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

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[21 September 1989]

1. The past year has been marked by the strengthening and development of the improving trend in the international situation. The **disarmament** process, which has been given a powerful boost by the conclusion and implementation of the Treaty between the USSR and the United States on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, is building up its own inertia. The substantive measures adopted in 1989 by a number of socialist States for the unilateral reduction of their armed forces and armaments are making a major contribution to this process. The initiation early this year of the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe has a significance which cannot be overestimated for the future of efforts to strengthen security and promote disarmament.

2. The renewal in June 1989 of the Soviet-United States negotiations on the limitation of strategic offensive arms is of crucial importance.

3. The direct threat of a war involving the major Powers has receded as these trends have developed. The international community is in an important transition stage from hopes to actions. However, it is now extremely important to ensure the irreversibility of the positive processes which have begun. To achieve this, in the opinion of the Byelorussian SSR, it is necessary to maintain the momentum, act by mutual good example, strictly observe the agreements reached and refrain from nullifying their disarmament effects by unconstructive actions in joint and other areas of disarmament, conduct in a spirit of good will the ongoing negotiations, and move towards new negotiations on those arms categories which have not yet been covered,

4. The Byelorussian SSR is convinced that the question of guaranteeing the security of States must be removed from the sphere of competition between military potentials to the sphere of joint political action. It is essential to secure an actual shift from the principle of over-armament to the principle of reasonable sufficiency for defence.

5. The United Nations is called upon to play a very serious, unique and new role in these processes as a centre for harmonising the actions of States. The new view of the world and of the role of the United Nations in it as set out in Mr. Gorbachev's statement at the United Nations is making an important contribution to the transformation of the United Nations along these lines.

6. The forty-third session of the General Assembly confirmed the trend towards non-confrontational and business-like consideration of disarmament problems. The desire to find mutually acceptable solutions on the basis of a balance of interests is taking increasingly concrete form. The principle of consensus must become ever

more firmly established not only in the adoption of resolutions but also in their practical implementation.

7. In the period under review the Byelorussian SSR has endeavoured to make an appropriate contribution to the development of these positive processes. It supported **resolutions** and approaches in the field of disarmament adopted by the international community at the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

8. The Byelorussian SSR gives particular attention to ensuring its constructive co-operation in the work on all the disarmament issues classified as priorities by the relevant decisions of the international community. Thus, at the latest session of the General **Assembly** its delegations co-sponsored resolutions on a number of disarmament priorities: the prevention of nuclear war, the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the Second Review Conference of the Parties to **the** Convention on the prohibition of bacteriological weapons.

9. The representative of the Byelorussian SSR had the honour of acting as chairman during the consideration of questions of nuclear disarmament at the sessions of the United Nations **Disarmament** Commission in 1988 and 1989, and maximum efforts were made in co-operation with the delegations of **a**ll States to secure progress on this complex set of problems.

10. For a number of years the Byelorussian SSR has been working in the international community to achieve progress on the question of preventing the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction, and it was on its initiative that the General Assembly adopted resolutions on this question. At its forty-third session the General Assembly succeeded in securing a major advance in the development of constructive co-operation among all groups of States in the drafting of the relevant resolution, and this made it possible to come very close to consensus in its adoption.

11. The Byelorussian SSR was also one of the sponsors of resolutions of the forty-third session on such important problems as confidence-building measures, the convention on the prohibition of excessively injurious types of conventional **weapons**, and the impact of scientific and technological developments on international security.

12. In accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly, in 1989 the Byelorussian SSR submitted periodic information designed to strengthen the authority of the Convention on the prohibition of bacteriological weapons.

13. Under the Stockholm agreements on confidence-building measures, international inspections are being carried out in the Byelorussian SSR, and foreign observers are present during the relevant exercises. Evidence of the growth of confidence and openness was provided by the visit to a number of military units in the Byelorussian SSR in 1989 of Admiral Crowe, Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff.

14. The Byelorussian SSR attaches great importance to the role of the public in the disarmament cause. **For many years** it has been among the sponsors of the corresponding General Assembly resolutions and has encouraged the development of the anti-war movement in the Republic (information on the activities of peace-campaigners in the Byelorussian SSR was sent to the Secretary-General on 4 August 1989). The Byelorussian SSR has contributed funds to the World Disarmament Campaign. The funds are being used to finance a number of **seminars** on disarmament problems, including an international conference of non-governmental organizations in Dagomys (12 to 16 June 1989).

15. In accordance with the resolutions of the **General** Assembly, the Byelorussian SSR regularly conveys to the Secretary-General its opinions and proposals on disarmament questions. Thus, in 1989 it has already communicated its ideas concerning, inter alia, objective information on military questions, the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on disarmament and ways of improving the situation in this area, the strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region, possible material to be included in the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade, the impact of scientific and technological developments on international security and the United Nations study of the climatic effects of nuclear war.

16. In accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Byelorussian SSR has taken steps for the dissemination in the Republic, through the press and interested non-governmental organizations, of United Nations studies on the problem of climatic and other global effects of nuclear war and the report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social consequences of the **arms race** and military expenditures.

17. The Byelorussian SSR continues to comply strictly with the international agreements and conventions on disarmament to which it is a party.

NEW ZEALAND

[Original: English]

[7 September 1989]

1. New Zealand entered the Second Disarmament Decade with great hope and expectation. Yet, with the decade of the 1980s nearly at its close, and notwithstanding recent very welcome developments in bilateral and regional arms control and **disarmament** negotiations, New Zealand is disappointed that **more** progress has not been achieved. New Zealand none the less remains committed to the multilateral disarmament process and the New Zealand Government continues to give its firm support to the goals of the Declaration of the 1980s as the *Second* Disarmament Decade.

2. New Zealand actively seeks to encourage States to settle disputes peacefully and to prevent the outbreak of war, in particular nuclear war. Accordingly, New Zealand has contributed to various United Nations peace-keeping operations. In

October 1987, New Zealand's Foreign Minister in his statement to the General Assembly and in advice to the Secretary-General underscored New Zealand's support for peaceful resolution to conflicts when he said that New Zealand was prepared to increase its commitment of personnel to peace-keeping operations of the United Nations. Today, New Zealand personnel serve in Lebanon and in the Syrian Arab Golan with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation, with the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group, with the United Nations Transition Assistance Group in Namibia and with the United Nations mine-clearance training team in Pakistan.

3. New Zealand has long had as a key disarmament objective the pursuit, as an urgent necessity, of a comprehensive test ban. The achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is a long overdue measure that will effectively slow down the nuclear-arms race and strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation régime. As a member of the ~~Ad Hoc~~ Seismic Group set up by the Conference on Disarmament, New Zealand has participated in the experiments designed to determine the verifiability of a ban on nuclear testing through seismic monitoring.

4. New Zealand views the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the most important multilateral arms control agreement negotiated in the nuclear age and as an indispensable element for global stability and security. New Zealand hopes that the régime created by the Treaty will be further strengthened at the 1990 review conference.

5. New Zealand considers that there is an urgent need to conclude a comprehensive convention against the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons, and notes the gathering of international support for such a régime. For its part New Zealand is actively involved in preventing the trade of chemical weapons and chemical weapon precursors. At the Paris Conference on Chemical Weapons in January 1989, New Zealand formally announced the withdrawal of the reservation it made when it acceded to the Geneva Protocol in 1930, to reinforce the point that New Zealand does not regard the use of chemical weapons to be justified in any circumstances. New Zealand will play an active role in the conference between Governments and chemical industries to be hosted by the Australian Government later this year.

6. In its own region New Zealand was an early proponent of a South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone as a regional arms control measure that could promote the national security of each country in the region and the common security of all. The Treaty of Rarotonga, which came into force in 1986, has now been ratified by 10 members of the South Pacific Forum. The Treaty of Rarotonga plays an important regional role in strengthening the international nuclear non-proliferation régime.

7. New Zealand has continued to make voluntary financial contributions to the World Disarmament Campaign, and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. New Zealand, in its support for regional disarmament measures, has also made a grant to the United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia.