclusion of the convention on chemical weapons;
- (f) Outer space must be prevented from being turned into an arena for the arms race and military confrontation;
- (g) Reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework.

In the five years since we launched our Initiative, we have been encouraged by the support we have received from Governments and parliaments, from the scientific community, from educational institutions, from people and non-governmental organizations across the world.

In the final analysis, disarmament is not just about ceilings and conventions, warheads and launchers, even treaties and resolutions. It is about people and about the waste of human and material resources now being devoted to weapons of mass destruction. Poverty and hunger, disease and unemployment stalk vast sections of humanity. These are issues too urgent to neglect.

The dialogue we called for five years ago has now been well initiated. The climate of distrust has changed. There is, in fact, a new search for common security for which we had endeavoured in our Initiative. We now believe that the purpose of the Initiative can best be pursued through the United Nations.

This quest for security presents enormous challenges and opportunities for the future. And we the Six of us, are prepared to continue to work together and also with others in the United Nations and other international forums, for the finest aim of all: to assure the world of a future in peace and security.

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