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

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 14 December 1978, the General Assembly adopted resolution 33/71 F on the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the tenth special session, which in part reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

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"5. Urgently calls upon all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to make every effort to proceed along the road of binding and effective international agreements in the field of disarmament, in accordance with what was approved at the tenth special session, 1/ in order to translate into practical terms the measures called for in the Programme of Action;

"6. Invites all States to inform the Secretary-General, as appropriate, of all those measures adopted outside the aegis of the United Nations regarding the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the tenth special session, whether unilateral, bilateral, regional or multilateral;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit periodically the above information, together with any reports he may prepare on similar measures taken within the framework of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, to the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission."

2. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the resolution, by a note verbale dated 12 February 1979, the Secretary-General invited members to communicate to him, as appropriate, all those measures adopted outside the aegis of the United Nations regarding the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the tenth special session.

3. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of the resolution, the Secretary-General submits herewith his report to the General Assembly which contains the replies thus far received from Member States to the note verbale mentioned in the previous paragraph. Further replies will be issued subsequently in addenda to this report, as they are received.

1/ Resolution S-10/2, para. 17

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

/Original: Spanish/
/3 May 1979/

I take pleasure in informing you that the Government of the Argentine Republic has decided to initiate the process of ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction through the promulgation of Act No. 21938, which gives approval to my country's ratification of the Convention. The instruments of ratification will shortly be delivered to the Depositary Governments, as prescribed in article XIV of the Convention.

AUSTRIA

/Original: English/
/29 May 1979/

1. Austria does not participate in any of the current disarmament negotiations. At the same time, however, Austria attaches the utmost importance to efforts to produce through such negotiations significant results, which would strengthen international peace and security. Austria therefore welcomes the possibility to host important disarmament negotiations, such as the Vienna negotiations on a Mutual Reduction of Forces and Armaments and Associated Measures in Central Europe as well as other negotiations.
2. In view of the very slow progress in disarmament negotiations on all levels, Austria attaches great importance to parallel efforts aimed at elaborating agreements for the strengthening of mutual confidence among States in the military field. Confidence-building measures cannot replace concrete results of disarmament negotiations. If it will not be possible to obtain such results over a longer period of time and should the arms race continue unabated, confidence-building measures by themselves will not be sufficient to balance the distrust created by the continuous arms race.
3. Nevertheless, importance has to be attached to the building of confidence as referred to in paragraph 94 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, because such measures can influence in a positive direction the subjective estimations, fears and expectations of a negotiating partner vis-à-vis the aims and expectations of the other negotiating partner(s).
4. Austria therefore advocated, within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, together with other neutral and non-aligned States, the inclusion of confidence-building measures in the Final Act of the Conference and continues to exert efforts for the full implementation and further expansion of these measures.

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5. Austria, in view of the level of its armaments, usually does not hold manoeuvres of a larger category. Austria has therefore in the past years, as a sign of its goodwill, announced two smaller manoeuvres on a scale of 5,000 and 12,000 men respectively, although there was no commitment to do so under the Final Act of the Conference. Austria hopes that at the Madrid follow-up meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe further relevant decisions and measures which could contribute to a further stabilization of the military situation in Europe will become possible.

6. Austria is furthermore of the opinion that adequate and effective measures of verification (paras. 31, 91 and 92 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly) can contribute to a significant extent to the building of mutual confidence in connexion with the negotiation and implementation of disarmament and arms control agreements. In view of these considerations Austria has nominated an expert for participation in the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts of the Committee on Disarmament to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events and seeks also through this channel to make a contribution towards disarmament.

EGYPT

Original: English

12 April 1979

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, immediately upon the termination of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, contacted the Ministries of Defence, Planning and Finance to prepare a study concerning the Egyptian military budget and the utilization of resources for military purposes and the impact of such a policy on development in Egypt.
2. The compilation of such data will be presented to the negotiating body, the Committee on Disarmament at Geneva, and to the Committee entrusted to study the relationship between disarmament and development in order to assist these organs to establish a concrete basis for the comprehensive survey of this problem.
3. Similar contacts with the Egyptian National Institute for Planning and the National Academy of Defence (The Nasser Academy) were also carried out towards the same objective.
4. On the level of non-governmental organization and the utilization of university academic expertise in surveying and research, Dr. Issam El Deen Galal, President of Pan-African PAGWUSH Group, along with Mr. Ali El Deen Helal, Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, have both presented research papers on the relationship between disarmament and development to the meetings of the relevant Committee at Geneva.
5. On the national level, the Ministry of Education is preparing a comprehensive programme to promote education and the dissemination of information relating to the

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arms race and disarmament in compliance with the resolutions and decisions of the special session devoted to disarmament.

6. Egypt has decided to allocate a "Disarmament Week" beginning 24 October of each year and has encouraged its information and broadcasting services to inform the general public of the rationale behind the "Disarmament Week".

JAPAN

/Original: English/

/26 April 1979/

1. Measures relating to nuclear disarmament:

(a) Japan, through regular diplomatic channels, requested several of those States which have not yet acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to do so (November 1978);

(b) On occasions when underground nuclear tests were conducted by the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and an atmospheric nuclear test by the People's Republic of China, Japan requested through regular diplomatic channels, that those tests be stopped (December 1978);

(c) With a view to facilitating international efforts to resolve the question of verification of a comprehensive nuclear test ban, Japan hosted an informal meeting in Tokyo of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Seismic Events of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, in which experts from 17 countries participated (October 1978).

2. Measures relating to the dissemination of information on the arms race and disarmament:

(a) Officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dealing with the question of disarmament held a meeting to exchange views on disarmament with the representatives of Japanese non-governmental organizations who came to United Nations Headquarters in New York on the occasion of the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (August 1978);

(b) The Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly was translated into Japanese and the translated texts were disseminated among governmental agencies, academicians, media representatives, etc. (September 1978);

(c) The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. II, published by the United Nations Secretariat, will be translated into Japanese and the translated texts will be disseminated among governmental agencies, academicians, media representatives, etc. in April 1979.

3. Measures relating to Disarmament Week (October 1978):

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(a) On the occasion of Disarmament Week, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan issued a statement in which he expressed Japan's determination to make every possible effort towards the achievement of disarmament, by taking such measures as are practical and realistic on a step-by-step basis, spurred on by the new stimulus given by the tenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament;

(b) Japan organized a symposium on disarmament inviting Mr. Tim Greve (Norway), a member of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), as a main speaker;

(c) Pamphlets outlining the results of the tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, were prepared and disseminated to the general public;

(d) Senior officials concerned in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted a number of briefings to the general public on disarmament through television and radio programmes.

4. Japan's activities in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and the Committee on Disarmament:

(a) The representative of Japan made a statement at the summer session of the Conference, the main points of which are as follows:

(i) Comprehensive nuclear test ban:

Requested the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom to make the utmost effort to present to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament the results of their trilateral negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban at the earliest possible date;

(ii) Cut-off of the production of nuclear fissionable materials for weapons purposes:

Urged the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to start exploratory talks on this question;

(iii) Ban on chemical weapons:

Requested the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to present to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament at the earliest possible date part of the agreement that had already been reached;

(iv) Conventional weapons:

Expressed the hope that major arms suppliers, including the United States and the Soviet Union, will start consultations with a view to curbing arms exports;

(v) Confidence-building measures:

Expressed the hope that the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament will give careful consideration to various confidence-building measures, including those referred to in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament;

(b) The representative of Japan, in his statement made on the occasion of the opening of the Committee on Disarmament in January 1979, clarified the basic position of Japan on the question of disarmament and expressed Japan's determination to continue to make positive contributions to the Committee;

(c) The representative of Japan, in his statement in the Committee on Disarmament in March 1979, stressed that it is the lack of political will on the part of the nuclear-weapon States that has hindered the realization of a comprehensive nuclear test ban, and expressed Japan's views on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes and the question of verification, which are of particular interest to Japan in formulating a draft comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty;

(d) Japan's continued participation in the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Seismic Events with a view to contributing to the most important and difficult questions of verification of compliance with the comprehensive nuclear test ban.

POLAND

/Original: English/
/1 August 1979/

I

1. Achievement of the fullest possible implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the tenth special session of the General Assembly remains a constant subject of the efforts Poland is taking in the international forum and of its consistent action on the national plane.

2. The Government of Poland focuses its main attention upon problems of major significance from the point of view of averting the danger of an outbreak of war, especially a nuclear war, eliminating the sources of international tension and conflicts, lowering the level of military confrontation, increasing mutual confidence and establishing conditions to effect a breakthrough in the halting of the arms race and proceeding to effective disarmament.

3. Regarding the specific problems of disarmament and international security, the position of the Government of the Polish People's Republic has been extensively elucidated in its replies to the Secretary-General's notes, as well as in the course of work of various deliberative and negotiating disarmament organs.

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II

4. In the entirety of its efforts towards disarmament, Poland is guided by the letter and spirit of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session. It strictly abides by the agreed principles to guide disarmament negotiations as an important condition to achieve a more rapid and meaningful progress in the field concerned. The Government of Poland believes that it is extremely important in the latter regard to adhere strictly to the principle of undiminished security of all States, and refrain from obtaining unilateral military advantages and from actions detrimental to disarmament efforts.

5. Consonant as they are with the priorities approved by the tenth special session, the joint initiatives by Poland and other socialist States reflect special emphasis on nuclear disarmament and the elimination of other weapons of mass destruction.

6. It is with profound satisfaction that Poland has welcomed the second Soviet-American Treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. At the same time, it expressed its conviction that the new agreement, in lessening the danger of a global military conflict, would constitute an important factor of the consolidation of peace and international security and that it would open up real possibilities of embarking upon the road to halting the arms race and effective disarmament.

III

7. Poland is particularly interested in the implementation of various measures leading to the limitation and halting of the arms race and achieving disarmament in Europe. It was with that end in view that in the past it submitted plans for the limitation of nuclear armaments in Central Europe and advanced other proposals with a view to creating conditions for lasting security in a region of such vital importance for the peace of the world.

8. Adoption of such proposals would have undoubtedly prevented subsequent developments which, in the area of the direct contact point between the two military groupings in Europe, have now resulted in the accumulation of huge military potentials, including weapons of mass destruction, to an extent unknown in mankind's history. The latter increases the risk of a conflict in the region, with all its escalating consequences.

9. Under the circumstances, there exists a compelling urgency to supplement the present phase of political détente - achieved through the efforts of numerous States, including Poland, and as a result of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe - with effective measures to increase confidence, restrict military activities and lower the level of military confrontation in Europe.

10. In the pursuit of that objective, Poland has been actively participating in the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. Desirous of creating propitious conditions to draft an agreement on the subject, Poland, along with other socialist States participating in the talks, put forward a

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number of relevant proposals. Of particular pertinence among them are those submitted on 8 June 1978 and 28 June 1979. The idea behind them is to lay a foundation for an agreement, based on the principle of undiminished security of all parties involved, and to meet half-way the postulates of other parties as to the method and nature of reduction obligations.

11. The Government of the Polish People's Republic is of the opinion that the course of negotiations and the signing of the SALT II agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States should help to achieve an agreement on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe.

IV

12. The Government of the Polish People's Republic attaches great importance to the implementation of various measures to strengthen mutual confidence. It has become all the more necessary at present, when the international scene, including Europe, continues to be confronted with various adverse phenomena, first of all with the escalation of the arms race.

13. An important role in strengthening confidence is played by the implementation of the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, particularly of those provisions which provide for the notification and observation of military manoeuvres. According to information in the possession of the Polish Government, since 1975 notice of all major military manoeuvres involving land forces in Europe has been given in advance; notices regarding minor manoeuvres have also been transmitted. In 1976, Poland accordingly notified the inter-allied "Shield 76" exercise.

14. The experiences gained so far in the implementation of the Final Act represent a favourable point of departure for further measures to be taken in strengthening mutual confidence. To this end, Poland together with other member-States of the Warsaw Treaty put forward a number of proposals in the Declaration adopted by the Political Consultative Committee in Moscow, in November 1978 (A/33/392 - S/12939, annex) and subsequently in the communiqué issued at the conclusion of the meeting of the Committee of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held in May 1979 (A/34/275 - S/13344, annex).

15. Poland holds the view that it would also be useful to reach agreement on prior notification of major military movements, large-scale air force exercises in Europe as well as major naval manoeuvres held in the close neighbourhood of the territorial waters of other States participants in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

16. Poland is ready to sign with other States signatories of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe a treaty on the non-first use of either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other. In the view of the Polish Government, such a treaty would play a significant role in lessening the danger of a conflict in Europe.

17. Limiting certain forms of military activities of States signatories of the

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Final Act, such as military manoeuvres, extension of confidence-building measures to the Mediterranean region or the non-enlargement of the military-political grouping in Europe, are viewed by Poland as important stabilizing factors on the European continent.

18. All such measures might create premises to undertake concrete steps towards lessening the concentration and reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe. Poland is prepared to make its contribution to the achievement of this important objective.

19. In the view of the Government of the Polish People's Republic, those and other matters could be discussed at a conference on a political level with the participation of all European States, the United States and Canada. The basic task of such a conference would be reaching agreement on practical steps in the military sphere to strengthen international security.

V

20. Poland continues to make its constructive contribution to the work of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva, hoping that this principal organ of multilateral negotiations on disarmament will most effectively carry out the pressing tasks of the agenda it has adopted.

21. Bearing in mind the priority importance that the entire international community attaches to nuclear disarmament, Poland along with other socialist States has submitted a proposal in the Committee on Disarmament to start negotiations on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing their stockpiles until they have been completely eliminated. The Polish Government holds the view that negotiation on the subject, involving all nuclear States and a certain number of non-nuclear ones, is one of the most important and urgent tasks in the entire disarmament subject-matter.

22. The Government of Poland also attaches great importance to other problems taken up by the Committee and does all it can to ensure their successful solution. Particularly urgent among them are: effecting a general and complete ban on nuclear-weapon tests, strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, reaching agreement on the elimination of chemical weapons and prohibition of new weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear neutron weapons.

23. Poland welcomed the agreement reached by the Soviet Union and the United States on a draft treaty to prohibit the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons. It will strive to conclude promptly, in the Committee on Disarmament, the final text of such a treaty, in keeping with the recommendations of the tenth special session of the General Assembly.

24. The Government of the Polish People's Republic is of the opinion that negotiations in the Committee on Disarmament should be conducted in such a way as to facilitate progress in other bilateral and multilateral disarmament negotiating forums.

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VI

25. Poland has actively participated in all efforts, undertaken in different forums, to halt the arms race and take effective disarmament measures, in accordance with the recommendations of the General Assembly, as set out inter alia in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly.

26. Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is of particular concern to the Government of Poland. That is why Poland attaches outstanding importance to the strengthening of the régime of non-proliferation, parallelly to the promotion of broad international collaboration in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The latter remains to be the basic guideline for Poland's participation in the Preparatory Committee for the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as its activities in the International Atomic Energy Agency, in what is called the London Club and the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation Programme.

27. The Government of the Polish People's Republic is of the view that achieving universality of international disarmament agreements is an important prerequisite of speeding up further progress in that field. It is in this spirit that Poland also participates in the preparatory work for the Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Weapons.

28. The Polish Government is deeply convinced of the special significance of the implementation of the decision of the tenth special session with regard to convening a World Disarmament Conference. Participating as it does in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, Poland favours urgently taking concrete preparations to convene such a conference, as the most universal and authoritative forum in the field of disarmament.

VII

29. Apart from global and regional measures, Poland gives full effect to the decisions of the tenth special session concerning action on a national plane. The latter applies, in particular, to popularizing among the Polish public the knowledge of the Final Document, promoting the awareness of the danger of the arms race and providing information on actions for disarmament. Research work is also being conducted with a view to preparing and intensifying disarmament efforts. Extensive information on specific steps undertaken by Poland in that field has been included in the replies of the Government of the Polish People's Republic to the notes of the Secretary-General concerning Disarmament Week (A/34/457) and the dissemination of information on the arms race and disarmament (A/34/547).

30. Poland has been particularly active in and deeply committed to efforts aimed at moulding a firm structure of peace in the minds of men, especially the young generation, in order to eradicate sources of wars and create an atmosphere of confidence conducive to taking more far-reaching steps in the field of disarmament.

31. In implementing the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, adopted at the thirty-third session

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of the General Assembly, 2/ Poland has embarked upon a comprehensive programme of action, particularly in the field of teaching and education of young people, at schools of all levels, in science, culture as well as in publishing and mass media, in order to shape up attitudes concurrent with the requirements of the era of peaceful coexistence and with the need of creating a broad social base for an intensification of disarmament efforts.

2/ Resolution 33/73.

ROMANIA

/Original: English//13 April 1979/Decree No. 69, dated 1 March 1979, of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania on the increase of the State allowances for children

Upon the decision of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party on the increase of the State allowances for children, in order to entirely cover the price increase on some children's goods and the securing of the necessary funds by reducing the military expenditures,

The State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees:

Article 1. Effective 1 March 1979, the State allowance for children is increased by 10 lei per month.

The State allowances quanta for children stipulated in article 2, paragraph 1, of Decree No. 212/1977 of the State Council, as they were increased in conformity with paragraph 1, are provided in the annex 3/ which is an integral part of the present decree.

Article 2. The necessary funds for the increase of the State allowances for children are obtained from the reduction of the funds allocated for military expenditures and the corresponding increase of the budget of the Ministry of Labour for 1979.

Article 3. The increase of the State allowances for children provided in article 1, paragraph 1, shall also be correspondingly implemented by the co-operatist and public organizations.

Nicolae CEAUSESCU
President of the
Socialist Republic of Romania

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

/Original: Russian//2 October 1979/

1. The Soviet Union supports the final document adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly and is actively working for the implementation of the ideas and recommendations which gained general approval at the session.

3/ Not reproduced in the present document.

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2. The Soviet Union is taking an active part in various bilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament being conducted outside the aegis of the United Nations.
3. The Vienna meeting between L. I. Drezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and President Jimmy Carter of the United States resulted in the signing of a Treaty between the USSR and the United States on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and related documents, creating more favourable conditions for progress in other disarmament negotiations as well.
4. The Soviet Union is making an intensive effort to promote more productive work in the Committee on Disarmament, which is discussing such important questions as nuclear disarmament measures, the complete and universal cessation of nuclear weapon tests, the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, a ban on the development of new weapons of mass destruction, including neutron weapons, the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments, and the reduction of military budgets.
5. The Soviet Union has taken the initiative in putting forward many of these questions and is making a constructive contribution to their discussion.
6. In February 1979, for example, the USSR joined with other socialist countries in introducing in the Committee on Disarmament a proposal for ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing their stockpiles until they have been completely eliminated. This proposal won the support of a majority of the members of the Committee. The main task now is to lose as little time as possible in initiating practical preparations for negotiations on this matter and beginning the negotiations themselves.
7. At trilateral negotiations between the USSR, the United States and the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union is working actively for the speediest possible preparation of a treaty on the complete and universal prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. In the opinion of the Soviet Union, however, these negotiations are being unjustifiably drawn out as a result of the position taken by the other participants.
8. At the negotiations between the USSR and the United States on prohibition of the development and production of new weapons of mass destruction, agreement has been reached on major elements of a treaty prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons. An agreed joint proposal has been submitted to the Committee on Disarmament. The task is now to complete as quickly as possible the process of reaching agreement on the text of an international treaty prohibiting radiological weapons and to declare it open for signature by all States.
9. The Soviet Union consistently advocates a total ban on chemical weapons. Talks on this question have been held over a number of years on a bilateral basis between the USSR and the United States and in the Committee on Disarmament.

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In 1979, the Soviet-American talks led to greater clarification and a narrowing of the differences between the two sides with respect to certain important problems in this field. Despite continuing difficulties over a number of questions at the talks, the Soviet Union is doing all it can to bring them to a speedy and successful conclusion.

10. With regard to the limitation of the nuclear arms race, the Soviet Union attaches importance to measures for strengthening the régime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. In this connexion, it attaches particular significance to the further expansion of the ranks of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. At the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna, the USSR and the United States again advocated the further strengthening of the régime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and confirmed their resolve to continue to comply strictly with the obligations they had assumed under the Treaty on Non-Proliferation.

11. The USSR is making efforts to ensure the success of its talks with the United States on questions relating to conventional arms transfers. By 1978, these talks had reached a practical stage, but they have subsequently slowed down because of the position adopted by the United States. At the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna, it was agreed that representatives of the USSR and the United States should meet promptly to discuss questions related to the next round of negotiations on limiting conventional arms transfers. One such meeting took place in July 1979 in Washington, but a further meeting of the heads of delegations, which had been scheduled for the second half of September, was postponed by the United States.

12. The Soviet Union proceeds from the assumption that the successful conclusion of the talks between the USSR and the United States on the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activities in the Indian Ocean would be a significant contribution to the implementation of the idea of establishing a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. The Soviet Union has often advocated the resumption of the talks with the United States on this problem which were broken off. At the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna, it was agreed that representatives of the USSR and the United States would meet promptly to discuss the resumption of the talks. One such meeting took place in Washington in July 1979, but the United States once again refused to resume the talks.

13. The Soviet Union also takes a constructive position with regard to talks with the United States on the matter of anti-satellite systems. At the Vienna summit meeting, both sides agreed to continue actively searching for mutually acceptable agreements on this question.

14. The Soviet Union attaches great significance to the negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe and takes the view that a reduction in the military potential of both sides in this region would be a major contribution to the deepening of détente and to the strengthening of stability and security and would indicate a lowering of the level of military confrontation on the European continent. At the Vienna talks, the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries - which were directly involved in the talks -

have introduced a whole series of constructive proposals which take into account the position of the Western States and open up the possibility of achieving speedy agreement. However, as a result of the continuing attempts of the NATO countries to obtain one-sided military advantages for themselves, these talks have not yet yielded positive results.

15. The Soviet Union approaches all talks on curbing the arms race, wherever they may be held, with the utmost seriousness and good faith. It has more than once declared its readiness to adopt the most radical disarmament measures, including general and complete disarmament. There is no type of armaments which the USSR would not be prepared to restrict, or to prohibit on a reciprocal basis by agreement with other States, provided, of course, that there was strict observance of the principle of the non-impairment of any State's security, on the basis of complete reciprocity between States possessing the weapons concerned.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

/Original: English/

/25 April 1979/

1. The Government of the United Kingdom has taken a number of steps to implement the decisions and recommendations in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly on disarmament. Many of these actions were taken within the United Nations framework. The following is a summary of measures adopted outside the aegis of the United Nations.

Nuclear matters

2. The United Kingdom has continued its intensive negotiations at Geneva with the United States and the Soviet Union on a comprehensive test ban treaty.

3. The United Kingdom is actively engaged in preparatory work for the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In discussions with other countries, the United Kingdom is encouraging more States to adhere to that Treaty and is seeking to contribute to the formation of a wider international consensus on ways to prevent weapons proliferation.

4. The United Kingdom has continued to co-operate in the provision of technical assistance to developing countries for peaceful nuclear programmes, while minimizing the risk of nuclear-weapon proliferation. It has played a constructive part in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE) study, including by its co-chairmanship of the Group on Reprocessing, Plutonium Handling and Recycling.

Other weapons of mass destruction

5. The United Kingdom has encouraged adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological

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(Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and is playing a leading role in preparations for the Review Conference to be held in 1980.

6. The United Kingdom is a party to all the multilateral arms control and disarmament agreements currently in force, and has carried out its obligations as a depositary Power for most of these treaties.

7. Following its tabling of a draft convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons in 1976, the United Kingdom has continued to work for the conclusion of a multilateral agreement. As a contribution to the study of verification techniques, a group of experts from 21 countries were invited to visit the United Kingdom in March 1979 to inspect a former pilot plant for chemical agents now in process of demolition, and a civil chemical plant manufacturing phosphorous compounds. This visit was generally acknowledged to have been of great value in contributing to the understanding of some of the problems relative to verification which would have to be solved if progress is to be made towards conclusion of a chemical weapons convention.

Conventional weapons and forces

8. The United Kingdom has continued to work for agreement in the talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in Central Europe. It has proposed that there should be a meeting at Foreign Minister level once substantial progress has been made in the negotiations.

9. As a supplier of conventional weapons, the United Kingdom has stated its willingness to consider favourably participation in discussions with the Latin American and Caribbean States on limiting the supply of arms in their area, when they have agreed on possible measures of restraint. Statements by the Government have drawn attention to the need to curb the global accumulation of conventional weapons.

10. In preparation for the Geneva conference on certain conventional weapons in September 1979, the United Kingdom has advocated a convention restricting the use of mines and booby traps and given support to other proposals for the prohibition or restriction of weapons which may cause unnecessary suffering or be indiscriminate in their effects.

Education and information

11. Greater public interest in arms control and disarmament has been stimulated through parliamentary debates. Government Ministers and officials have addressed meetings. Articles have been contributed to specialist journals. The Government proposes to launch a disarmament newsletter which will include important documents and other material on current developments in arms control, and will be distributed free.

12. Copies of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly were made available to many non-governmental organizations, and a comprehensive report on the special session was published as a White Paper.

Specially written leaflets and booklets have been produced for free distribution, including a leaflet and poster celebrating United Nations Day with the theme of "Working for a safer world".

13. Relations with non-governmental organizations and research institutes have been strengthened. A substantial increase has been agreed to in the annual grant-in-aid to the United Nations Association (UNA) of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reflecting the importance which the Government attaches to the work and influence of UNA.

14. A decision has been taken to offer government support for a new Arms Control Research Institute based in a British university. The work of the Institute would be concentrated on concrete ideas for progress in arms control.

15. The Government's own Arms Control and Disarmament Research Unit has developed a close working relationship with academic researchers at a number of institutions. Advice has been given in the establishment of an Armament/Disarmament Information Unit at a British university designed to increase public understanding of the arms race and measures to control it. The British International Studies Association was given support in setting up an arms control study group, which has held several important seminars.
