Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 31/189 B, the Permanent Mission of the Mongolian People's Republic to the United Nations has the honour to bring to your attention the observations of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic concerning the convening of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

1. The Mongolian People's Republic, guided by the principles of its peace-loving foreign policy, endeavours in every possible way to contribute to a solution of the problems of halting the arms race and bringing about disarmament and consistently supports all constructive steps which contribute to single-minded efforts by States to agree on measures in the field of disarmament. At the thirty-first session, the delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic accordingly supported the decision of the General Assembly to convene a special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament.

The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic believes that the special session of the General Assembly should concentrate its attention on the search for practical, rational ways and effective means of solving disarmament problems, thus preparing the way for the holding of a world disarmament conference, the convening of which is supported by an overwhelming majority of States. It also believes that the special session should help to enhance further the role and effectiveness of proven forums for disarmament negotiations such as the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

2. At the present time, when the international community is primarily concerned with averting the threat of a new world war, the problem of halting the arms race and taking effective measures of disarmament takes on the utmost urgency. Disarmament questions affect the vital interests of all States and peoples, particularly their security interests. They are complex and specific, and they require careful study and comprehensive consideration. The approach taken to these problems must be based on full consideration of current political realities and reflect the special characteristics of specific situations existing in the world;
due consideration must also be given to the views of States or groups of States which are sincerely trying to make a significant contribution to the strengthening of peace and general security and to a solution of disarmament problems. In this connexion, we believe that one of the basic prerequisites for the success of disarmament negotiations is active, constructive participation by all States, particularly those having a significant military potential, including the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

The special session can carry out its task only if all participating States, regardless of their size and level of development, demonstrate the necessary political will and determination to contribute to disarmament negotiations and to the achievement of positive results in this vitally important field.

3. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic believes that the agenda of the special session should be drawn up in such a way as to enable all participating States to set forth and compare their views on major disarmament questions and contribute to the task of devising ways and means both of achieving tangible results in the disarmament field through the adoption of partial and subsidiary measures and of attaining the ultimate goal, namely, general and complete disarmament. In this connexion, it supports the recommendation adopted at the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in August 1976 at Colombo, to the effect that "the agenda of the special session should include a review of the problem of disarmament, the promotion and elaboration of a programme of priorities and recommendations in the field of disarmament, and the question of convening a world disarmament conference". This recommendation of the Conference of Non-Aligned Countries was, of course, taken into account by the General Assembly in its resolution 31/109 B.

4. The Mongolian People's Republic takes the view that the question of preparing for a world conference should be a separate item in the agenda of the special session. We consider it completely logical that the special session should discuss the question of convening a world disarmament conference and adopt a specific decision on the holding of the conference.

5. The Mongolian People's Republic takes the view that the special session could adopt as its final document a political declaration which could set out the basic principles and priority tasks connected with halting the arms race and bringing about disarmament as well as recommendations concerning ways and means of accomplishing them.

6. The success of the special session of the General Assembly will largely depend on careful, suitable preparation of the session, and we feel that it would be useful to provide an opportunity for all States Members of the United Nations which so desire to take part in all the preparations for convening the session. The Mongolian People's Republic therefore favours a substantial enlargement of the membership of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session.

7. The Mongolian People's Republic believes that the level of representation of States at the special session will be very important to its success. It is desirable that that level should be as high as possible.

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The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic expresses the hope that the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament will constitute a major step forward in formulating practical measures for halting the arms race and bringing about disarmament and will mark an important stage in preparing for a world disarmament conference.