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

Fourth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 30th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 26 April, at 3.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. ADENIJI (Nigeria)

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consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the
session.
The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The CHAIRMAN declared open the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee.

2. He reminded members that paragraph 29 of the Preparatory Committee's report to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly (A/36/49) stated that: "The Preparatory Committee should hold one final session from 26 April to 14 May 1982 to continue consideration of substantive issues related to the special session, including the implementation of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Assembly at its tenth special session, for incorporation in the document(s) to be adopted at the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and any remaining organizational and procedural matters."

3. During the current session of the Preparatory Committee, which was to be its last one, much work could be accomplished provided that delegations approached the discussion of the issues in a spirit of co-operation. In using the time and facilities available, the Committee would have to proceed in a flexible and disciplined manner. It might be useful to begin by identifying the substantive issues the Committee wished to consider, including the way in which it would discharge its mandate. A decision could then be taken, after appropriate reflection, on the drafting of the recommendations to be submitted at the second special session, with particular reference to agenda items 4, 5 and 6. Those items might initially be discussed together, pending the emergence of a common approach.

4. The Committee would have to adopt recommendations on a number of additional issues, including the participation of non-governmental organizations at the special session. He reminded members that in paragraph 28 of its report to the General Assembly (A/36/49) the Committee had recommended that the Ad Hoc NGO Liaison Group of the two NGO disarmament committees at Geneva and United Nations Headquarters would make an appropriate speakers' list of representatives of non-governmental organizations and peace and disarmament research institutions. He would draw that list to the Committee's attention as soon as it became available.

5. At the first special session a precedent had been established: the Director-General of IAEA and the Director-General of UNESCO had been invited to address the plenary of the special session because of the special role those organizations played in the field of disarmament. He also recalled that the Secretary-General had been requested in General Assembly resolution 36/7, concerning the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations, to submit a report at the second special session, to be prepared in co-operation with UNEP. That report was to contain recommendations for the adoption by States of specific obligations and measures relating to the protection of nature from the pernicious effects of the arms race, and to the limitation and prohibition of the types of military activity which currently constituted the greatest danger for nature. It appeared, therefore, that UNEP and other members of the United Nations family were interested in the work of the special session and wished to have appropriate access to the discussions. Therefore, although members
of the United Nations family were notified by the Secretary-General of the convening of the special session so that no special steps were required, the Committee might wish to consider expressing its appreciation by considering how a specialized agency that wished to participate in the session might do so.

6. The Committee would have before it document A/AC.206/19, which contained replies submitted by Governments in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 36/81 A. In view of the interest expressed at previous sessions by several delegations, the Committee would also have before it a document prepared by the Centre for Disarmament and the Department of Public Information summarizing public information activities in the field of disarmament. An information document listing the communications received from non-governmental organizations would also be circulated.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (A/AC.206/20)

7. The agenda was adopted.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

8. The CHAIRMAN said that he would call a meeting of the Bureau to discuss the organization of work and would refer its conclusions to the Committee for its consideration.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.