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Agenda item 69 (b)

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 38/71 A of 15 December 1983, the General Assembly recalled the conclusions contained in the study entitled The Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Recalling also its resolution 37/84 of 9 December 1982, the Assembly took note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on measures taken within the United Nations system in implementation of that resolution (A/38/436). The Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session based on appropriate measures taken by Member States and within the United Nations system in accordance with resolution 37/84.

2. "Appropriate measures" taken within the United Nations system refer to paragraph 1 of resolution 37/84 which "requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate administrative action in accordance with the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as specified in chapter VII of the study ...".

3. The Group of Governmental Experts, which had been appointed by the Secretary-General to study the relationship between disarmament and development, and had prepared the study, stated in chapter VII, inter alia, that the issues addressed by the report regarding resource utilization, impact of the arms race, conversion problems and possible measures for reallocating resources, could be appropriate points of reference for United Nations research, planning and educational programmes, and unanimously recommended that the disarmament-development perspective elaborated in the report should be incorporated in a concrete and practical way in the ongoing activities of the United Nations system. Emphasizing that the disarmament-development perspective was both interdisciplinary and interdepartmental, the Group also recommended that the Secretary-General should take appropriate action, through the existing interagency consultative mechanism of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), to foster and co-ordinate the incorporation of that perspective in the programmes and activities of the United Nations system. Noting that there was no special centre of expertise in the international dimensions of the relationship between disarmament and development nor was there any part of the United Nations system with that particular focus, the Group identified the Centre for Disarmament* and the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation as the two units having lead functions in the fields of disarmament and development.

4. "Appropriate measures" taken by Member States refer to operative paragraph 2 of resolution 37/84 in which the General Assembly "urges Member States to consider appropriate measures in accordance with all relevant recommendations of the Group

* The Centre for Disarmament was transformed, as of 1 January 1983, into the Department for Disarmament Affairs, pursuant to resolution 37/99 K of 13 December 1982.
of Governmental Experts". The relevant recommendations are contained in paragraph 426, subparagraphs 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Secretary-General's report on The Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

5. On a number of occasions at and outside the United Nations, the Secretary-General has spoken on the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development. He has pointed out the enormity of the contrast between the resources consumed for military purposes and the lack of adequate resources to respond to the unmet socio-economic needs. He has also stressed that development is a near universal requirement, including the need of the industrialized countries to sustain what they have attained and of the developing countries to attain a better economic performance. In saying that underdevelopment poses a non-military threat to the security and well-being of nations, the Secretary-General has reiterated the position taken in the report on the relationship between disarmament and development, which views disarmament, security and development in a triangular interaction.

II. MEASURES TAKEN WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

6. In consultation with the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Department for Disarmament Affairs brought the subject to the consideration of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (PPC) of ACC with a view to appropriate action being undertaken for interagency consultation to foster and co-ordinate the incorporation of the disarmament-development perspective into the programmes and activities of the United Nations system. The relationship between disarmament and development was discussed during the first regular session of the Committee, held at Geneva from 10 to 15 March 1983, which was addressed by the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs. The Committee noted that disarmament-related issues were receiving, in general, increasing interest in the governing bodies of the various organizations of the United Nations system, and that, as a consequence, several organizations had received specific mandates in this area. It recognized that the issues related to the arms race and to disarmament were of a multidisciplinary nature and were to be approached as such by the organizations of the United Nations system; this was also an area where the strong interest expressed by the organizations afforded an opportunity to reinforce the ongoing or planned activities through collaboration and co-operation. The members of the Committee expressed their intention to pursue and strengthen their collaboration with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and to that end decided that the organs and organizations of the United Nations system should designate focal points to facilitate continuing informal contacts with the Department for Disarmament Affairs. Furthermore, the Committee was of the view that ad hoc groups of technical experts in the field of disarmament might be convened when necessary, in order to carry out specific tasks, such as the preparation of inputs for the report of the Secretary-General that was submitted to the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly in pursuance of resolution 37/84. The Committee agreed to continue considering the item relating to the relationship between disarmament and development whenever appropriate.
A. Activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs

7. In April 1983, the Department for Disarmament Affairs approached the various departments, organs and organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions, to seek the designation of focal points for further contacts and to explore the possibility of convening an ad hoc group of technical experts to implement the decision of CCSQ (PROG). The Department for Disarmament Affairs also sought information on whether any specific mandates were already being implemented wherein a disarmament-development perspective could be appropriately incorporated. In response, focal points for further contacts with the Department for Disarmament Affairs were identified.

8. Information received from the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other United Nations organizations devoting attention to the disarmament-development perspective was included in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session (A/38/436), as requested in resolution 37/84. Providing also a preliminary survey of the initiatives taken by the Department for Disarmament Affairs in this field, the report mentioned that the Department was receiving a growing number of requests for an elaboration of the basic reasoning contained in the Secretary-General's report entitled The Relationship between Disarmament and Development, for further investigation of the problems covered in the report, for the supply of additional information relevant to the report, and for expert advice to facilitate programmes and activities undertaken with a view to incorporating that perspective. Such requests came from the representatives of Member States, as well as from other departments, agencies, organizations, organs and regional commissions of the United Nations system; and also from both the general public and specialized interest groups. It was also mentioned that on the basis of communications received as well as direct personal contacts, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in consultation with the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, was planning to convene in early 1984 an ad hoc group of technical experts with a view to discussing a further implementation of the decision taken by CCSQ (PROG) in pursuance of resolution 37/84.

1. Ad hoc meeting of focal points within the United Nations system

9. The first ad hoc meeting of focal points within the United Nations system on the relationship between disarmament and development was held at Headquarters on 10 April 1984. The ad hoc meeting was chaired by Mr. Jan Martenson, Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, and addressed by Mr. Jean Ripert, Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. Participating in the meeting were focal points from the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation; the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs; the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs; the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations; the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCDD); the Department of Public Information; the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); the
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR); the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); the International Labour Organization (ILO); the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

10. Stressing that the promotion of an interrelated perspective lies at the core of the General Assembly's decision to follow up the Secretary-General's report, 1/ Mr. Jan Martenson referred to resolution 37/84 as providing the overall mandate within which the United Nations system had been asked to concretely incorporate an interrelated perspective into its educational, planning and research activities. Relevant in this context are subparagraphs 4 and 8 of paragraph 426 of the Secretary-General's report. Mr. Martenson pointed out the need to take stock of the skills and resources needed and those available. He also emphasized the importance of a system-wide pooling of expertise to maximize the benefits of sharing without a duplication of efforts.

11. The Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation asked the ad hoc meeting to go beyond the stage of reiterating a collective interest in the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development and said that the present levels of arms expenditure are so monumental as to affect directly both the growth potential of the industrial countries and the development prospects of the developing countries, including the ability of the former to assist the latter.

12. The ad hoc meeting was also given an overview of the ongoing and planned activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs in the area of disarmament and development, such as related to:

   (a) The World Disarmament Campaign, launched in 1982 by the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament; 2/

   (b) Contacts with research institutes and the academic community, established in pursuance of a General Assembly decision during its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament held in 1978;

   (c) A system-wide exchange of information and analysis within the United Nations organs, agencies and concerned organizations in pursuance of resolution 37/84.

In the last mentioned aspect, the potential for utilizing the growing interest on the subject within various parts of the United Nations system was emphasized with a view to adopting a multidisciplinary and multidimensional approach. It was also pointed out that a major consideration with the Department for Disarmament Affairs in the implementation of resolution 37/84 and 38/71 A was that the system-wide interest in the subject should be pursued within a conceptual commitment to
approach the relationship between disarmament and development as a meeting point between East and West, North and South.

13. During the discussions at the ad hoc meeting it was seen that the specific interest in the relationship between disarmament and development was in many cases related to overall concern for global survival and well-being. The absence of specific mandates did not seem to have affected this concern. There was a general interest in receiving the information and analyses emanating from within the United Nations and that which may become available following the initiatives taken by the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

14. Within their respective areas of competence, the mandates emanating from resolutions 37/84, 38/71 A and to some extent, 38/188 J of 20 December 1983, a brief survey of the system-wide scene was given by the participating focal points. The ad hoc meeting yielded a preliminary exchange of views around the following two clusters:

   (a) Further examination of the issues raised in chapter VII of the Secretary-General's report on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Within the general guidelines given in subparagraph 4 of paragraph 426, some key issues were seen as relevant for a system-wide concern. Broadly these were:

   (i) Impact of the arms race on international economic exchanges as in finance, trade, technology, developmental assistance, environment, health;

   (ii) Impact of military spending on national economies;

   (iii) National and international opportunity costs of the armament phenomenon.

   Underlying these concerns, some basic concepts were also seen as providing an intellectual framework for exchange of information and analyses as those of global interdependence, interrelationships between the issues of disarmament, development and security, and a view of the disarmament-development linkage as a two-way street;

   (b) Skills and resources. Some specific skills, expertise and resources were seen as being available for incorporating the perspective described above into the ongoing and likely activities within the United Nations system and particularly those pertaining to its educational, research and planning programmes. Broadly these were:

   (i) Information collection, retrieval, collation, storage and distribution;

   (ii) Monitoring of global socio-economic trends;

   (iii) Analyses of trade, developmental and technology transfer implications;

   (iv) Execution and administration of disarmament released resources in accordance with the priorities set by the international community;

/...
(v) Surveys of international labour trends;

(vi) Identification of aspects in physical, natural and resource environment vulnerable to the armament phenomenon;

(vii) Preparation of appropriate educational kits and materials for universal distribution.

15. The participants stressed the usefulness and timeliness of the first ad hoc meeting of focal points for providing a forum for an exchange of information, for understanding the basic perspective of the Secretary-General's report, and for giving an opportunity to consider the possible directions in which to submit the inputs for the Secretary-General's report to the fortieth session of the General Assembly. They requested the Department for Disarmament Affairs to hold such meetings periodically. The Department was also requested to act as a clearing house for information available within the United Nations system and that which it is acquiring through its initiatives within the World Disarmament Campaign and contacts with the academic and research community.

2. Contacts with research institutes and academic community by the Department for Disarmament Affairs

16. In May 1984, the Department for Disarmament Affairs contacted over 100 research institutes world-wide, seeking information about their ongoing and planned work in the following areas:

(a) Estimates of national, regional and global consumption of resources for military purposes;

(b) Impact of military spending on national economies;

(c) Impact of arms race on international economic relations;

(d) Opportunity costs of military spending;

(e) Global resources and economic interdependence;

(f) Non-military threats to national and international security.

17. In addition 50 individual researchers were contacted, including those from whom research projects were commissioned by the Group of Governmental Experts to assist in the preparation of the report, The Relationship between Disarmament and Development. The books, articles, monographs and project outlines received are being maintained in an annotated survey of literature. This is an ongoing exercise.
3. **Collection, compilation and dissemination of information within the United Nations system**

18. Following the ad hoc meeting of focal points in April 1984, the Department for Disarmament Affairs has been receiving from the various parts of the United Nations system inputs for and on subjects related to disarmament and development, including relevant statements by their representatives. Along with the inputs from the research and academic community, the information received enables the Department for Disarmament Affairs to perform a clearing-house function. The collection, compilation and dissemination of information within the United Nations system and contacts with the academic community reinforce the possibilities for promoting direct exchanges wherever possible. Information collected by the Department has been extensively made use of in, for example, the preparation by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of World Social Situation (E/CN.5/1985/2); the two volumes on Making the Connection: Disarmament Development and Economic Conversion brought out in 1985 by the Non-Governmental Liaison Service of the United Nations; and the on-going disarmament television project, "Agenda for a small planet" by the Department of Public Information.

4. **Disarmament and development as a theme in the World Disarmament Campaign**

19. The theme of the relationship between disarmament and development was included in the following international seminars and conferences:


   (2) Inter-Parliamentary Symposium on Disarmament relating to Conventional Weapons, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in co-operation with the United Nations, 28-31 May 1985, Mexico City.


   (5) United Nations Regional Seminar on Disarmament Education, 4-7 October 1983, Caracas.


   (7) United Nations Regional Seminar on Disarmament for Non-governmental Organizations in the European Region, 31 August-3 September 1982, Mamaia, Romania.


20. In addition, resource persons and information materials were provided for over 50 national and international events organized by the non-governmental organizations, media, parliamentarians, research institutes and the academic community. These events included panel discussions, seminars, teach-ins, workshops, briefings, lectures, and public meetings attended by 20 to 300 people. The Department for Disarmament Affairs envisages the publication of an information paper in the context of the forthcoming International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development in pursuance of resolution 39/160 of 17 December 1984. Also, a special issue of the periodical Disarmament will be devoted to this theme.

5. Training exercises

21. In the Internship Programme of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and that conducted by the Department of Public Information, the subject is regularly included. On an average this programme is attended by 20 interns at graduate and post-graduate level of education from different parts of the world.

22. For the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme, which now has 25 fellows every year, the subject has been given regular coverage, both by resource persons within the Department and by outside experts.

6. Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development

23. By resolution 39/160, adopted by consensus, the General Assembly decided to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the same resolution, the purposes of the Conference will be:

(a) To review the relationship between disarmament and development in all its aspects and dimensions with a view to reaching appropriate conclusions;

(b) To undertake an examination of the implications of the level and magnitude of the continuing military expenditures, in particular those of nuclear-weapon States and other militarily important States, for the world economy and international economic and social situation, particularly for the developing countries, and to make recommendations for remedial measures;
(c) To consider ways and means of releasing additional resources, through disarmament measures, for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries.

24. The General Assembly also decided to set up a Preparatory Committee of 54 members with a view to making recommendations regarding the provisional agenda, procedure, place, date and duration of the Conference. Accordingly, the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development met in New York from 29 July to 9 August 1985 and adopted by consensus recommendations to be made to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. The Preparatory Committee recommended (a) a renewal of its mandate to make substantive preparations through at least one and, if necessary, two more sessions in 1986; (b) the holding of the Conference at Paris in June and July 1986; (c) the designation of a Secretary-General for the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations at an early date; and (d) the preparation of a number of documents by the Secretariat. A separate report of the Preparatory Committee is submitted to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. The preparatory process for the forthcoming Conference will involve system-wide inputs. Ad hoc meetings of focal points and technical experts within the United Nations system are envisaged. The convening of such meetings was foreseen by CCSQ (PROG) when it considered the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development in March 1983.

B. Information received from the United Nations, specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system

1. United Nations

Office of the Director-General for International Economic Co-operation and Development

25. The Director-General, in ensuring the provision of effective leadership to the various components of the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation, has closely co-operated with the Department for Disarmament Affairs in the promotion of activities on the disarmament-development relationship. This relates especially to:

(a) The incorporation of the disarmament-development perspective in the work programmes;

(b) The designation of focal points;

(c) The provision of inputs to the reports of the Secretary-General.

26. In addressing various United Nations bodies the Director-General has repeatedly stressed the importance of viewing the lack of development as a non-military threat to national and international security. He has also drawn attention to the triangular interaction between disarmament, security and development.

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Department of Political and Security Council Affairs

27. In preparation for the International Year of Peace, to be proclaimed by the General Assembly at its fortieth session in pursuance of resolution 39/10 of 8 November 1984, the Department for Political and Security Council Affairs organized in 1985 four regional seminars, which were attended by experts designated by Governments, representatives of organizations within the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations. The topics discussed at the seminars included "Peace and development" and "Peace and disarmament". A summary of proceedings and final statements of the seminars are being presented in a report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fortieth session (A/40/524).

Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

28. The Department of International Economic and Social Affairs included a chapter on conflicts and militarism in its report on the World Social Situation 1985. The chapter drew attention to the enormous material and human losses incurred in the regular and irregular conflicts, both within and among nations, that have taken place since the Second World War. The Report stated that these conflicts occurred mainly in developing countries.

29. However, tensions in the world, often served to exacerbate regional conflicts. The Report argued that the present military build-up in many areas of the world had increased tensions and that disarmament would contribute to stability. It showed that the difficulties in the conversion of industries from military to civilian use would be offset many times by the benefits arising from disarmament. It outlined some proposals to channel the savings effected by disarmament, particularly by the major military powers, to the economic development of poorer countries. The Report also stated that for individual countries, the burden of military spending differed with the socio-economic system and its level of development. There was also a burden on the world economy separate from and often additional to the direct burden on individual countries, which fell on those members of the international community most vulnerable to the dislocation which a military build-up can create or exacerbate.

Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

30. In view of the fact that there have been no new substantive developments in this regard, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development has no information to add to that previously provided in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session (A/38/436).

Department of Public Information

31. Pursuant to paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 37/84 and to the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts set out in paragraph 426, subparagraph 9, of the study The Relationship between Disarmament and Development, the Department of Public Information was requested, while continuing to emphasize the danger of war - particularly nuclear war - to give increased emphasis in its disarmament-related public information and education activities to the social and
economic consequences of the arms race and to the corresponding benefits of disarmament.

32. The following paragraphs outline activities undertaken by the Department of Public Information during the period 1 July 1983 to 31 March 1985.

(a) **Press coverage and publications**

33. Statements made at intergovernmental meetings citing the relationship between disarmament and development were reflected in press releases issued in English and French for use by media representatives and NGOs for distribution to United Nations information centres world-wide.

34. **Development Forum** carried special articles on disarmament and development.

35. The publication *Making the Connection: Disarmament, Development and Economic Conversion*, edited by Howard Gold and comprising two main volumes, "A reader" (254 pages) and "A resource guide" (227 pages), was issued in January 1985 and is currently being distributed and is available from the Non-Governmental Liaison Service of the United Nations.

36. The Department continued to disseminate the special education kit on disarmament and development, the special chapter on United Nations activities in the field of disarmament and development in the collection of model teaching units "United Nations and world concerns", and the 1982 United Nations day students' leaflet dealing with the topic of disarmament and development in its treatment of disarmament and the second special session devoted to disarmament.

37. The topic was also covered in the **UN Chronicle**.

38. A section of the *Yearbook of the United Nations*, 4/ was devoted to action reports and debate on this subject.

39. The publication *Basic Facts about the United Nations*, 5/ which was issued during the reporting period, touches upon the question of disarmament and development.

40. **Disarmament Now! Investment in Living Now!** a book version of the disarmament exhibit at Headquarters, was published in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

(b) **Audio-visual activities**

41. The Department provided audio-visual coverage of United Nations activities on disarmament including reference to the relationship between disarmament and development. That aspect of disarmament was highlighted in several of the radio feature programmes.

42. The film **Doctor in the Sky**, which deals with disarmament and development, was released in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

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43. Two programmes in the World Chronicle television series dealt in part with the issue of disarmament and development. These featured Mr. Celso Antonio de Souza e Silva, Chairman of the First Committee of the General Assembly and the Under-Secretary-General for the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

(c) United Nations Information Centres and field offices' activities

44. The United Nations Information Centres (UNICs) continued to give emphasis in their public information activities to the social and economic consequences of the arms race and to the corresponding benefits of disarmament.

45. The relevant public information materials which were sent to the UNICs were distributed to the local media, to governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations, to educators, schools, universities and individuals concerned. Several UNICs translated and printed those materials in local languages.

46. Several UNICs organized special meetings, seminars, symposia and round-tables devoted to disarmament including the issue of the relationship between disarmament and development. Most UNICs paid attention to the topic in their regularly issued press releases and newsletters which are widely distributed locally.

47. The film The Big If on the economic and social consequences of the arms race was screened at several UNICs for a broad audience.

(d) Activities of non-governmental organizations

48. In November 1983, the Non-Governmental Liaison Service of the Department of Public Information organized, with the Presbyterian Church, the United Methodist Church and other NGOs, an Economic Conversion Strategy Conference at the Church Centre of the United Nations in New York. The Conference paralleled a meeting organized by the Parliamentarians for World Order. The Conference brought together over 150 organization leaders, representing a total of 750 participants, from NGOs, trade unions and Governments concerned with the issue, and led to the formation of a planning group for a larger international conference, which was held in Boston in June 1984.

49. The issue was included in a number of regular NGO briefings on disarmament-related topics in the framework of the implementation of the World Disarmament Campaign.

50. Mr. Eric Tom Vraalsen, Permanent Representative of Norway and Chairman of the First Committee of the General Assembly, briefed representatives from 92 non-governmental organizations on disarmament issues before the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

51. Visitors to Headquarters during the period under review were told, in the course of guided tours, of United Nations activities in the field of disarmament and development. Information kits, including relevant material on disarmament were distributed to researchers, students, schools and libraries.
52. By its resolution 37/84 the General Assembly recommended that an investigation - with due regard to the capabilities of existing agencies and institutions currently responsible for the international transfer of resources - of the modalities of an international disarmament fund for development should be undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in consultation with other relevant international institutions.

53. In order to carry out this mandate the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) established a steering group to guide the investigation. The group was composed of the following members: Mansur Ahmad (Pakistan), Gheorghe Dolgu (Romania), Sergio de Queiroz Duarte (Brazil), Edgar Faure (France), Sten Lundbo (Norway) and Ibrahim Sy (Senegal). The steering group, headed by Edgar Faure, held two meetings, on 21 and 22 June 1983 and on 19 and 20 March 1984, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Also present at these meetings were representatives of the United Nations bodies that have competence in the international transfer of resources. UNIDIR took into account the views expressed by the members of the steering group, but the UNIDIR report does not commit them.

54. Four technical studies were undertaken under this project:

"Modalities for the establishment of an international disarmament fund for development: Vision and political feasibility", by Marek Thee (UNIDIR/FIDD/1)

"Institutional, technical and political aspects of an international disarmament fund for development", by Finn Sollie (UNIDIR/FIDD/2)

"The establishment of an international disarmament fund for development: the regional approach", by Alain Pipart and Hugo Sada (UNIDIR/FIDD/3)

"Main economic and political aims of an international disarmament fund for development", by Jacques Fontanel (UNIDIR/FIDD/4)

55. The UNIDIR report was submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (A/39/229). Its main conclusions are the following:

(a) The establishment of a disarmament fund for development is desirable as a means of giving tangible expression to the recognized link between disarmament and development and starting the process of transferring to development the resources that are now allocated to armaments;

(b) The fund should be established phase by phase, both in terms of the procedures for mobilizing its resources and in terms of its administrative structure;

(c) Nevertheless, the fund should not be established unless it is assured of adequate resources from the very first phase.

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56. UNIDIR's report to the General Assembly and the four studies mentioned above were published in a single volume, in English and French. This publication has been circulated widely.

57. UNIDIR took the initiative in proposing a regional conference of research institutes on security, disarmament and development in Africa. This initiative was considered and approved by the United Nations Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies. Subsequently, the proposal for holding a regional conference on security, disarmament and development in Africa was endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), meeting at Addis Ababa from 12 to 15 November 1984 (see A/40/87). Bearing in mind the OAU resolution AHG/Res.126(XX), and within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign, the Department for Disarmament Affairs and UNIDIR, in co-operation with the secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), organized a Meeting of Experts on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa. The expert meeting was held at Lomé, Togo, on 11 and 12 August and was followed by a Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development, attended by the full membership of OAU. UNIDIR associates have participated in a number of scientific meetings on questions raised by the report of the Secretary-General and the resolutions of the General Assembly on disarmament and development.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

58. UNCTAD is continuing its work on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 37/84 on the relationship between disarmament and development, especially in the field of trade and economic aspects of disarmament. Besides a chapter entitled "Armaments expenditure and disarmament: some consequences for development", published in the Trade and Development Report, 1982, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared for publication in the "History of UNCTAD" a special section on UNCTAD's activities during the twenty years of its existence in the area of trade and economic aspects of disarmament. In 1985 the UNCTAD secretariat started working on a special research study, "The arms race: some global economic perspectives and resource allocation", which is to be completed in the second half of 1986.

59. UNCTAD also continues to participate in a number of conferences, seminars and meetings devoted to trade and economic aspects of disarmament. In particular, UNCTAD spoke on the relationship between disarmament and development at the European Regional Seminar for the International Year of Peace, held at Vienna in May 1985.

60. In the course of the thirtieth session of the Trade and Development Board, held at Geneva during March 1985, it was proposed to include a special item on the trade and economic aspects of disarmament in the agenda for a subsequent session. The Trade and Development Board could not reach an agreement on including an appropriate item in its agenda and decided to defer consideration of the proposal until its thirty-first session in September 1985.

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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

61. In the implementation of projects, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) takes particular care to ensure that no military use is specified among the areas in which technology is applied. These projects do not contain reference to armament applications, and they stress commercial and industrial aspects of technologies being developed and applied.

62. In his address to the European Regional Seminar for the International Year of Peace on 6 May 1985, the Executive Director of UNIDO stressed that "if achieved, disarmament will release huge resources of all kinds for development, and on the other hand, we cannot ignore that poverty, socio-economic injustice and deprivation are causes for despair, upheavals, unrest and ultimately war".

United Nations Environment Programme

63. In addition to the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the World Disarmament Campaign (A/40/443), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has the following programmes and activities related to disarmament and development:

(a) The Executive Director of UNEP submitted a report (A/32/137) entitled "Materials remnants of wars and their effect on the environment" to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, highlighting the adverse effect of remnants of wars on the environment;

(b) The United Nations Conference on Desertification, held in 1977, adopted a resolution concerning the effect of weapons of mass destruction on ecosystems. In implementation of the resolution, the Secretary-General presented a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

(c) The state-of-the-environment report for 1980 (UNEP/GC.8/3 and Corr.1) included the topic "Environmental effects of military activity";

(d) The Governing Council of UNEP, at its ninth session, in May 1981, called upon Governments to stop the arms race and, until disarmament was achieved, to allocate at least 0.001 per cent of armaments spending for development projects and the protection of the environment;

(e) The Governing Council of UNEP, meeting in a session of special character in 1982, considering that a major threat to the environment, of greater concern than a decade ago, was the possibility of a global confrontation, appealed to Governments and the world community as a whole to do the utmost to halt the arms race and thereby prevent a major threat to the environment. It then requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring the appeal to the attention of the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament;

(f) As part of its System-Wide-Medium-Term Environment Programme (SWMTEP) for 1984-1989, which includes a chapter on "The arms race and the environment", UNEP has entered into a three-year collaborative programme with the Stockholm...
International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). This programme will stress the interaction between issues of natural resource limitations, environmental degradation and conflict/insecurity;

(g) In order to observe the International Year of Peace, UNEP has decided that the theme for the World Environment Day 1986 should be "Peace and the Environment", where UNEP would highlight these issues;

(h) Some of the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme related to disarmament and development are summarized in the United Nations Disarmament Yearbook. 6/

United Nations Development Programme

64. As disarmament implies reduction of military expenditures, it means the release of funds and also human skills and materials that can be mobilized for economic and social development. Observing that the release of funds and human skills should augment the resources for multilateral development assistance, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) proposed during the twelfth special session of the General Assembly in June 1982:

(a) To issue annually to the General Assembly a development implications study accompanying a report on the year's world armaments expenditures;

(b) To use UNDP mechanism for multilateral aid allocation and co-ordination to channel redeployed resources for development purposes;

(c) To establish various United Nations "corps" to which individuals with technical skills gained in the military services would be attached and which would be available to meet development needs.

65. The report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), submitted to the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly (A/39/229), discussed various options about the establishment of an international disarmament fund for development and observed that should such a fund be established and if its resources remained limited, it would be advisable to link it at least in the initial phase to an existing development assistance organization; and in this regard, the report identified UNDP as the most capable organization to administer such a fund. UNDP has expressed its unwillingness to accept such a responsibility should the General Assembly so decide.

United Nations Fund for Population Activities

66. Population policies have increasingly been recognized as an integral part of national development. As stated in the World Population Plan of Action, adopted by consensus by the World Population Conference in 1974, 7/

"Population and development are interrelated: population variables influence development variables and are influenced by them; thus the formulation of a World Population Plan of Action reflects the international"
community's awareness of the importance of population trends for socio-economic development, and the socio-economic nature of the recommendations contained in this Plan of Action reflects its awareness of the crucial role that development plays in affecting population trends."

67. The relationship between disarmament and development is thus, by extension, an important one also in the achievement of population policies and goals, the principal aim of which is to improve the standards of living and the quality of life of the people.

68. This linkage was clearly acknowledged by the International Conference on Population, 1984, held at Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984. As stated in the report of the Conference, entitled "Peace, security and population",

"Being aware of the existing close links between peace and development, it is of great importance for the world community to work ceaselessly to promote, among nations, peace, security, disarmament and co-operation, which are indispensable for the achievement of the goals of humane population policies and for economic and social development. Creating the conditions for real peace and security would permit an allocation of resources to social and economic rather than to military programmes, which would greatly help to attain the goals and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action." 8/

69. Cognizant of the need to more closely study the linkages among population, peace, security, disarmament, co-operation and development, UNFPA convened, with the co-sponsorship of the Institute for Development Studies of the University of Sussex, a Seminar on Population, Development and Peace, in London, from 15 to 17 May 1985. Attended by scholars, parliamentarians, policy-makers and representatives of the mass media, the Seminar was organized with the objective of increasing the awareness of the intricate relationships among population, development and peace, to consider the ways in which action in population could help to achieve and sustain peace, and to suggest types of research that might reveal some of the linkages between various aspects of population, development and peace.

70. Just as progress in the sphere of population and development are reciprocally interrelated and mutually reinforcing, so it is with population and disarmament for, while successful efforts towards disarmament can free up resources for the promotion of population and development objectives, achievements in population can help to reduce the tensions within and between societies. This view was reflected at the Seminar on Population, Development and Peace by the Executive Director of UNFPA as follows:

"What the world spends to arm itself for conflict which could be partially allocated to humane endeavours is important. Global expenditure for armaments is expected to exceed $1 trillion in 1985 - an alarming figure of nearly $3 billion a day. In the case of population assistance through the UNFPA, the largest multilateral source, the total in the past 15 years is a little more than $1 billion - about 8 hours of armaments expenditure per year at the current level. The total annual volume of international population
assistance from all sources today is a mere $500 million or .0005 of the armaments expenditure per year in both developed and developing countries. This is indeed a revealing reflection of the priorities we assign to humanitarian and developmental activities. It also indicates an obvious lack of awareness among policy makers of the links between population and global stability and the role which population plays in shaping political behaviour. Population policies and programmes have to be recognized as human efforts to reduce disparities and imbalances that lead to crises."

71. With the above in mind, and in accordance with its mandate "to promote awareness, both in developed and in developing countries, of the social, economic and environmental implications of national and international population problems ... and of possible strategies to deal with them" (Economic and Social Council resolution 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973), UNFPA will continue to stress the interdependence of population, development, peace, security, co-operation and disarmament.

2. Specialized agencies and other organizations within the United Nations system

International Labour Organisation

72. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has undertaken a programme of research and studies, dissemination of information and attendance at meetings and seminars. The two main goals of the programme are, first, to stress the social advantages and benefits of releasing all or part of the funds at present spent on armaments for allocation to development and basic needs, and, second, to inquire into the problems of converting labour in the defence-related industries to industries producing goods for civil use and for which there is an effective demand. The ILO is attempting an assessment of the overall conversion problem as it affects labour and employment, including the identification of the groups most likely to be affected in terms of skills, occupation, sex and region of residence, combined with an investigation into ways of alleviating manpower conversion problems. Remedies will be sought at the national, regional and plant levels. ILO will use the accumulated experience of many countries in overcoming conversion problems by identifying alternative products requiring the same or similar skills for their production.

73. ILO continues to include the publication of a series of articles on the economic and social consequences of disarmament in the International Labour Review.

74. One common characteristic of the articles so far published in the Review has been their emphasis on the paucity of statistical data on the extent and nature of defence-related employment. The articles have all drawn their statistics from the study issued by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1982 entitled The Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Improving on this data base is a major problem facing ILO research in this area.

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75. Another specific activity is the research project on the social consequences of relocating resources at present used for military purposes, for which ILO has been able to use the "UNITAD" econometric model developed by UNIDO and UNCTAD. The model will be used to assess the impact of alternative disarmament scenarios on employment, unemployment and poverty on a world-wide scale. In the use of this model, several assumptions will be made such as the transfer of different amounts of current armaments expenditures in industrialized countries as official development assistance to developing countries; or, for example, account will be taken of the transitional loss of jobs and other costs in the industrialized countries as workers transfer from arms production to producing goods needed by the developing countries. It is hoped that this project will form the basis of an article or even a book-length study.

76. Another specific activity is the preparation of a questionnaire on manpower employment for military purposes. The questionnaire will be sent to member States, the international trade union and employers' federations and research institutes. The questionnaire covers such areas as the manpower required to produce military goods of all kinds, the employment of manpower structure of the armaments industry, including occupational skills, problems of conversion of personnel engaged in military research and past and/or present experience with conversion plans and activities. The questionnaire covers personnel in defence ministries as well as those in enterprises working as subcontractors to the principal suppliers of military equipment and also covers the employment structure of enterprises supplying non-military items to defence authorities.

77. The information obtained from this questionnaire will be supplemented from a number of other sources. All the information gathered will be used to describe in realistic terms the employment structure of defence-related industries throughout the world, which should in turn throw some light on the problems relating to manpower conversion.

78. At the expert group meeting on the role of women in the promotion of peace held at Vienna, from 5 to 9 December 1983, convened by the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, ILO provided its technical expertise and assisted in linking working women's activities in the following subject areas related to the theme of disarmament and development:

(a) Armaments expenditure and social welfare projects in training and income-generating activities;

(b) Promotion of awareness of women's questions through organizations working for peace;

(c) The reconversion from defence to civilian industries and its effect on women's jobs.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

79. Although the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) does not have a specific mandate in the field of disarmament, the urgency of
putting a stop to the continued diversion of much needed resources into arsenals of death remains a major concern for the organization.

80. At a time when the world is confronted with the magnitude of the tragic situation in Africa and is striving to bring relief to the starving populations of the drought-stricken countries, the need to release human and material resources through the reduction of military expenditures in favour of development in general and of agricultural development in particular is seen by FAO as being more imperative than ever.

81. In this connection FAO, during the year under review, continued whenever possible, to disseminate information on the dramatic consequences of the arms race and in particular through the Director-General's major policy statements.

82. The observance of Disarmament Week, starting on 24 October 1984, was also marked by FAO with the following message:

"Despite these efforts and growing pressures from public opinion, FAO observes with deep concern that the rise in world military expenditure has continued to accelerate year after year and that world tensions still show no sign of diminishing.

"While astronomic financial resources are being wasted to refine instruments of destruction, over two billion people are reduced, for lack of financial resources, to living in absolute poverty; nearly half a billion suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Moreover the repeated occurrence of natural and man-made calamities affects a growing number of developing countries particularly in Africa.

"Such an appalling state of affairs affecting the security of mankind cannot be tolerated any longer.

"FAO, for its part, will continue to be active in its efforts to contribute to the dissemination of information on the awesome consequences of the arms race and to support the commitment of an increasing number of governments giving priority to agricultural development for the well-being of their people.

"Convinced however that never before has the need to rally forces for intensifying co-operation been so imperative, FAO urges once again the leaders of the world to come together so that all available resources be used for the benefit of mankind rather than for its destruction."

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

83. At its extraordinary session, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted resolution 4 IC/2/13, approving the lines of emphasis of Major Programme XIII: "Peace, international understanding, human rights and the rights of peoples". Paragraph 2.1 of this resolution is devoted to Programme XIII.1, "Maintenance of peace and international understanding", one of
the aims of which is to study "the causes and consequences of the arms race, including the interrelationships between disarmament and development, calling for the co-operation of the various disciplines in the social and human sciences and providing support for the establishment and development of research and teaching institutions devoted to the subject".

84. In resolution 22 C/20, entitled "Role of UNESCO in generating a climate of public opinion conducive to the halting of the arms race and the transition to disarmament", adopted at its twenty-second session, the General Conference stated that it was aware of "the vital interest of all nations in the attainment of effective measures of disarmament, which could release considerable financial and material resources to be used for the economic and social development of all States, in particular of developing countries, thereby facilitating the establishment of a new international economic order".

85. Lastly, in addition to the resolutions of the General Conference, it is pertinent to recall decision 114 EX/7.1.5 and 7.9 of the Executive Board of UNESCO, in which the Board invited the Director-General to undertake an in-depth study on the interrelationship between disarmament, peace and development, within the framework of the 1984-1985 programme activities of the organization.

UNESCO activities in the biennum 1984-1985 programme

86. In the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions and decisions of its deliberative bodies, the approved programme and budget of UNESCO for 1984-1985 includes, under subprogramme XIII.1.2 research into the causes and consequences of the arms race and the creation of conditions conducive to disarmament, a programme action which concerns a study of the links between peace, disarmament and development.

87. Thus, during 1984 UNESCO organized at its Paris headquarters on 17 and 18 September, informal consultations on the study of the links between peace, disarmament and development. These consultations brought together experts from the following institutions: the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), the Pugwash Conferences, the International Social Sciences Council, the African Association of Political Science (AAFS), and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences. The consultations were also attended by a representative of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs and an observer for the International Studies Association.

88. The objective of these consultations was to define a frame of reference for the preparation of an international research project on the links between peace, disarmament and development. One of the main concerns expressed by the participants during these consultations was the scanty information available concerning research on that topic. Following the recommendations of the participants, the planned programme by UNESCO for 1985 appraises the research carried out, both within and outside the United Nations system on the links between peace, disarmament and development. This study will be widely disseminated.
89. These informal consultations were followed by a meeting of a working group convened by the International Social Sciences Council, the "Issue Group on Peace", from 13 to 20 September 1984. The Organization was represented at this meeting which was chaired by Professor Vayrynen (Finland) and to which representatives of specialized non-governmental organizations were invited. The meeting ended with the decision to prepare a high-level multidisciplinary study on the topic "The quest for peace".

90. Lastly, it should be stressed that the UNESCO contribution to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 37/84 is closely linked to its contribution to the World Disarmament Campaign. Thus, under the terms of its planned programme for 1985, UNESCO intends to prepare on the basis of the work on the links between peace, disarmament and development, information kits to illustrate, by means of short texts, pictures and diagrams, the progress that can be achieved in its areas of competence as a result of disarmament.

World Health Organization

91. The World Health Organization (WHO) has drawn attention to resolution WHA 36.38 in connection with its activities relevant to disarmament and development. In accordance with this resolution, WHO's continued work on the role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace is the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all. A progress report on the work done in this area is given in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on Disarmament Week (A/40/552).

International Atomic Energy Agency

92. Although the objectives and functions of the International Atomic Energy Agency under its Statute do not directly relate to disarmament, they still have a connection with it because of the promotion of the development of nuclear technology and the safeguards responsibilities. The Agency's objectives are to "seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world" and to "ensure, so far as it is able, that assistance provided by it or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose".

93. IAEA has on several occasions in the past drawn attention to the potential benefit of a transfer to peaceful uses of the fissile material at present in nuclear weapons. It is estimated that if used in the present types of nuclear power reactors and without recycle of the fuel, the material in 50,000 nuclear warheads would represent the total electricity supply for the whole world for about one year or for six years to the developing world at present demand rates.

94. In all transfer of nuclear technology materials or equipment, whether bilaterally between States or through IAEA co-operation and assistance programmes, assurances against use for non-peaceful purposes play a fundamental role. The Agency's safeguards system has become the main instrument for this.
95. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 9/ is of particular importance to disarmament and peaceful nuclear development as outlined in articles VI and IV. Under article III, a specific role is assigned to the Agency.

96. To establish and administer safeguards is one of the main responsibilities of the Agency. Safeguards implementation is regulated by the IAEA Statute and individual safeguards agreements. The Agency verification which flows from the implementation of these agreements is a technical activity to provide the assurance that States are complying with their safeguards agreement obligations.

97. The Agency's responsibilities under its own Statute, to provide an important channel of international co-operation for development, also assists in the fulfilment of the role envisaged for international organizations under article IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

98. The Agency's functions in discharging its statutory responsibilities include the following: to encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world; to act as an intermediary for services and supplies; to make provision for materials, equipment and facilities; to foster the exchange of scientific and technical information; to encourage the exchange and training of scientists and experts.

99. The Agency thus has broad possibilities for promoting development, in accordance with the requests of its member States. For its promotional activities, the Agency has a wide-ranging technical assistance and co-operation programme for assisting developing countries to build up the physical infrastructure and manpower required to utilize nuclear technology for both electric power generation and nuclear research, and also for applications in health, agriculture, hydrology and industry. Within the framework of the programme the Agency provides, on request, expert services, equipment and materials, and arranges training in nuclear science and technology. The technical assistance programme specifically for developing countries totalled nearly $33 million in 1984.

100. With regard to international trade, a Committee on Assurances of Supply was established by the Agency's Board of Governors in June 1980 to consider and advise the Board on:

(a) Ways and means in which supplies of nuclear material, equipment and technology and fuel cycle services can be assured on a more predictable and long-term basis in accordance with mutually acceptable considerations of non-proliferation;

(b) The Agency's role and responsibilities in relation thereto. Initially, the Committee established two working groups: Working Group 1 considered principles of international co-operation in the field of nuclear energy in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Assurances of Supply, and Working Group 2 considered emergency and back-up mechanisms. Subsequently, the Committee established a third working group to consider the question of revision mechanisms. The work of the Committee is still in progress.
III. MEASURES TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES

In response to the Secretary-General's note verbale dated 20 February 1985 the following replies were received from Member States:

AUSTRALIA

1. Australia has noted the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report on the relationship between disarmament and development. 1/

2. Australia firmly supports disarmament and development as foremost goals of the international community. Progress towards each of these goals, considered separately, would greatly enhance national and international security.

3. In its commitment to the elimination of nuclear weapons and the ultimate achievement of general and complete disarmament, Australia will continue to work actively in the United Nations and other disarmament negotiating forums; vigorously promote the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the creation of a Comprehensive Test-ban Treaty.

4. Australia will also continue to work to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor countries of the world through progress in development. Australia has endorsed the United Nations target of 0.17 per cent of gross national product to be allocated to aid, but no firm timetable for achieving this date has been set. Australia must take into account not only the need for developing countries but also local economic circumstances and its capacity to assist.

5. Australia supports the idea of an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development and will be actively involved in the forthcoming Preparatory Committee meetings on the subject and the eventual Conference.

6. Australia is prepared to contribute to a further discussion and investigation of the possibility of establishing an international disarmament fund for development in the context of the Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Australia, however, has serious reservations about the establishment of a fund at this stage. In the absence of meaningful disarmament, a disarmament fund for development would either be empty or consist of monies that would have been devoted to development assistance in any case, but through one of the existing mechanisms.

7. Australia is committed to the principle of reduction of military budgets, provided this can be achieved in ways which would not endanger national security. In this respect, Australia makes available to the United Nations Secretary-General each year the details of its military expenditure in the form of the standardized reporting instrument which has been developed by the United Nations. Australia is also co-operating with the United Nations Study Group that has been established to work out ways and means of making valid international comparisons of military
budgets. It is hoped that the work of this Group will help overcome some of the problems of standardizing military expenditure data, comparing prices cross-nationally and monitoring any agreed reductions, which have plagued past proposals to reduce military budgets.

8. With use of the Australian Resources and Environmental Assessment Model (AREAM), the Australian Department of Home Affairs and Environment has made some preliminary investigations of the environmental, economic and resource costs of global military expenditures. The aim of this part of the AREAM project is to indicate more qualitatively than has been done to date, the effects which changes in levels of military expenditures may have on national economies, trade, aid and environment. The military/economic analysts' applications of AREAM are, however, still in the developmental stage. AREAM may eventually prove useful in the context of future work on reduction of military budgets and in disarmament and development issues.

BULGARIA

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria remains firmly convinced that under present circumstances there is an extremely close link between the problems of disarmament and the social and economic development of society.

2. Studies conducted in many States and in the United Nations on the relationship between disarmament and development convincingly illustrate the negative impact of military spending on the economy of States and show why there is an urgent need to transfer at least some more military resources to the civilian sector so as to hasten economic growth and create more jobs.

3. The conversion of military expenditures to peaceful purposes would, in particular, have a great positive impact on the social and economic situation of the developing countries too, and would also create vast prospects for restructuring international economic relations in the interests of the developing countries, for overcoming the profound differences between them and the highly developed States and for establishing a new economic order. It would expand opportunities for achieving such universal human goals as environmental protection and the elimination of illiteracy, disease, hunger.

4. Bulgaria greatly appreciates the work of the United Nations to inform the international public of the fatal consequences of the arms race for the economic and social development of peoples. A United Nations study prepared by a group of governmental experts will greatly contribute to a proper understanding of the immediate relationship between disarmament and development. It could be useful to States in many ways in the preparation and implementation of their national policy in this area.

5. The recommendations in the study would undoubtedly be very useful in promoting the exchange of national experience and in the organization of agreed international measures to transfer the resources released as a result of future disarmament measures.
6. In its practical activity the Government of Bulgaria is guided by the principle that the allocation of resources to development and to improving the welfare of peoples must occur within the context of practical actions by States to ensure arms limitation and disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field.

7. At the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, such important and urgent questions as the prevention of nuclear war, a freeze of nuclear arsenals, a nuclear-weapons test ban, the prevention of the militarization of outer space, limitation of the naval arms race, and others were again discussed. The prompt solution of these questions could provide in the near future some of the resources so essential for peaceful development.

8. In the view of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, one of the most effective and at the same time simplest ways to curb the arms race and to obtain additional resources for development, including resources to the developing countries, is to reduce military budgets. As far back as 1973, the General Assembly adopted a USSR proposal on the reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization on part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries. Since then, the socialist countries have repeatedly submitted proposals in this area. On 5 March 1984, the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty submitted to the States members of NATO a proposal concerning negotiations on the non-increase and the reduction of military expenditures. This initiative has remained unanswered to this day. On the other hand, NATO and primarily the United States, have made unprecedented increases in their military budgets. Their proposals concerning the "openness" and "publicity" for information about military expenditures are designed to divert attention from the adoption of practical disarmament measures. Appeals to develop a system for comparing military budgets and machinery for standardized accounting are used by a number of States to conceal their unwillingness to reduce military expenditures.

9. Considering that the unabated increase in military expenditures is increasingly becoming an intolerable burden on peoples, the Government of Bulgaria will continue to support all actions in and outside the United Nations aimed at halting the arms race and at a freeze and subsequent reduction of military expenditures as an integral part of the disarmament process. It is precisely in this context that it views the goals and purposes of a study on the relationship between disarmament and development.

10. The conclusions and recommendations of a Group of Governmental Experts, however competent and full of genuine concern the experts may be, can fulfil their purpose effectively only within the general context of real disarmament.

BURMA

The Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has referred the matter to the authorities concerned in Burma for necessary action.
1. The Chinese Government endorses the United Nations study on the relationship between disarmament and development. Today, many of the world's countries are facing severe economic difficulties while hunger, poverty and backwardness persist in many regions; the achievement of their social and economic development has become the urgent desire of the vast majority of developing countries. At the same time, however, the arms race, particularly between the two super-Powers, is swallowing up mankind's precious wealth and resources. Enormous military expenditures not only place a heavy burden on the economies of the countries concerned, but have an impact on the entire world, and on the economic and social development of the developing countries, in particular. Consequently, genuine disarmament and the reallocation of resources intended for military purposes to the peaceful construction of one's own country and assistance to the developing countries must be carried out without delay.

2. The Chinese Government has consistently opposed the arms race and advocated disarmament. It is our hope to develop our economy and build our nation in a lasting international environment of peace. Since the country was founded, the Chinese Army has, in addition to fulfilling its sacred duty to safeguard the country's independence and sovereignty, actively participated in the building of the national economy, making an immense contribution. In order to accelerate the building of the economy and increase the people's standard of living, China has adopted in recent years, a series of measures to reduce military expenditures and arms:

(a) Since 1979, China has reduced military expenditures so that they account for a smaller proportion of government expenditures each year;

(b) Heavy cutbacks in Army units and personnel have allowed a greater number of people to move into various posts related to economic construction;

(c) A number of military installations, including airfields, docks, barracks and sites, have been turned over for local use or are being shared by military and civilian users in order to accelerate the expansion of economic construction;

(d) Several military industrial enterprises are being switched over to the mass production of consumer goods; capabilities are being developed within the Army that have applications both in the Army and locally so that soldiers can participate more effectively in the building of the national economy after their demobilization.

3. The two super-Powers currently possess the world's largest nuclear and conventional weapons; their combined military expenditures exceed the sum total of military expenditures for all other countries in the world, and they continue to increase. Given this reality, China believes that, in keeping with the spirit of paragraphs 48 and 81 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first Special Session devoted to disarmament, the two super-Powers bear a special responsibility with regard to disarmament and should be the first to make extensive cut-backs in arms and military expenditures in order to meet the needs of the times.
FINLAND

1. The Government of Finland attaches great importance to the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development. The release of resources from military purposes through disarmament represents an important potential source for financing social and economic development in both industrialized and developing countries.

2. On the basis of her longstanding interest, Finland has supported the follow-up of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled: Study on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, carried out by a Group of Governmental Experts during the years 1978 to 1981. These recommendations contain guidelines for Member States and the United Nations system in this field. In accordance with resolutions 37/84 and 38/71 A jointly sponsored by the Nordic countries and other delegations, the General Assembly will take up questions regarding the reallocation and conversion of resources at its fortieth session.

3. As single purchasers of goods and services in the military sector, Governments bear the responsibility that investigations are executed on the economic and social consequences, nationally and internationally, of their military spending. They also should inform the public about them. The Government of Finland shares the view that major military Powers should assume a special responsibility in this respect. The provision of such data to the United Nations as recommended in the study would strengthen international confidence and the United Nations capability to deal effectively with the relationship between disarmament and development.

4. The Government of Finland has reported to the United Nations its military expenditures for every fiscal year since 1981 by using the United Nations instrument for standardized international reporting of military expenditures.

5. The Government of Finland stresses the importance of the work of the United Nations in the maintenance of international security. It is important to strengthen the United Nations and develop the possibilities of the Organization to work effectively in the promotion of disarmament and development.

6. Possible institutional arrangements for the transfer of resources freed through disarmament to social and economic development in developing countries need to be studied in view of existing international institutions for transfer of financial resources for development. The Government of Finland has taken a positive attitude towards the establishment of an international disarmament fund for development as one of the alternative institutional arrangements. In this connection, reference is made to the study being prepared by UNIDIR on the modalities for the establishment of an international disarmament fund for development.

FRANCE

1. In accordance with the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, France has undertaken the following action:

/...
(a) It made a financial contribution to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to which resolution 37/84 entrusted the task of conducting an investigation of the modalities of an international disarmament fund for development.

(b) It took the initiative in introducing resolution 38/71 B - calling for the convening of an international conference on the relationship between disarmament and development, pursuant to the proposal to the United Nations General Assembly submitted on 28 September 1983 by the President of the French Republic - which led to a debate in May 1984 in the Disarmament Commission. Subsequently, by resolution 39/160 adopted in December 1984, also on the initiative of France, the General Assembly decided to convene an International Conference on the subject and, to that end, to set up a Preparatory Committee composed of 54 members, which should formulate and submit, by consensus, to the General Assembly at its fortieth session, recommendations as to the provisional agenda, procedure, place, date and duration of the Conference.

HUNGARY

1. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is sincerely convinced of an organic relationship existing between disarmament and development. As is abundantly evidenced by several United Nations studies concerned with different aspects of this question, there is a direct and close relationship between the acceleration of the arms race, the danger of its escalation to new areas, and the deterioration in the atmosphere of mutual confidence.

2. The stepping up of the arms race has led to a deterioration of international economic relations and created difficulties for co-operation between regions with different social systems and at different levels of development. This raises direct obstacles to the establishment of a new, more equitable and more democratic international economic order and to the effective participation of economically less developed countries in the international division of labour.

3. While the most extremist circles of imperialism increase their arms spending at an unprecedented rate, they incur debts, wherever they can, for financing their programmes, involving implications for the world economy.

4. Continuation of the arms race and its extension to new areas would swallow up immense material and intellectual resources. The initial steps to develop new systems of weapons are already liable to produce world economic consequences that promise nothing less than a still more uncertain international political situation even for most of the advanced countries seeking to establish a more equitable framework of international co-operation.

5. It is now clearer than ever that every concrete step toward disarmament would release enormous resources, even if they can hardly be mobilized for other purposes with the arms race going on. Disarmament represents one of the largest and still untapped global reserves for the elimination of social and economic inequalities which divide the world in the extreme. Still squandered on arms build-up that reserve will only become accessible as a result of mankind's deepening economic and
social co-operation and can only be released through a gradual increase in joint
political efforts, regional as well as international to be undertaken by nations
acting with responsibility for the future of mankind.

6. In accordance with its possibilities the Government of Hungary has taken an
active part in the examination of this question, including the preparation of the
study Relationship between Disarmament and Development under the auspices of the
United Nations. This study is convincing proof that redeployment of military
expenditures for peaceful purposes is both possible and necessary. The Hungarian
Government has carefully studied the relevant suggestions and will take them into
account in its activities. It lends support to any initiative likely to increase
development resources through concrete disarmament measures, thereby providing more
assistance to countries most in need.

7. In its foreign and domestic policies alike, the Government of Hungary exerts
efforts towards the peaceful coexistence of peoples and nations and towards
widening economic and social co-operation between them. Aware of the deadly danger
of a war threatening mankind, it wishes to continue making an active contribution
to the strengthening of concerned efforts by the forces fighting to avert this
danger and to the elimination of inequalities dividing mankind.

MEXICO

1. In view of the invitation which the General Assembly addressed to Member
States in resolution 38/71 A, and in view, in particular, to resolution 37/84,
which urges Member States to consider appropriate measures in accordance with all
relevant recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Relationship
between Disarmament and Development, the Government of Mexico has carried out the
following measures:

(a) With regard to the establishment of an International Disarmament Fund for
Development, the Government of Mexico reaffirms the validity of the opinion it
expressed on the subject in 1984 (in connection with resolution 38/71 B) and
emphasizes that the resources channelled to the developing countries as a result of
the application of specific disarmament measures must be additional to the overall
amount of development assistance;

(b) With respect to public information and education activities relating to
disarmament and the need to create greater public awareness of the social and
economic consequences of the arms race and the corresponding benefits of
disarmament, the Government of Mexico has undertaken actions in that area.

2. At the national level, the Government of Mexico has endeavoured to give broad
dissemination to the most up-to-date information on disarmament affairs. The
organization of the Disarmament Week in 1984 stands out in that context.

3. Likewise, attention should be drawn to the unlimited support of the Government
of Mexico for the activities of the World Disarmament Campaign; in that connection,
the Inter-Parliamentary Symposium on Disarmament relating to Conventional Weapons
which was held in Mexico City from 28 to 31 May 1985, is worth mentioning.

/...
4. Convinced of the need to facilitate dialogue between the nuclear Powers so as to work out agreements on disarmament, the President of Mexico, together with the Heads of State or Government of five other non-nuclear-weapon States, signed the Joint Declaration on Disarmament of 22 May 1984 and the Delhi Declaration of 28 January 1985. Both declarations specifically recognize the need for an increasingly well informed public to apply the necessary pressure on the Governments of the nuclear Powers so that they will adopt measures to halt and reverse the arms race.

5. The Five-Continent Peace Initiative has given renewed impetus to the public opinion sensitization activities carried out by a number of non-governmental organizations, municipalities, individuals and others; these have taken the form of massive support for the objectives set by the six signatories at the New Delhi summit meeting in January 1985.

NETHERLANDS

1. The Netherlands wishes to recall its general views on the relationship between disarmament and development as expressed last year in response to resolution 38/71 B and reproduced in document A/CN.10/ST/Add.3.

2. As to the specific recommendations of the United Nations study on the relationship between disarmament and development, the Netherlands also wishes to recall the detailed comments as submitted in 1982 by Belgium on behalf of the Ten States Members of the European Community (A/S-12/13/Add.2). These comments remain completely valid. In this connection the Netherlands Government notes that it has agreed in principle to set up a national committee to examine the question of conversion of defense industries to civilian production. This committee will be composed of representatives also from organizations of employers and employees and from academic institutions.

3. The Netherlands attaches importance to further international deliberation on this subject to promote the objectives of both disarmament and development. The Netherlands therefore welcomes the decision by the General Assembly in its resolution 39/160 to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Its interest for this conference appears in its membership of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference.

NORWAY

1. Norway considers that disarmament and development are two of the major challenges facing the world community today. Disarmament, even on a modest scale, achieved through agreed, mutual, balanced, and verifiable measures, could release resources, now bound to military expenditures, for economic and social development. The resources released in this manner should be utilized in particular for the benefit of developing countries.

2. In the view of the Norwegian Government, this question merits further efforts on an international basis in order to clarify possible agreement on meaningful
concerted measures in this area. We therefore welcome the opportunity offered by an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development to be convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/160.

3. A Norwegian representative took part in the Group of Governmental Experts which produced the study entitled The Relationship between Disarmament and Development. 1/ The following measures and initiatives have been taken by Norway on the basis of the recommendations contained in that study:

(a) Norway co-sponsored the resolutions which were adopted during the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly in regard to the United Nations study (resolutions 37/84 and 38/71 A);

(b) A summary in Norwegian of the United Nations study was published in October 1981 by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the series Current Foreign Policy Issues. In November 1982, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published in the same series a translation into Norwegian of the popular version of the United Nations study (Clyde Sanger, Safe and Sound Disarmament and Development in the Eighties). These publications have been distributed to newspapers, schools, research institutions etc. in Norway;

(c) Norway contributed $15,000 to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in Geneva in connection with the investigation of the modalities of an international disarmament fund for development as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 4 of resolution 37/84. A Norwegian representative took part in the steering group which UNIDIR established to guide that investigation. The report of UNIDIR was presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (A/39/222). Two Norwegian scientists contributed to the report;

(d) Norway co-sponsored the resolution on the convening of an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, adopted at the thirty-ninth session in resolution 39/160. Norway intends to take an active part in the Preparatory Committee for that Conference, which is to formulate and submit, by consensus to the fortieth session of the General Assembly, recommendations as to the provisional agenda, procedure, place, date and duration of the Conference.

4. For a more detailed survey of the view of the Norwegian Government on the relationship between disarmament and development reference is made to:

(a) The reply of Norway to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 36/97 G (A/S-12/13, pp. 22-28);

(b) The reply of Norway to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 38/71 B (A/CN.10/57/Add.1, p. 5).

PAKISTAN

Pakistan has forwarded the Secretary-General's communication to the authorities concerned in Pakistan for further suitable action.
1. By resolution 38/71 A, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session based on appropriate measures taken by Member States and within the United Nations system in accordance with resolution 37/84. The Assembly, in paragraph 2 of resolution 37/84, urged Member States to consider appropriate measures in accordance with all relevant recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts as contained in the Secretary-General's report on the relationship between disarmament and development. 1/

2. In response to the Secretary-General's request, the Government of Sweden wishes to submit the following information.

3. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/84 urging Member States to consider appropriate measures as recommended in the report on the relationship between disarmament and development, the Swedish Government commissioned a study, at the national level, of the possibilities for Sweden, as part of an assumed future international disarmament process, both to reduce its defence spending and to convert military resources to constructive civilian use.

4. The first report on this study was submitted to the Government in August 1984. An English version entitled "In pursuit of disarmament: conversion from military to civil production in Sweden", containing the descriptive and analytical parts of the report, was subsequently transmitted to the United Nations. A second report is expected to be completed in time for the fortieth session of the General Assembly. The whole study is expected to be completed by the end of this year. This study can be seen as a first step in Sweden's fulfilment of the Assembly resolution.

5. The first report has been circulated to a number of Government agencies, regional authorities, trade unions and other organizations for comments, which will form part of the basis on which the Swedish Government will decide its future policy in this field.

6. The report describes in some detail the various components of Sweden's security and defence policy as well as the Swedish arms industry. It explains why Sweden - due to its policy of neutrality - maintains a comparatively large defence-industrial sector. By describing the Swedish defence forces and the defence industry extensively, it aims at focusing interest on, and increasing the knowledge of, military resources in Sweden. The report provides examples of how, in the event of international disarmament, resources could be reallocated for other domestic purposes as well as for development co-operation with developing countries, and explains why preparations for such a conversion of resources must start well in advance of a disarmament process.

7. According to the report, it would be possible to reduce Sweden's defence expenditure if the military blocs started to reduce their armed forces and weapons in Europe, with particular emphasis on offensive weapons and weapons systems. The report concludes that, since the defence sector absorbs only a small percentage of
Sweden's economic resources, the effects for the economy as a whole would be manageable. However, such a reduction would create economic and social difficulties locally, particularly in a number of communities with heavy defence dependency. In order to avert such difficulties, plans would have to be worked out and steps taken to reduce defence dependency by expanding the civil sector.

8. Although effective international disarmament may still be a remote possibility, the report concludes that it would be essential to start preparing for defence-industry conversion today. Experience gained from reductions in defence procurement in recent years indicates that, because of the particular characteristics of the defence industries, it takes a long time, often as much as ten years, to design and develop competitive products for civilian markets. Also, it is of the utmost importance that those working in the defence industry should not have to look upon disarmament as a threat to their future and their means of livelihood.

9. Another important consideration emphasized in the report is that the Government has a responsibility for defence industry conversion since the human and technical resources involved have been utilized for national defence purposes. A number of practical measures are suggested in order to facilitate conversion from military to civilian production in Sweden.

10. According to both the Secretary-General's report on the relationship between disarmament and development and the above-mentioned Swedish report, it would be desirable for a link to be established between disarmament and development by reallocating resources from the military sector to meeting the needs of economic and social development, not least in developing countries. Such resources should be additional to existing allocations made for development purposes. Such a transfer of additional resources would contribute to development efforts in all parts of the world as well as to the attainment of a more just distribution of the world's resources.

11. The Swedish report suggests that an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations would be helpful in this respect, since it would facilitate a discussion of a global, integrated view of disarmament and development. Such a conference would create a better understanding of the need to devote more resources to development co-operation with developing countries. The report concludes that Sweden should take an active part in the proposed International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

12. The impact of world military expenditure on the world economic situation and development should, in the Swedish Government's opinion, be a matter of concern for the entire world community. Accordingly, serious attention needs to be given, particularly by all major weapon-producing countries, to the question of reallocating resources to civilian purposes and to the definition of appropriate ways and means for such a reallocation. If, for instance, as a confidence-building measure in connection with disarmament negotiations, the super-Powers were to make public detailed plans for converting their armaments industries, this might enhance confidence in their sincerity to seek agreement on effective arms reductions. It...
might help to improve the general negotiation atmosphere without incurring any risk for the parties concerned.

13. The Swedish Government is concerned about the vast resources currently being spent on the arms race. As resources are finite, there is inevitably a close relationship between expenditure on armaments and economic and social development. The huge consumption of material, and of technical and human resources for potentially destructive purposes is not only in sombre contrast to the want and poverty in which two thirds of the world's population live, but, may in itself also be a source of international tension. As a peaceful and stable world order also depends on narrowing the gap between developed and developing countries, it is hoped that the practical measures indicated above could prove to be beneficial in achieving both disarmament and development. The economic and social consequences of the arms race are so detrimental that its continuation is incompatible with the implementation of an international order based on justice, equity and co-operation. Thus, as declared in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session (resolution S-10/2), resources released as a result of the implementation of disarmament measures should be used in a manner which will help to promote the well-being of all peoples and to improve the economic conditions of the developing countries.

Notes

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.IX.1. The study was originally issued as document A/36/356 and Corr.1.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, document A/S-12/32, annex V.


6/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.IX.6, appendix II.


8/ Report of the International Conference on Population, 1984, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigendum), chap. II.

9/ General Assembly resolution 2373 (XXI), annex.