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conventional disarmament

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 2

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original : Russian]

[16 October 1986]

1. The Ukrainian SSR agrees with **the goals of** the study, which is to "single out **areas** in which negotiations likely to **lead** to genuine **results may be** held, **inasmuch as the way** to achieve the limitation and reduction of armed forces and conventional **Weapons is through** negotiations and the reaching of **agreements**" (A /39/348, para. 11).

2. The study rightly points out that the existing **arsenals** of nuclear **weapons** constitute a threat to the very **survival** of mankind. Consequently, the international negotiations should attach **paramount** importance to measures aimed at preventing nuclear war and eliminating nuclear weapons. **At the same time**, there can be no doubt that progress in limiting conventional weapons and reducing armed **forces** would facilitate progress towards limiting nuclear weapons and subsequently eliminating them.

3. Like the other countries in the socialist community, the Ukrainian SSR is in favour of a comprehensive approach to **the** issue of disarmament so that the elimination **of** weapons of mass destruction is bolstered by a significant reduction in armed **forces** and conventional weapons. This position **was** reflected in the programme for **comprehensive security** through disarmament **proposed** by the USSR on 15 January 1986 and **in** the appeal by the States members **of** the Warsaw Treaty to the States members of NATO **and** to all **European** countries for **a** programme for **the** reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe adopted at Budapest on 11 **June 1986**.

4. The Ukrainian SSR considers that the problems of reducing armed forces and conventional weapons has **become** particular'y **acute and** pressing in Europe, **At** Present the two largest groupings of **armed** forces equipped with the **most** advanced weapons are facing each other on the European continent.

5. The results of the **Stockholm** Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe are important in this regard. **A** major step has been made towards alleviating tension and Improving the international **political climate**, which is so **essential** if the critical problems of the nuclear **and space** **age are to be** solved,

6. The understandings reached **at Stockholm** improve **the prospects** for establishing **a stable situation** in Europe and promote **the growth** of an **atmosphere** of confidence. at the international level also. **This fully** corresponds with the **conclusion** contained in **paragraph 192** of the **study**, which points **out that a successful outcome at the Stockholm** Conference would "represent a significant contribution to European **security** as well as to international peace and **security** in general".

7. In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, the implementation of the above-mentioned programme for reducing armed forces and conventional weapons put forward by the socialist countries would contribute to a substantial further lessening of the threat of war in Europe and throughout the world.
8. Of primary importance is the proposal for a substantial reduction in the land and tactical air forces of European States, and in the corresponding forces of the United States of America and Canada, stationed in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. Simultaneously with conventional armaments, tactical nuclear weapons with a range of up to 1,000 kilometres should also be reduced.
9. It is suggested that funds becoming available as a result of appropriate reductions should be used not for the creation of new types of weapons but for the needs of economic and social development. Such an approach is reflected in paragraphs 90 to 95 of the study, in particular.
10. The proposal of the socialist States attaches great significance to questions related to reliable and effective verification using both national technical means and international procedures including on-site inspection.
11. One of the components of the initiative of the States members of the Warsaw Treaty is their undertaking never, under any circumstances, to initiate military actions against any State, whether in Europe or in another region of the world, if they themselves are not victims of aggression,
12. The appeal by the Warsaw Treaty States to the States members of NATO and to all European countries is wide in scale and multifaceted in nature. It contains specific proposals concerning the order and main stages of force reductions, the exchange of the appropriate information, possible organizational arrangements for future negotiations and confidence-building measures.
13. In the opinion of the Ukrainian SSR, the present initiative of the socialist countries provides a good basis for substantive discussion of the issues which have been raised with regard to the conventional arms race.
14. Such negotiations would be the start of an important process in a region having a high concentration of armed forces and conventional weapons and would promote progress towards disarmament in both the nuclear and the conventional fields as well as efforts aimed at establishing a comprehensive system of international peace and security, which is the strategic orientation of the socialist countries' foreign policy.
