PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF DISARMAMENT AND ARMS LIMITATION NEGOTIATIONS SINCE 1978 - INCLUDING THEIR RESULTS - CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ON A REGIONAL BASIS OR BILATERALLY, WITH INDICATION, WHERE APPROPRIATE, OF THE PROCEDURES FOLLOWED TO KEEP THE UNITED NATIONS INFORMED

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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INTRODUCTION

1. In 1978 the General Assembly held its first special session devoted to disarmament and decided that a second special session should be held at a future date. 1/ That same year, at its thirty-third regular session, the General Assembly decided to convene the second special session devoted to disarmament in 1982 (resolution 33/71 H).

2. The General Assembly, at its thirty-fifth session in 1980, decided to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Second Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament composed of 78 Member States, appointed by the President of the General Assembly on the basis of equitable geographic distribution, with the mandate to prepare a draft agenda, to examine all relevant questions relating to that session and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session its recommendations thereon (resolution 35/47).

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 5 December 1980, the Preparatory Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a number of factual background papers on various subjects. The Committee indicated that this could be done either by updating or supplementing the papers which had been prepared for the first special session devoted to disarmament or in other ways, as appropriate (A/AC.206/SR.3).

4. In response to the request of the Preparatory Committee, the Secretariat has prepared this working paper entitled "Brief synopsis of disarmament and arms limitation negotiations since 1978 - including their results - carried out within the framework of the United Nations, on a regional basis or bilaterally, with indication, where appropriate, of the procedures followed to keep the United Nations informed" (A/AC.206/16). This paper covers the information on the subject for the period 1978-1981, and is meant to be a supplement to the earlier working paper under the same title, covering the period 1945-1977, prepared by the Secretariat in connexion with the first special session devoted to disarmament (A/AC.187/67).

5. In the preparation of the synopsis, the Secretariat drew mainly on the publication The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vols. 3, 4 and 5: 1978, 1979 and 1980, and other United Nations Disarmament documents. The synopsis is by no means exhaustive, since it covers only those negotiations on which information is available to the Secretariat.

I. DISARMAMENT AND ARMS LIMITATION NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS OR LINKED TO IT

6. The Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, adopted by consensus on 30 June 1978, recognized that the United Nations has a central role and primary responsibility in the sphere of disarmament. 1/ Paragraph 114 of the Final Document states, inter alia, that the United Nations should "facilitate and encourage all disarmament measures - unilateral, bilateral, regional or multilateral - and be kept duly informed through
the General Assembly, or any appropriate United Nations channel reaching all Members of the Organization, of all disarmament efforts outside its aegis without prejudice to the progress of negotiations".

7. The Final Document also stated that, for maximum effectiveness, two kinds of bodies are required in the field of disarmament - deliberative and negotiating. In this connexion, the General Assembly at its special session decided (a) that "The General Assembly ... should remain the main deliberative organ of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and should make every effort to facilitate the implementation of disarmament measures"; (b) that the First Committee of the General Assembly should deal in the future only with questions of disarmament and related international security questions; and (c) that the Disarmament Commission, composed of all Member States, should be a deliberative body, a subsidiary organ of the Assembly. The General Assembly, furthermore, welcomed the agreement to establish a multilateral negotiating body - the Committee on Disarmament - which would be convened in Geneva not later than January 1979.

A. General Assembly

8. Through its resolutions and decisions the General Assembly provides guidelines for the work of its subsidiary organs, as well as the other bodies dealing with disarmament. In order to facilitate consideration of some particular disarmament issues, the General Assembly has in recent years also established ad hoc committees. The work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference is still under way.

9. While disarmament items are allocated and discussed in the First Committee, there may occur some instances of discussion of these issues at the plenary session and in other Main Committees.

B. Disarmament Commission

10. In accordance with the Final Document, the Disarmament Commission was given the function of considering and making recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and of following up the relevant decisions and recommendations of the special session. It was further decided that the Commission should, inter alia, consider the elements of a comprehensive programme of disarmament to be submitted as recommendations to the General Assembly and, through it, to the negotiating body, the Committee on Disarmament. The Commission was to make every effort to adopt decisions on substantive questions by consensus and to report annually to the General Assembly.

11. Pursuing the priorities indicated in its mandate, the Disarmament Commission adopted at its first substantive session in May-June 1979 and recommended to the General Assembly concise "Elements of a comprehensive programme of disarmament", 2/ which have been transmitted to and, since 1980, are under consideration by the Committee on Disarmament.

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12. Pursuant to resolution 34/75, the Commission considered, at its second substantive session in May-June 1980, the elements of the declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade. Its recommendations on this item became the substantive part of resolution 35/46 on this subject adopted by the General Assembly in December 1980.

13. Two items have since figured prominently on the agenda of the substantive sessions of the Commission: one is elaborating a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament, and the other is the question of the reduction of military budgets. In accordance with resolution 35/156 A, the Commission had on its 1981 agenda a new item entitled "Elaboration of the general approach to the study on all aspects of the conventional arms race and on disarmament relating conventional weapons and armed forces, as well as its structure and scope". Having established a working group and studied a number of proposals for the guidelines of the study, the Commission adopted a recommendation that Member States should give the matter further consideration.

C. Committee on Disarmament

14. The Committee on Disarmament, the United Nations' single multilateral disarmament negotiating body under the new arrangements adopted by the General Assembly in 1978 at its tenth special session, includes the five nuclear-weapon States (China, France, USSR, United Kingdom and United States) and 35 other States (Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire). China has participated in the work of the Committee since the beginning of the 1980 session. The Final Document of the special session provided that the membership of the Committee would be reviewed at regular intervals. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, following consultations with the Committee on Disarmament, would appoint the Secretary of the Committee, who would also act as his personal representative, to assist the Committee and its Chairman. The Final Document also provided that the chairmanship of the Committee would be rotated among all its members on a monthly basis, that the Committee would conduct its work by consensus, submit a report to the General Assembly annually, and make arrangements enabling States not members of the Committee to submit written proposals or working documents, as well as to express views in the Committee when their particular concerns were under discussion. 3/

15. In 1979, its first year, the Committee on Disarmament adopted its rules of procedure and agreed on a description of 10 areas of disarmament in conformity with the priorities laid down in the Final Document. Within this framework of problem areas, the Committee has adopted the agenda for its annual sessions. 4/ Six items have been dealt with during all or most of the sessions of the Committee by 1981: nuclear test ban; cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament; effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons; new types of weapons of mass
destruction: radiological weapons; chemical weapons; and comprehensive programme of disarmament. During the 1980 and 1981 sessions the Committee has established four Ad Hoc Working Groups to negotiate in their respective substantive areas, as follows:

16. The Ad Hoc Working Group established to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons has focused its attention primarily on the scope and nature of such arrangements, on the understanding that agreement on them could facilitate agreement on the form of the agreements. The objective has been to evolve a common formula acceptable to all which could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character.

17. The Ad Hoc Working Group established to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on a convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons has examined a draft convention on such a prohibition, which is a joint initiative by the Soviet Union and the United States. Differences in concept regarding approach, priority, definition, verification, and certain other matters have necessitated continued negotiations to elaborate a convention.

18. The Ad Hoc Working Group established to define, through substantive examination, issues to be dealt with in the negotiations on a convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction also deals with a problem area which has been the subject of bilateral negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union. In spite of substantial convergence of views on a number of issues, considerable differences of opinion still exist. There has been discussion on revising the mandate of the Working Group so as to enable it to initiate negotiations on the text of the convention.

19. The Ad Hoc Working Group established to initiate negotiations on the comprehensive programme of disarmament in conformity with article 109 of the Final Document of the 1978 special session has discussed various aspects of the programme including the preamble, objectives, principles, priorities, measures, stages and machinery. Additional questions, such as the elimination of the danger of nuclear war as an immediate objective and a possible time frame for the over-all programme, have also been under discussion.

20. Although no additional subsidiary organs have been established for the other items on the agenda of the Committee on Disarmament, the Committee has also continued to consider the question of the nuclear-test ban, partly on the basis of reports of the parties in the trilateral negotiations between the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States, and on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

D. International Atomic Energy Agency

21. Article III.A.5 of the Statute of IAEA provides that the Agency is authorized "to establish and administer safeguards designed to ensure that special fissionable
and other materials, services, equipment, facilities and information made available by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control are not used in such a way as to further any military purpose; and to apply safeguards, at the request of the parties, to any bilateral or multilateral arrangement, or at the request of a State, to any of that State's activities in the field of atomic energy".

22. In accordance with article III of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, "Each non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty undertakes to accept safeguards, as set forth in an agreement to be negotiated and concluded with the International Atomic Energy Agency in accordance with the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Agency's safeguards system, for the exclusive purpose of verification of the fulfilment of its obligations assumed under this Treaty with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other explosive devices."

23. Article 13 of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America states that "each Contracting Party shall negotiate multilateral or bilateral agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of its safeguards to its nuclear activities ..."

24. Information on safeguards agreements concluded under the provisions of the above mentioned international treaties as well as on instances of countries which are not parties to these treaties but have concluded respective agreements with IAEA is submitted to the General Assembly in the annual reports of the Agency, which are considered both in the plenary meetings and in the First Committee.

25. The relevant achievements of IAEA in other fields of its activities, bearing upon nuclear non-proliferation issues and the promotion of international co-operation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy, were summarized in the General Assembly's resolutions 33/3, 34/11 and 35/17, which commended IAEA, in particular, for its contribution to the assessment of uranium resources, production and demand; its study and follow-up action with regard to the international management of spent fuel and an establishment of a system of plutonium storage; its assistance in the negotiation of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials opened for signature on 3 March 1980; its technical and administrative support to the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE), completed in February 1980, and IAEA work on nuclear safety and environmental protection.

E. Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

26. In accordance with article VIII of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty was held in Geneva from 11 August to 7 September 1980. After extensive negotiations reflecting differences in perception as to how to achieve the objectives of the Treaty, but never calling the value of the Treaty into question, the Conference adopted a procedural Final Document without a substantive final declaration. 5/
27. As regards the convening of a third Review Conference, the Final Document invited States parties to the Treaty which are Members of the United Nations to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include the following item in the provisional agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly: Implementation of the conclusions of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and establishment of a Preparatory Committee for the Third Conference.

F. Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Weapons

28. Pursuant to article XII of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, the first Review Conference of the parties to the Convention was held in Geneva from 3 to 21 March 1980. The Conference, which adopted its Final Document by consensus, gave the parties to the Convention, inter alia, an opportunity to reaffirm their strong determination to exclude completely the use of biological weapons. The Final Declaration was welcomed by the General Assembly in resolution 35/144 A, adopted on 12 December 1980.

G. United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

29. The question of the prohibition or restriction of the use of specific categories of conventional weapons which may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects was considered by four sessions of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, organized under the auspices of the United Nations, between 1974 and 1977. Also, two sessions of the Conference of Government Experts devoted to the same problem area were held in 1974 and 1976. In 1977, on the basis of a recommendation of the Diplomatic Conference, the General Assembly decided to convene a United Nations Conference in 1979, with a view to reaching agreement on prohibitions or restrictions of the use of such conventional weapons.

30. The United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects was convened at Geneva from 10 to 28 September 1979. Since it became clear during the Conference that further negotiations were required, a second session of the Conference was held from 15 September to 10 October 1980.

31. On 10 October 1980, the Conference unanimously adopted its final report to the General Assembly, 6/ to which was annexed the Final Act of the Conference together with the texts of the following instruments and resolution as its appendices: A. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects; B. Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I); C. Protocol on
Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-traps and Other Devices (Protocol II); D. Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III); and E. Resolution on small-calibre weapon systems. The Convention was opened for signature on 10 April 1981 in New York.

32. By resolution 35/153, the General Assembly decided to include a similar item in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session, taking note with appreciation of the final report.

H. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other relevant activities

33. An Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies was drafted in this Committee and adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 1979 in resolution 34/68. The agreement stipulates that the moon shall be used by all States parties to the agreement "exclusively for peaceful purposes", and that they shall not place in orbit around or other trajectory to or around the moon objects carrying nuclear weapons or any kinds of weapons of mass destruction, or place or use such weapons on or in the moon. The agreement has not yet entered into force.

34. Other initiatives in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space include a French proposal for an international satellite monitoring agency to monitor the implementation of international disarmament and security agreements, made during the 1978 special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. On 10 August 1981, the Soviet Union requested the inclusion on the agenda of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Conclusion of a treaty on the prohibition of the stationing of weapons of any kind in outer space".


35. A draft convention 7/ is before the Conference as a basis for negotiations. Although it does not deal strictly with disarmament issues, some of its draft articles are related to matters that may have relevance for future disarmament and arms limitation talks. Article 19 on the meaning of innocent passage provides that passage of a foreign ship shall be considered to be prejudicial to the peace, good order or security of the coastal State, if in the territorial sea it engages, inter alia, in any of the following activities:

(a) Any threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of the coastal State;

(b) Any exercise or practice with weapons of any kind;

(c) The launching, landing or taking on board of any aircraft or any military device.

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36. In his annual report on the work of the Organization, the Secretary-General submits regularly to the General Assembly information on the activities of the Conference. The Conference decided on 24 August 1981 that its present informal text for a draft convention would be revised at the end of 1981 session and issued as "the official draft convention on the law of the sea". It decided to meet again from 8 March to 30 April 1982 for its "final decision-making session for the adoption of the convention".

II. REGIONAL DISARMAMENT AND ARMS LIMITATION NEGOTIATIONS
AND OTHER MULTILATERAL TALKS

A. Denuclearization of Latin America

37. The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) and its Protocols were opened for signature in Mexico City on 14 February 1967. In its resolution 2286 (XXII), the General Assembly welcomed the Treaty with special satisfaction and, since then, it has been kept informed of developments relating to its implementation, such as the establishment of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and signatures and ratifications of the Treaty and its two Additional Protocols. In this respect, the General Assembly has adopted since 1978 relevant resolutions appealing to the States contemplated in the Protocols to sign and ratify them. In resolution 35/143 the General Assembly expressed its satisfaction over the completion of the adhesion procedure with regard to the Protocol I by the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, as well as its signature by the United States and France. However, it regretted that the United States and France had not completed the ratifications of this Protocol.

B. Denuclearization of Africa

38. In 1964, the heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity approved the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, which solemnly declared their readiness to undertake, through an international agreement to be concluded under United Nations auspices, not to manufacture or control atomic weapons. At the request of 34 African States, the Declaration was issued as a document of the General Assembly. In resolution 2033 (XX) the General Assembly endorsed the Declaration and expressed the hope that the African States would initiate studies to implement it. Thereafter the Assembly has adopted a number of resolutions reaffirming its call upon all States to respect and abide by the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

39. The Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament stated the following:

Paragraph 63 (c):

"In Africa, where the Organization of African Unity has affirmed a decision for the denuclearization of the region, the Security Council shall take appropriate effective steps whenever necessary to prevent frustration of his objective".

/...
40. In the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-third to thirty-fifth regular sessions, under the agenda item "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa", the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance to the Organization of African Unity towards realization of the Declaration (resolutions 33/63, 34/76 A and 35/146).

41. One of the recent aspects of the question of denuclearization of Africa was the elaboration, upon initiative of African States, of the report by the Secretary-General on South Africa's plan and capability in the nuclear field. 12/ The General Assembly requested the Security Council to take appropriate steps to prevent that country from developing and acquiring nuclear weapons.

C. **Nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East**

42. The first Special Session devoted to disarmament, in its Final Document, called for the serious consideration and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions. Consideration should be given to a Security Council role in advancing the establishment of a Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone.

43. The General Assembly, at its thirty-third to thirty-fifth regular sessions, adopted respective resolutions in support of the concept of the zone (33/64, 34/77 and 35/147).

44. By resolutions 33/71 A and 34/89, the General Assembly took up the matter of Israeli nuclear armament and requested the Security Council to adopt appropriate measures preventing the acquisition of nuclear weapons by that country. The Secretary-General was requested to prepare, with the assistance of qualified experts, a study on Israeli nuclear armament to be presented at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

D. **Indian Ocean**

45. The idea of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean region gained prominence and momentum when the Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Lusaka in 1970, endorsed the idea and called upon the United Nations to declare this region a zone of peace from which great Power rivalries, military bases and nuclear weapons would be excluded. On 16 December 1971 the General Assembly adopted resolution 2832 (XXVI) in which it solemnly declared that the Indian Ocean, within limits to be determined together with the air space above and the ocean floor subjacent thereto, was designated for all time as a zone of peace.

46. In 1972, the General Assembly established a 15-member Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (subsequently increased on several occasions to 45 members) to study the implications of the proposal and practical measures that might be taken to achieve its objectives.

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47. Three rounds of bilateral Soviet-American talks were carried out in 1977 and 1978. In February 1978 the talks were suspended.

48. At the first special session devoted to disarmament the subject consumed much time and effort, but most of the outstanding issues remained unresolved.

49. In 1979, a meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States, including other members of the Ad Hoc Committee as well as the great Powers and major maritime users of the Indian Ocean, was held in New York. Following a recommendation of the Meeting contained in its Final Document, 13/ the General Assembly in its resolution 34/80 B decided to convene a conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, Sri Lanka. The matter remains under the consideration of the Ad Hoc Committee.

E. Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

50. The Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, adopted on the highest political level in Helsinki on 1 August 1975, was the conclusion of efforts and proposals dealing with various aspects of European security, which date back to the early 1950s. One of the five sections of the Final Act is devoted to questions relating to security in Europe and contains a Declaration on Principles Guiding Relations between Participating States and a Document on Confidence-building Measures and Certain Aspects of Security and Disarmament. The measures considered in the Document fall under the following headings: prior notification of major military manoeuvres; prior notification of other military manoeuvres; exchange of observers; prior notification of major military movements; and other confidence-building measures. As regards major military manoeuvres (defined as exceeding a total of 25,000 troops), there is the more precise commitment of signatories to notify such manoeuvres 21 days or more in advance and to provide other relevant information on them. As stated in the Final Act, the participating States recognized the interest of all of them in efforts aimed at lessening military confrontation and promoting disarmament. They also expressed their conviction of the necessity to take effective measures as steps towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

51. The Final Act contains provisions for the follow-up of the Conference. The first meeting of the representatives of the participating States took place in Belgrade in 1977 and 1978, where they agreed to hold further meetings and to continue the multilateral process initiated by the Conference. Since then, there have been numerous proposals for developing and enlarging the military aspects of security in Europe and first of all confidence-building measures, inter alia, two difference proposals for a conference on disarmament in Europe and a proposal for a disarmament programme for Europe.

52. The second follow-up meeting of the representatives of the participating States of the Conference was convened on 11 November 1980 in Madrid. On 24 July 1981 the meeting was adjourned until 27 October 1981.

53. In the Declaration of Principles of the 1975 Final Act of the Conference the participating States reaffirm their support for the United Nations and for the
enhancement of its role in strengthening international peace and security; furthermore, in connexion with several of the principles, references are made to the relevant purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Since the adoption of the Final Act, many references have been made in statements at the General Assembly stressing its significance and its main provisions.

F. Mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe

54. Early suggestions for separate negotiations to deal with the limitation of forces and armaments in Europe were first made in the mid-1950s. During the 1950s and the early 1960s, a number of proposals on this matter were put forward, notably proposals for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in central and northern Europe, and in the Balkans.

55. Following preparatory consultations between States, members of NATO and parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held in Vienna from 31 January to 28 June 1973, formal negotiations opened in Vienna on 30 October 1973. The area contemplated for reductions and limitations comprises the territories of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Poland. In addition to these countries, four other States which maintain forces in the area, Canada, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States are direct participants in the negotiations. Eight other States take part in the negotiations with special status: Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Romania and Turkey. Western participants have maintained a reservation as to the ultimate status of Hungary which in their view should become a participant to certain measures; Hungary has stated that it could consider taking part in certain measures only if Italy also takes part.

56. The goal, as stated jointly by participating States in a communiqué dated 28 June 1973, is to contribute to a more stable relationship and to the strengthening of peace and security in Europe while maintaining undiminished security for each party. However, the positions of the two sides as to practical ways of reaching this goal have differed in important respects.

57. The initial positions of the two sides were reflected in the proposals put forward on 8 November 1973 by the Eastern negotiators, and on 22 November 1973 by the West. These proposals were subsequently revised on several occasions. Notably, on 16 December 1975, the Western participants tabled the so-called "nuclear option" for a withdrawal of 1,000 United States nuclear warheads and some types of nuclear delivery means. In response, on 19 February 1976, the Eastern participants offered their readiness to carry out two-phased reductions, on an equitable basis, embracing armed forces of all direct participants in the agreed area of Central Europe, while the first stage would focus on the withdrawals of respective contingents of the Soviet and United States ground forces. Further modifications of the positions led in 1978 to the acceptance in principle, by the Eastern participants, of the idea of common collective combined ceilings on ground and air forces of the NATO and Warsaw Treaty countries in the agreed area of central Europe, with the understanding that de facto distribution of reductions would eventually be made on a national basis.

...
58. Notwithstanding this rapprochement of positions, considerable differences concerning the volume and modalities of reductions by East and West remained.

59. The issue of data concerning the size of respective armed forces in the area was brought into prominence and has been unsolved for several years now, although a series of exchanges of official data and profound technical discussions of military experts took place throughout the negotiations 1976 to 1981. In June 1980, upon an Eastern participants' proposal, both sides exchanged the official data, updated as of 1 January 1980. However, the Western side maintained that there were still significant discrepancies in the evaluation of the strength of respective armed forces.

60. Since 1976 one of the outstanding topics of the talks has been the idea, submitted by the Eastern participants, that the direct participants in the Vienna talks should undertake to freeze the levels of their armed forces (ground forces in particular) in central Europe. The proposal met with Western objections on the grounds that it would be prejudicial to the solving of the data issue.

61. In recent years, the visible outcome of the talks consisted of unilateral steps taken in October 1979 by the USSR (the withdrawal of 1,000 tanks and 20,000 troops from the area) and the withdrawal from Europe of 1,000 nuclear warheads by the United States, as announced in December 1979 at the NATO meeting.

62. The United Nations is not officially informed of the negotiating process. However, the States participating in the negotiations and other States Members have frequently referred to the importance of these talks at various sessions of the General Assembly since 1973, expressing their hope that they would lead to the solution of the issues under discussion.

G. Declaration of Ayacucho

63. On 9 December 1974 Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela adopted in Lima the Declaration in which they express their commitment to create conditions conducive to effective arms limitation, and to stop the acquisition of arms for aggressive ends. They also condemn the use of nuclear energy for other than peaceful purposes. At the request of the above-mentioned States, the text of the Declaration was issued as a document of the General Assembly on 28 January 1975.

64. The principles of this Declaration were reaffirmed in 1978 in a joint communique issued by the foreign ministers of those same countries, in which they expressed their countries' willingness to explore, together with the other Latin American countries, possibilities for reaching an agreement on limiting conventional weapons in the region (A/S-10/AC.1/34, annex).

65. At a meeting in Mexico City in August 1978, representatives from 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries agreed to propose for the consideration of their Governments the establishment of a regional consultation mechanism relating to disarmament matters in the field of conventional weapons in general and called upon all countries of the region to participate in these endeavours.
H. Group of nuclear-supplier States

66. From 1975 to 1978, this group has reportedly been holding meetings in London on nuclear export policy. The talks were held on a multilateral basis but with limited participation. They were concerned with preventing the diversion of exported nuclear material and equipment from peaceful purposes to the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

67. The consultations among members of the group, which eventually comprised 14 States, were private. Official information on their results is not available at the United Nations, but many references to them are found in statements made in the General Assembly and the CCD.

I. International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation

68. In October 1977, upon the initiative of the United States, experts from 40 countries met in Washington to initiate a dialogue at the technical level among the developed and developing countries, suppliers and recipients of nuclear technology, equipment and materials. The initiative was designed to provide data and options regarding less proliferation-prone nuclear fuel cycles, thus facilitating political solutions accommodating different attitudes on the question of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

69. INFCE, at the very outset, was defined as a technical study, not negotiations. Its terms of reference were described in the final communiqué of the Organizing Conference. Representative of 56 States took part in the first Plenary Conference held in Vienna from 27 to 29 November 1978. The subsequent work was carried out in eight working groups. A technical Co-ordinating Committee composed of the chairmen of the working groups acted as a steering committee. The Final Plenary Conference took place in February 1980, thus completing the evaluation. From the beginning it was agreed that Governments are in no way committed to accept its results and that the evaluation was to be carried in a spirit of objectivity, with mutual respect for each country's choices and decisions in the field, without jeopardizing their respective fuel cycle policies and international co-operation agreements and contracts for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, provided that agreed safeguards were applied.

70. The INFCE, although unrelated to the United Nations system, has been referred to on several occasions by the General Assembly, which commended IAEA for its assistance in the administrative and financial arrangements provided for the participants of this multilateral dialogue.

III. BILATERAL DISARMAMENT AND ARMS LIMITATION NEGOTIATIONS

A. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks

71. During the period under review, high-level meetings between the representatives of the Soviet Union and the United States were held in Washington,
Moscow and Geneva from 1977 to 1979 while the SALT delegations of the two States continued to work. The negotiations were concluded on 18 June 1979 in Vienna with the signing of a Treaty on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, together with a Protocol to be considered as an integral part of the Treaty, and a Joint Statement of Principles and Basic Guidelines for Subsequent Negotiations on the Limitation of Strategic Arms. The SALT II Treaty has not entered into force. The text of the Treaty as well as the accompanying Protocol and Joint Statement have been reproduced as a document of the Committee on Disarmament. 30/ By resolution 35/156 K, adopted on 12 December 1980, the General Assembly, inter alia, urged the two signatory States not to delay any further the entry into force of the Treaty.

B. Bilateral negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union on chemical weapons

72. Since July 1974, bilateral negotiations between the two States have been held in an effort to reach agreement on a text of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons for submission to the multilateral negotiating body. The latest developments in this process have been the submission of joint reports on 7 August 1979 and 7 July 1980 by the Soviet Union and the United States on the progress achieved in the negotiations. Taking note of the latter report in resolution 35/144 B, adopted on 12 December 1980, the General Assembly expressed regret for the fact that the negotiations had not yet resulted in the elaboration of a joint initiative.

IV. TRILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN

73. Following bilateral consultations between the Soviet Union and the United States in June 1977, negotiations, in which the United Kingdom joined, began in July of that year for the achievement of a comprehensive test ban. Several rounds of these talks have since taken place and progress reports have been provided from time to time to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and, since 1979, to the Committee on Disarmament. In addition to the progress reports, the parties have commented individually on the state of the trilateral negotiations. Certain aspects have emerged from the reports concerning the substance of the negotiations. They are aimed at achieving a treaty prohibiting nuclear-weapon tests in all environments and a protocol - an integral part of the treaty - covering nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

74. Despite certain progress achieved in 1977 and subsequent years, the trilateral talks have not as yet succeeded in formulating a treaty text which could be submitted to the Committee on Disarmament for multilateral consideration. The major unresolved issues concern certain aspects of verification, as well as the scope and the duration of the comprehensive test ban.

75. The General Assembly, in resolutions 35/145 A and B, adopted on 12 December 1980, urged the Committee on Disarmament to create an ad hoc working group which should begin multilateral negotiations on the treaty. On 24 April 1980, the Group of 21, a group of socialist States and other delegations,
submitted to the Committee a proposal for the establishment of such a working group. The United States explained that in the prevailing circumstances it was not in a position to agree to the establishment of such a group, while the United Kingdom reaffirmed its preference for the continuation of the trilateral negotiations. The Soviet Union, the third participant in the negotiations, supported the proposal to set up a working group.
REFERENCES


3. Ibid., Tenth Special Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/S-10/4), sect. III, para. 120.


5. NPT/CONF.II/22/I.


10. A/7639 and A/8076.

11. A/5975.


