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IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 2

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[12 October 1988]

1. The Ukrainian **SSR** is a consistent proponent of the active use of international institutions in solving the global problems confronting mankind. Objective processes are making our complex and multi-faceted world **increasingly interlinked and interdependent**. At the same time, the world increasingly **needs** machinery to tackle **its** common problems responsibly at a representative level and to **focus** the collective search for a balance between **the** diverse and contradictory, though real, interests of the present-day community of States and nations. The United Nations, **established as a centre for** harmonizing the actions of all States in the endeavour to **save** the present and succeeding generation⁸ from the scourge of **war**, must, we are *convinced*, **act as this machinery**,

2. **At the** forty-second session of the General **Assembly**, the Ukrainian **SSR**, together with **Czechoslovakia**, guided by the conviction that the role of the United Nations in achieving this goal must be **decisively** enhanced, put forward a **proposal** aimed **at raising the** level of implementation of General Assembly resolutions in the field of disarmament, which is the main thrust of United Nations activities. The **timeliness** of raising this issue was confirmed by the adoption, by **an** overwhelming majority of General Assembly resolution **42/38 J**.

3. The Ukrainian SSR is convinced that **the** role of the United Nations *in disarmament* could be strengthened substantially through **an** increased effort by Member States to implement faithfully the relevant General **Assembly resolutions**. While fully **recognizing** that these resolutions have the status of recommendations, we consider that **they** should **be** treated with due respect in accordance with the obligations assumed by Member States **under** the Charter. It is therefore **important** that Member States make every effort to facilitate **the** consistent **implementation of** United Nations recommendations on disarmament, and thus show their **resolve** to arrive at mutually acceptable, **comprehensively** verifiable and effective **disarmament** measures,

4. The Ukrainian SSR takes the view that a further expansion of the practice of adopting resolutions by consensus would be **an** important means of improving the level of implementation of General Assembly resolutions on disarmament. **The forty-second session** of the General Assembly took **a** significant step in that direction **when** it reached **a consensus on** such an important question **as** the **prohibition** of chemical weapons. We feel that the policy of consensus decisions should prevail **in the work of the** First Committee. Resolutions adopted with the general consent of States establish the necessary **moral** and political basis for practical arms-limitation and disarmament **measures**.

5. **At the same time**, the achievement of **consensus** is not an end in itself. It must, **first and** foremost, be based **on** the political will of States to express their **readiness** to take joint action also at the implementation stage and actively to

promote the progress of a business-like and non-confrontational dialogue aimed at achieving a balance of interests on the key issues in world political affairs.

6. In our view, further rationalisation of the First Committee's work would help in drafting effective resolutions. The innovations in that arm adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-second session must be implemented. Bearing in mind the discussions on that topic currently under way within the United Nations, and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 42/42 N, further steps in that direction, could be contemplated. Accordingly, in our view the practice could be established of adopting, with the sponsors' consent, only the operative part of the resolutions submitted year after year, and this could be done at intervals of two or three years.

7. Regarding the substance of the Secretary-General's report, we consider that in future the report should contain both the views of Member States and assessments by the Secretary-General himself concerning the situation in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, the progress of talks, and the implementation of current agreements in this field.

8. In order to prepare such a report the Secretary-General should hold consultations with the participants in the talks and should send questionnaires to them. For their part, States participating in disarmament talks should regularly inform the Secretary-General on the progress of the talks, without prejudice, of course, to their confidentiality. Within this framework it might be possible, in our view, to consider as a future possibility the participation of a representative of the Secretary-General in disarmament talks.

9. In order to improve the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on disarmament, it would also be appropriate to enhance public awareness at national, regional and global level of United Nations recommendations on that topic. The World Disarmament Campaign, conducted under the auspices of our Organization, is an important channel for such activities. The regional seminars held in connection with the Campaign could usefully devote more attention to publicizing United Nations disarmament resolutions.

10. The Ukrainian SSR, which has taken the initiative of raising this question, is prepared to co-operate constructively with other Member States in order to enhance the effectiveness of General Assembly resolutions in the disarmament field.
