

special session devoted to disarmament in 1982 and to set up, at its thirty-fifth session, a preparatory committee for the second special session,

Reaffirming the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly⁶ and its conviction that disarmament remains one of the essential objectives of the United Nations,

Expressing its concern over the continuation of the arms race, which aggravates international peace and security and also diverts vast resources urgently needed for economic and social development,

Reiterating its conviction that peace can be secured through the implementation of disarmament measures, particularly of nuclear disarmament, conducive to the realization of the final objective, namely, general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

1. *Decides* to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament composed of seventy-eight Member States appointed by the President of the General Assembly on the basis of equitable geographic distribution;

2. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to prepare a draft agenda for the special session, to examine all relevant questions relating to that session and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session its recommendations thereon, including those in respect of the implementation of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Assembly at its tenth special session;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the agenda and other relevant questions relating to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament not later than 1 April 1981;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the replies of Member States relevant to paragraph 3 above to the Preparatory Committee and to render to it all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information, relevant documents and summary records;

5. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to meet for a short organizational session of not longer than one week before the end of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly in order, *inter alia*, to set the dates for its substantive sessions;

6. *Further requests* the Preparatory Committee to submit its progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled: "Second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament".

79th plenary meeting
3 December 1980

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At the 79th plenary meeting, the President of the General Assembly announced that, in accordance with paragraph 1 of the above resolution and on the basis of consultations held in the First Committee, he had ap-

pointed the following States as members of the Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, it being understood that any Member State would be entitled to participate in the work of the Committee under the same conditions as those laid down for the Preparatory Committee for the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BAHAMAS, BANGLADESH, BELGIUM, BENIN, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, BURUNDI, BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, CANADA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CONGO, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CYPRUS, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DENMARK, ECUADOR, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, FIJI, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GREECE, GUYANA, HONDURAS, HUNGARY, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, KENYA, LEBANON, LIBERIA, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MALAYSIA, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, ROMANIA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SURINAME, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE and ZAMBIA

35/141. Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security

The General Assembly.

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security",

Deeply concerned that the arms race, particularly in nuclear armaments and military expenditures, has continued to increase at an alarming speed, absorbing enormous material and human resources, which represents a heavy burden for the peoples of all countries and constitutes a grave danger for world peace and security,

Convinced that, disarmament being a matter of universal concern, there is a pressing need for all Governments and peoples to be informed about and be aware of the problems created by the armaments race and of the need for disarmament, and that the United Nations has a central role in this connexion,

Noting that, since the preparation of the updated report of the Secretary-General entitled *Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and of Military Expenditures*,⁷ new developments have taken place in the fields covered by the report that are of particular relevance in the present economic and political conditions of the world,

Recalling its decision, as reaffirmed in its resolution 32/75 of 12 December 1977, to keep the item under constant review,

Recalling further paragraph 93 (c) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁸ which provides that the Secretary-General shall periodically submit reports to the Assembly on the economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring up to date, with the assistance of qualified consultant experts⁹ appointed by him, the report entitled *Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and of Military Ex-*

⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.IX.1.

⁸ Resolution S-10/2.

⁹ Subsequently referred to as the Group of Experts on the Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and of Military Expenditures.

⁶ Resolution S-10/2.

penditures, covering the basic topics of that report, and to transmit it to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

2. *Invites* all Governments to extend to the Secretary-General their support and full co-operation to ensure that the study will be carried out in the most effective way;

3. *Calls upon* non-governmental organizations and international institutions and organizations to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security"

94th plenary meeting
12 December 1980

35/142. Reduction of military budgets

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The General Assembly,

Expressing its deep concern about the ever-spiralling arms race and growing military expenditures, which constitute a heavy burden for the economies of all nations and have extremely harmful effects on world peace and security,

Deeply convinced that the common aspirations of mankind for peace, security and progress require the urgent cessation of the arms race, particularly of the nuclear-arms race, and the reduction of military expenditures, as well as the adoption of effective measures leading towards general and complete disarmament,

Reaffirming the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly according to which gradual reduction of military budgets on a mutually agreed basis, for example, in absolute figures or in terms of percentage points, particularly by nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, would be a measure that would contribute to curbing the arms race and would increase the possibilities of reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries,¹⁰

Reaffirming that it is possible to achieve reductions in military budgets without affecting the military balance to the detriment of the national security of any State,

Recalling its resolution 34/83 F of 11 December 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, stipulated that, in the light of the above-mentioned provision of the Final Document, a new impetus should be given to endeavours to achieve agreements to freeze, reduce or otherwise restrain, in a balanced manner, military expenditures, including adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned, and, to this end, requested the Disarmament Commission to undertake during 1980 to examine and identify effective ways and means of achieving such agreements,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission on the work accomplished during its session of 1980 in pursuance of resolution 34/83 F,¹¹

¹⁰ Resolution S-10/2, para. 89.

¹¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/35/42).*

Noting also the recommendation of the Disarmament Commission concerning the elements of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,¹² which provides that during the Decade renewed efforts should be made to reach agreement on the reduction of military expenditures and the reallocation of resources from military purposes to economic and social development, especially for the benefit of developing countries,

Aware of the various proposals submitted by States and of the activities carried out so far within the framework of the United Nations in the field of the reduction of military budgets,

Recalling also paragraph 41 of the Final Document, which refers, *inter alia*, to the contribution of the unilateral measures to the attainment of the disarmament goals, and welcoming in this connexion such measures taken by States aimed at the freezing and the reduction of their military expenditures,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reinforce the endeavours of all States and international action in the area of the reduction of military budgets, with a view to reaching international agreements to freeze, reduce or otherwise restrain military expenditures;

2. *Reiterates* the appeal to all States, in particular the most heavily armed States, pending the conclusion of agreements on the reduction of military expenditures, to exercise self-restraint in their military expenditure with a view to reallocating the funds thus saved to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of developing countries;

3. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue at its session to be held in 1981 the consideration of the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/83 F as well as those of the present resolution, and, in particular, to identify and elaborate on the principles which should govern further actions of States in the field of the freezing and reduction of military expenditures, keeping in mind the possibility of embodying such principles into a suitable document at an appropriate stage;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States to express their views and suggestions on the principles which should govern their actions in the field of the freezing and reduction of military expenditures and to prepare on this basis a report to be submitted to the Disarmament Commission at its session in 1981;

5. *Considers* that this action to be carried out by the Disarmament Commission should be regarded as complementary to any other ongoing activity within the framework of the United Nations related to the question of reduction of military budgets as well as to any possible unilateral initiatives which may be undertaken by States in this field;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets".

94th plenary meeting
12 December 1980

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provision of paragraph 90 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General

¹² See resolution 35.46 above.