PREPARATORY COMMISSION 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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[Original: English]

[21 July 1987]

1. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic welcomed with satisfaction the decision of the forty-first United Nations General Assembly to convene its third special session on disarmament in 1988. It is convinced that the present international situation requires the adoption of the undelayed and concrete steps towards curbing and halting the arms race, preventing the threat of a nuclear war and definitively eliminating war from the life of mankind.

2. For this to be done a new thinking and a new approach to the questions of war and peace on both global and regional scales are needed and, moreover, the adoption of concrete and effective disarmament measures, primarily in the nuclear sphere is needed. All States, regardless of their social system, as well as all peace-loving forces, must unite their efforts to enhance confidence in relations among States and to manifest the indispensable political will.

3. The previous two sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament became important stages in the United Nations activities in this direction. Above all, the Final Document of the First Special Session (General Assembly resolution S-10/2 of 30 June 1978), as well as the aims, principles and priority tasks contained therein, solemnly reaffirmed by the second special session, became a significant collective basis for further efforts by the States in the field of disarmament during the past decade.

4. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic takes the view that the considerable potential of progress generated by the first special session, that has not been made full use of thus far, must be confirmed, strengthened, further elaborated and developed at the forthcoming third special session, with the perspective of creating a nuclear-free world and of shaping global security.

5. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is convinced that collective efforts of States, aimed at a search for ways of reducing the arms race and of eliminating the danger of a nuclear war through the establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, must be the focal point of the third special session on disarmament.

6. In such an approach, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic sees a concrete way of restructuring international relations, which would include the elimination of nuclear weapons and of the other types of weapons of mass destruction, primarily chemical warfare agents, the prevention of an extension of the arms race to outer space and the limitation of the military potentials of States on a level of reasonable sufficiency, combined with the building of military doctrines on purely defensive foundations. It sees such an approach also in the elaboration of a set of military and political parameters of the system of security which would be a complex of inter-acting measures of limitation and reduction of armaments and armed forces, of strengthening confidence, mechanisms of verification measures and the transfer of safe means to cover the needs of social and economic development.
7. It is from this point of view that the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic approaches the preparations for the third special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament as well as the work of the Preparatory Committee of which it is a member. It assumes that the special session will become a significant event of the international life, a forum of broad democratic dialogue about the ways and means of building a nuclear-free, demilitarized and secure world on democratic bases, on the principles of humanness and non-violence, a world where relations among States would rest on mutual respect, friendship and co-operation.

8. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, jointly with the other United Nations Member States, is ready to take part in such a broad democratic dialogue about the foundations of security for all, to seek a solution to the complex issues of disarmament as well as ways towards a stable peace which would rest on the apprehension of the mutual interdependence of the destinies of all the States in the world, large and small alike, rather than on the power of nuclear weapons and mistrust among States. In this connection, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic speaks out for the creation of adequate material, political-legal and moral-psychological safeguards of security and peace.

9. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is convinced that the indispensable constructive platform for a successful and fruitful holding of the third special session on disarmament exists. It is constituted by the whole series of far-reaching proposals and initiatives put forward recently by the socialist countries, primarily by the Soviet Union, as well as by non-aligned and other peace-loving States of the world, in the United Nations and in other international fora.

10. A central place in this complex of initiatives is occupied by the plan to create security through disarmament - to eliminate nuclear and other kinds of weapons of mass destruction by the end of the century - presented by the Soviet Union on 15 January 1986. In this context, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic also supports the general programme of disarmament to be considered at the special session. We resolutely advocate a speedy preparation of the programme since it would significantly stimulate the purposeful and systematic nature of the process of disarmament negotiations, perspective by the end of this century. And it would do so in full harmony with the recognized priorities of such negotiations.

11. As far as the agenda of the special session of the General Assembly on disarmament under preparation is concerned, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic believes that an all-embracing exchange of views on the present situation in the fields of limitation of armament and of disarmament should take place at this session, including a review of the progress made in the implementation of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the first and the second special sessions on disarmament. The session must clearly and resolutely affirm the ultimate goal of the international community - general and complete disarmament under a strict international supervision. Attention must be paid, first of all, to the key problems of genuine progress in the checking of the arms race and in disarmament. The special session will surely consider also the new steps and proposals of the United Nations Member States in this sphere.
12. The substantial final document of the third special session on disarmament should formulate the principal directions in the building of a nuclear-free and secure world, the specific ways towards its achievement, including the creation of an adequate political atmosphere based on the overcoming of confrontational approaches, on the strengthening of civilized norms, on the atmosphere of public knowledgeability, openness and trust in international relations.

13. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic advocates that an important place in the work of the special session be occupied also by questions linked with an enhancement of the role, functioning and effectiveness of the existing multilateral disarmament mechanisms. Above all, it is necessary to specify the role of the United Nations. The Organization must actively promote all the stages of reduction of military potentials, grow into a guarantor of the security of States and, especially once a world without nuclear weapons is achieved, into a managing body which would keep the balance at a level of reasonable sufficiency with a continuously decreasing trend.

14. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic expresses its conviction that the forthcoming third special session of the United Nations General Assembly will make more distinct the emerging breakthrough in the international situation in the direction of a nuclear-free world and of general security through disarmament. A success of the session would enable the 1990s to become a decade of building a world without nuclear weapons and violence.

15. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is ready to make an all-round contribution to this end.