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REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

World Disarmament Campaign

Report of the Secretary-General

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The role of world public opinion in promoting the cause of disarmament was emphasized in 1978 in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (resolution S-10/2). Paragraph 15 of the Final Document states:

"It is essential that not only Governments but also the peoples of the world recognize and understand the dangers in the recent situation. In order that an international conscience may develop and that world public opinion may exercise a positive influence, the United Nations should increase the dissemination of information on the armaments race and disarmament with the full co-operation of Member States."

Paragraph 99 of that document further states:

"In order to mobilize world public opinion on behalf of disarmament, the specific measures ..., designed to increase the dissemination of information about the armaments race and the efforts to halt and reverse it, should be adopted."

2. The General Assembly, in resolution 35/152 I of 12 December 1980, requested the Secretary-General to carry out, with the assistance of a small group of experts, a study on the organization and financing of a World Disarmament Campaign. The study was submitted to the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session by the Secretary-General (A/36/458, annex). The study emphasized "the importance of mobilizing public opinion in support of disarmament, so that it may exert a positive influence towards the achievement of meaningful and effective disarmament measures" (*ibid.*, p. 3, para. 3). The experts further underlined the need to involve as many segments of the world's population as possible in this exercise and outlined the catalytic part that the United Nations could play on a world-wide basis, in a balanced, factual and objective manner. After discussion of the study, the Assembly adopted resolution 36/92 of 9 December 1981, *inter alia*, commending the content and conclusion of the study and requesting the Secretary-General to transmit it for appropriate decision to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

3. The issue of the Campaign was extensively discussed at the Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, which recommended that the President of the special session should launch the Campaign at the opening meeting of the session, following a formal decision to that effect. 1/

4. After undertaking the appropriate consultations, the President of the special session launched the Campaign at the session's first meeting, on the understanding that the Secretary-General would submit, at a later date during the session, an outline for the Campaign. The Secretary-General presented such an outline (A/S-12/27) which, together with the afore-mentioned study and pertinent views of Member States, became the basis for discussions at the special session. The deliberations of the special session culminated in an agreed text, *inter alia*,

requesting the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session the specifics of such a programme (A/S-12/32, annex V). Accordingly, the Secretary-General is submitting the present report.

II. GENERAL FRAMEWORK

5. This section, which deals with the general framework of the Campaign, is based on the text agreed to at the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the documents referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4.
6. The World Disarmament Campaign has three primary purposes: to inform, to educate and to generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms limitation and disarmament as stated in the Final Document adopted at the first special session devoted to disarmament, with particular reference to the priorities and measures set out in its Programme of Action, the decisions taken at the second special session, the views expressed by Member States, and the recommendations in the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade.
7. The United Nations system, Member States with respect for their sovereign rights, and other bodies, in particular non-governmental organizations, all have their role to play in achieving the objectives of the Campaign.
8. The Campaign will focus primarily on five major constituencies, namely, elected representatives, media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes.
9. The Campaign should be carried out in all regions of the world in a balanced, factual and objective manner.
10. The universality of the Campaign should be guaranteed by the co-operation and participation of all States and by the widest possible dissemination of information and unimpeded access for all sectors of the public to a broad range of information and opinions on questions of arms limitation and disarmament and the dangers relating to all aspects of the arms race and war, in particular nuclear war.
11. Member States will be encouraged to co-operate with the United Nations to ensure a better flow of information with regard to the various aspects of disarmament and to avoid dissemination of false and tendentious information. In carrying out the Campaign, emphasis will be placed on the relationship between disarmament and international security and between disarmament and development, given the benefits that could be derived from the reduction of military outlays and the reallocation of released resources for socio-economic development. In this regard, the Campaign should provide an opportunity for discussion and debate in all countries on all points of view relating to disarmament issues, objectives and conditions. The Campaign will encourage bilateral and multilateral exchanges on the basis of reciprocity and mutual agreement and give the widest possible dissemination to such exchanges, for example, among government officials, experts, academicians and journalists of different countries.

12. The United Nations will provide the substance of information for, and generally co-ordinate, the implementation of the World Disarmament Campaign which should be carried out at the global, regional and national levels under the auspices of the United Nations.
13. The Campaign is designed to facilitate and complement existing programmes of information, research, education and training in the areas of disarmament. The promotion of such programmes will be encouraged, particularly in the developing countries, and the United Nations and its agencies will be instrumental in this process.
14. The United Nations information and education activities, conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, must be global in scope and content, and will use those means of communication which are most appropriate in reaching the largest number of people. Although the means of informing and educating may vary from region to region, the basic thrust of the activities for the Campaign should be equally effective in all regions of the world.
15. Every effort will be made to ensure an equitable and timely distribution of materials in accordance with the principle of conducting the Campaign on a universal basis. In this regard, the United Nations information centres and other field offices will play a key role in enlisting support for disarmament at the regional and subregional level and will be actively involved in carrying out the Campaign at the local level. The information centres will give the widest possible dissemination to the materials for distribution, particularly among those countries where the existing facilities are not adequately utilized or equipped, bearing in mind the special needs of the developing countries in this respect.
16. The Campaign will give full consideration to the role of mass media as the most effective way to achieve wide access to the public with a view to promoting a climate of understanding, confidence and co-operation conducive to peace and disarmament.
17. The Secretary-General will make every effort to ensure that the appropriate resources - human, financial and material - available within the United Nations system are adequately co-ordinated in order to further the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign.
18. Taking into account the existing mechanisms of co-ordination and in view of the need for reinforcing co-ordination, the Centre for Disarmament will provide the central guidance in co-ordinating the World Disarmament Campaign activities within the United Nations system and in maintaining liaison with the governmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutes. The Centre will also provide the substance of the information material to be disseminated in the implementation of the Campaign.
19. Within the Campaign, the Department of Public Information of the United Nations will play its role, as assigned by the General Assembly, in utilizing its expertise and resources in public information to ensure its maximum effectiveness.

20. In view of the ongoing activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in promoting disarmament education as a distinct field of study, UNESCO, in co-ordination with the Centre for Disarmament, will have appropriate tasks within its field of competence in fulfilling the objectives of the Campaign.

21. The Secretary-General will submit, at each subsequent regular session of the General Assembly for its review, a report on the implementation of the World Disarmament Campaign during the preceding year and will convey to the Assembly the relevant views of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies, taking into account the tasks the Assembly may further entrust to it.

III. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR 1983

22. The Campaign will have to be implemented on the basis of a long-term strategy. Various activities - governmental, non-governmental and United Nations-initiated - would form integral parts of a comprehensive exercise to be conducted over an extended period of time. The success of the Campaign will greatly depend on the extent of the active and material support of Member States and co-operation of non-governmental organizations.

23. The specific activities proposed to be conducted in 1983 have been selected primarily on the basis of three criteria: their immediate impact, multiplier effect and their ability to be carried out without extensive preparation. Plans for activities in 1984 and beyond will be formulated in the light of a number of variables, such as the experiences with the Campaign in 1983, the degree of responsiveness of the target constituencies, support by Governments, results of co-operation within the United Nations system and with non-governmental organizations, human and material resources available, and so on.

24. Pursuant to a request by the General Assembly, the Centre for Disarmament held informal consultations on the 1983 programme with those agencies, programmes and departments of the United Nations, in particular the Department of Public Information, which are at present undertaking activities relevant to disarmament.

25. As a result of these consultations, the following programme of activities is proposed by the Secretary-General for 1983, subject to availability of funds. It should, however, be pointed out that a number of activities within the framework of the Campaign have been carried out in 1982 after its launching by the second special session devoted to disarmament.

26. The financial aspects of the proposed programme are discussed in more detail in part IV below.

27. Listed below are the activities which the United Nations, in co-operation with Member States and non-governmental organizations, could, inter alia, undertake in 1983, together with those that will be explored during the course of the year for future implementation. It is important to note, however, that the Campaign as envisaged by Member States is structured in such a way that Member States and

non-governmental organizations can undertake, on their own, certain types of activities to complement those undertaken by the United Nations. In this connection, reference is made to various paragraphs of the Concluding Document (A/S-12/32, annex V), for instance, paragraph 10, which calls for encouragement of bilateral and multilateral exchanges on the basis of reciprocity and mutual agreement and for the widest possible dissemination of such exchanges, and paragraph 19, containing a list of possible activities which reads as follows:

"... the holding of a world conference on the role of mass media; instituting a council of consciences representing eminent personalities in the spiritual, scientific, cultural and philosophical field; world-wide action for collecting signatures in favour of measures to prevent a nuclear war, curb the arms race, and for disarmament; installing in the United Nations the documentation and materials concerning Japan's atomic experiences; banning of war movies and war toys; televising or disseminating in other effective ways, addresses and discussions by world statesmen of various regions and philosophies; and disseminating in an unhindered way a range of relevant materials provided by Governments and recognized international studies institutes".

28. The proposed programme for 1983 is divided into five areas of activity: (1) United Nations information materials; (2) Interpersonal communication, seminars, training; (3) Special events; (4) Publicity programme; and (5) United Nations field offices.

1. United Nations information materials

These materials will be produced in an appropriate format, and in sufficient quantities and languages, to meet Campaign needs:

1.1 Publications

- 1.1.1 Institutional reference materials, such as the "Yearbook of the United Nations", "Everyone's United Nations", "Basic Facts about the United Nations", "United Nations in Brief", "United Nations: Image and Reality", "United Nations Today (Suggestions for Speakers)", and "The UN Chronicle", will carry disarmament related issues.
- 1.1.2 The Disarmament Yearbook, the studies and the fact sheets will be made available in greater quantities in the official languages of the General Assembly.
- 1.1.3 An update of the publication "United Nations versus the Arms Race", including the outcome of the second special session devoted to disarmament, will be produced.

- 1.1.4 Efforts will be made to seek governmental and non-governmental sponsors for issuing United Nations information materials in languages other than the official languages of the General Assembly.
- 1.1.5 The periodical "Disarmament" will attempt to be more effective in reaching opinion-makers in all regions. As part of its development, its content and style will be revised and it will be issued four times a year.
- 1.1.6 The Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the Concluding Document of the second special session, as well as verbatim records of the general debate, will be available in all official languages of the General Assembly for wide distribution.
- 1.1.7 A booklet, making use of graphics and other visual aids and based on information contained in recent United Nations expert studies, will be prepared for basic adult-education purposes by the Centre for Disarmament in co-operation with international educational organizations.
- 1.1.8 The Teaching Unit on disarmament, development and the child prepared by the UNICEF office for Europe is available as a study guide for use in middle schools (junior high schools).
- 1.1.9 The Repertory of Disarmament Research prepared by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research will be distributed.
- 1.1.10 A textbook entitled "Disarmament and Security" will be prepared by UNESCO for university level teaching.
- 1.1.11 "Development Forum", the interagency publication dealing with economic issues, will highlight the relationship between development and disarmament in its regular editions.
- 1.1.12 The publication of a United Nations newsletter on disarmament activities, will be considered.

1.2 Audio-visual materials

- 1.2.1 A selection of the posters resulting from the international competition held in 1981 will be published as a calendar.
- 1.2.2 An audio-visual library of films, television programmes and slides related to disarmament will be established and maintained at United Nations Headquarters.
- 1.2.3 The existing photographic library on disarmament will be brought up to date and expanded through acquisition of outside materials.

- 1.2.4 Regular radio programmes to various regions of the world will devote special attention to disarmament.
- 1.2.5 Seven regional series of six radio programmes, each on various aspects of disarmament covering all official languages, will be produced.
- 1.2.6 A permanent exhibit on the nature of international security and the threat posed to the entire world by the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, will be installed at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Geneva and Vienna. This exhibit will use materials and documentation to be made available to the United Nations. The exhibit will be made available to all the United Nations information centres in the world in a miniaturized form.
- 1.2.7 A wall sheet, entitled "The Choice is Ours", for raising consciousness of young people about the issue of disarmament and development is available from UNICEF.
- 1.2.8 The preparation of kits of textual notes and visual projection material, including tabulated data and photographs, for use as lecture aids will be considered.

2. Interpersonal communication, seminars, training

This is the area where greatest horizontal expansion of contact between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations is necessary. The aim is to establish a network of organizations, institutions and media working towards the achievement of peace and disarmament.

- 2.1 A register of over 1,000 non-governmental organizations, research institutes and individuals working in the field of disarmament has been established by the Centre for Disarmament. Correspondence with them will be expanded through periodic mailings and in response to specific information requests.
- 2.2 Consultations on the development and implementation of the Campaign programme will be held with non-governmental organizations, committees on disarmament and other national and international organizations at regular intervals.
- 2.3 The regional seminars for non-governmental organizations and media begun by the Centre for Disarmament in 1981 as part of the information programme for the Second Disarmament Decade will be pursued in a more developed and constituency-oriented manner.
 - 2.3.1 A regional training seminar for university-level teachers in the field of disarmament education will be organized by UNESCO in Africa.

- 2.3.2 A regional conference for non-governmental organizations, research institutes and media will be organized by the Centre for Disarmament in Asia.
- 2.3.3 World Massmedia Leaders' Round Tables will be organized by the Department of Public Information (DPI) in Latin America, Asia and North America.
- 2.3.4 An editors' round table will be held by DPI at United Nations Headquarters in New York, with emphasis on disarmament.
- 2.3.5 An expert meeting on the role of media in reporting on disarmament issues will be held by UNESCO in Africa.
- 2.3.6 A symposium on the risks of nuclear war and measures to prevent the outbreak of such a war will be convened by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research at Geneva.
- 2.3.7 A training seminar for educators on peace education in North and South America will be organized by the Centre for Disarmament in co-operation with UNESCO and with international educational associations.
- 2.3.8 A regional conference of non-governmental organizations on disarmament and development will be organized by DPI in Europe involving non-governmental organizations from Eastern and Western Europe.
- 2.4 A two-week special disarmament internship programme for graduate students will be developed in conjunction with the annual four-week graduate intern programme sponsored by the Department of Public Information.
- 2.5 The co-operation between the Centre for Disarmament and the Ad Hoc Student Internship Programme to absorb students desiring training in the field of disarmament will be intensified.
- 2.6 Staff members of the Centre for Disarmament will participate, as appropriate, in events organized by non-governmental organizations and peace research institutes having a significant multiplier effect.
- 2.7 The regular DPI two-month training programme for young journalists and broadcasters will be supplemented by additional courses on disarmament issues.
- 2.8 Regular briefings between DPI and non-governmental organizations will continue to give priority to disarmament-related issues.

3. Special events

Disarmament Week should be used as an appropriate time of the year for special events designed to increase public awareness of the dangers of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, and create an atmosphere conducive to progress in disarmament. To this end, special events will be organized at United Nations Headquarters, United Nations information centres and other field offices in co-operation with Member States and non-governmental organizations.

- 3.1 A Disarmament Week forum will continue to be organized at United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- 3.2 Exhibits of disarmament-related materials will be displayed at UNESCO headquarters.
- 3.3 Awards to outstanding individuals and non-governmental organizations for contributions promoting the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign, including Disarmament Week programmes, will be considered.
- 3.4 The possibility of holding a competition of film-makers and establishing a film peace prize will be explored.
- 3.5 The holding of an international song-writing contest will be explored.
- 3.6 The possibility of holding a concert with outstanding artists in support of the World Disarmament Campaign will be explored.

4. Publicity programme

A publicity programme for the Campaign itself will have to be launched to make its aims and activities known world-wide. The following activities could be envisaged:

- 4.1 The support of well-known personalities in the arts, sciences, sports and public affairs will be sought and their active participation enlisted for the success of the Campaign.
- 4.2 Non-governmental organizations concerned with disarmament and peace will be encouraged to participate in the Campaign.
- 4.3 A booklet outlining the aims and activities of the Campaign will be published by the United Nations.
- 4.4 Press contacts will be initiated to inform journalists of the Campaign.

5. United Nations field offices

The United Nations information centres and other field offices will be made aware of the goals of the Campaign and will be encouraged to stimulate local activities in its support. Specific activities of the United Nations information centres and other field offices will include: the dissemination of United Nations information materials on disarmament; the production, adaptation and translation of information materials in local languages; organization of exhibits; special briefings and seminars for journalists, non-governmental organizations and other audiences; and participation in events organized by Governments and other participants in the Campaign.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

29. The estimated cost for implementing the various programme elements outlined here have been determined only with regard to such activities as are to be carried out by, or under the auspices of, the United Nations Secretariat. Costs arising for other bodies within the United Nations system are expected to be covered by the respective budgets of those bodies and are, therefore, not dealt with here.

30. Apart from the funds already available in the regular budget for the present biennium, the additional cost of implementing the proposed programme of activities for 1983, excluding staff requirements, is estimated at \$760,000. Of this amount, approximately \$320,000 will be required by the United Nations Centre for Disarmament and approximately \$440,000 by the Department of Public Information.

31. So far, an amount of approximately \$270,000 (some in local currencies) has been pledged to the World Disarmament Campaign trust fund. Funding for the balance would need to be found from various sources, such as further voluntary contributions by Member States, non-governmental organizations, foundations, trusts and other private sources and, to the extent this is feasible, through redeployment of resources within the regular budget for the present biennium.

32. Pursuant to the request contained in the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (A/S-12/32, annex V, para. 21), the Secretary-General will submit a separate report on the possibility of redeploying existing resources under the regular biennium budget for the purpose of the World Disarmament Campaign. Concerning staff requirements, in order to fully implement the Campaign, the Centre for Disarmament would require two Professional staff members (P-3) in New York and one at Geneva (P-3) as well as two General Service staff members (G-5/4).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/S-12/1), para. 53.
