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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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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) Constantine D. ZEPOS
Permanent Representative of Greece
to the United Nations

(Signed) Chinmaya R . GHAREKHAN
Permanent Representative of India
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(Signed) Jorge MONTAÑO
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(Signed) Jan ELIASSON
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Permanent Representative of the
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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.