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

VIEWS OF MEMBER STATES ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER RELEVANT
QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[29 May 1987]

1. The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic took an active part in the first and second special sessions of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament and considers the holding of special sessions to be an important element in the concentration of efforts by the entire international community to achieve progress in preventing nuclear war and furthering disarmament.

2. The results achieved by the previous special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, particularly the Final Document of the first special session, constituted an important stage in United Nations activity in this field. The Final Document of the first special session, the effectiveness of which was solemnly reaffirmed at the second special session, has become a recognized and - what is important - a universally accepted basis for further efforts to be made by the whole disarmament machinery after 1987.

3. These results, the potential of which has still not been fully realized despite remaining as great as it ever did, must not be eroded or undermined. On the contrary, the course of world events and the actual realities of the nuclear age make it essential that they should be consolidated and further developed. This represents an important task for the third special session, which is due to be held, in accordance with a resolution of the General Assembly, in 1988.

4. Attention at the third special session must centre on the principal tasks confronting humanity as a result of the course of events in recent years. These are elimination of the nuclear threat, deliverance from the burden of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction, the banning of arms from outer space and the parallel limitation and reduction of conventional weapons and military activity - and, as the cornerstone of efforts on the part of the international community, the strengthening of genuine universal security and the guaranteeing of its irreversibility. A serious programme to ensure security through disarmament was proposed by the Soviet Union on 15 January 1986. This was a direct contribution to the elaboration of a comprehensive programme of disarmament which is to be considered at the coming special session.

5. The work of the third special session must be oriented towards the future. It is called upon to set the task of achieving a nuclear-free and non-violent world on a multilateral basis as the only alternative to the current unacceptable situation whereby all mankind is held hostage to nuclear power and entire peoples are hostages to decisions based on force which are taken according to the dictates of unilateral interests.

6. Guided by the literally vital need to ensure urgent progress on disarmament, the third special session should declare its support for a qualitatively new approach to the solution of such problems, to be dictated by priorities which are...
common to all mankind rather than the narrowly selfish interests of individual States or groups of States. It is on this basis that the world community will, in the coming forum, be able to outline the ways and means to effect the transition to a nuclear-free world and the advance from declarations to consistent, practical steps.

7. Genuine security can be ensured only by political means: military/technical decisions, as has been demonstrated by experience, do not enhance security but simply heighten the arms race. This consideration could serve as a basis for the combined work of Member States at the third special session of the General Assembly on a programme of measures relating to the prevention of nuclear war, limitation of the arms race and disarmament, accompanied by the prevention of an extension of the arms race into space. Such measures could constitute a basis for comprehensive international security, the establishment of which is essential in order to ensure the peaceful future of mankind.

8. The time is ripe for the collective recognition by Member States of the expediency and indispensability of a new level of responsibility on the part of the United Nations. It must play an active role in contributing to each stage of arms reduction and become a regulating body that maintains the balance at the level of reasonable need, with a constant trend towards reduction and, as a result, become the guarantor of States' security in a nuclear-free world.

9. In the light of these guidelines, the session may identify ways in which to enhance the performance of multilateral machinery in the field of disarmament.

10. The Byelorussian SSR believes that it is with such considerations in mind that the agenda for the coming session should be drawn up.

11. Consequently, the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament is called upon to set clear and specific tasks for the improved disarmament machinery, with a view to ensuring real progress in the limitation of weapons and disarmament, and also to urge all States without exception to demonstrate the necessary political will, flexibility and spirit of co-operation in the search for common ground in positions in view of the extraordinary responsibility facing mankind at this stage of its history.

12. If the coming session is successful, it will be possible to make the 1990s a decade for creating a nuclear-free and non-violent world.

13. For its part, the Byelorussian SSR will do its utmost to ensure such a success.
GREECE

[Original: French]

[28 May 1987]

1. Greece wishes, first, to stress that it fully realizes the importance of the third special session of the United Nations devoted to disarmament.

2. Greece is convinced that the third special session will provide the international community with an opportunity to give renewed impetus to efforts to achieve the ultimate goal of general and complete disarmament and to draw up a table of practical and realistic measures for future consideration in the field of armaments and disarmament.

3. Greece believes that it is of the utmost importance to reach agreement on disarmament, particularly on nuclear disarmament and the reduction of conventional weapons to the lowest possible level, as soon as possible.

4. While supporting and encouraging bilateral talks between the two super-Powers, it is necessary not to neglect any multilateral effort, whether negotiations or discussions, which contribute directly or indirectly, through the responsible action of States, to creating a climate of greater confidence so that international peace and security may be established once and for all.

5. Greece regrets that the results of the second special session did not live up to the international community's expectations. However, it remains convinced that the difficulties which were encountered at that session, in 1982, can be overcome and that consensus will be reached. It is therefore necessary that preparations for the third special session be carried out meticulously.

6. Against that background and buoyed by the conviction and determination of all, the third special session, after reaffirming the importance and validity of the Final Document of 1978 (General Assembly resolution S-10/2), should work together on the following issues:

   (a) The general debate devoted to the analysis of the current world situation in the light of developments that have taken place since the first special session and prospects concerning arms control and disarmament;

   (b) Nuclear disarmament and related issues, more particularly, the urgent need for a complete cessation of nuclear tests and a strengthening of efforts to ensure non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

   (c) Conventional disarmament;

   (d) Development of the situation in respect of the banning of chemical weapons and consideration of the work of the Conference on Disarmament on this issue;
(e) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;

(f) Confidence-building measures, their effects on the disarmament process;

(g) Problems connected with better verification of compliance with disarmament agreements;

(h) Reduction of military budgets and proposed means of ensuring better objective information on military issues and increased transparency;

(i) Strengthening of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament;

(j) Consideration and adoption of a series of realistic proposals and recommendations designed to promote the achievement of specific goals in the field of arms control and disarmament.