Note verbale dated 2 May 1977 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his note OR 421/6(3) of 28 January 1977, has the honour to communicate to him below, in accordance in particular with operative paragraph 3 of resolution 31/189 B, the views of the Government of Luxembourg concerning the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

In the view of the Government of Luxembourg, the purpose of this session should be primarily to draw up a balance-sheet of the results achieved so far in disarmament and the regulation of armaments. A final declaration is acceptable provided that all Member States, including the nuclear-weapon States, adopt it. The search for a consensus must prevail both within the Preparatory Committee and during the special session.

As for the topics for discussion, the Government of Luxembourg wishes to make the following observations:

1. Equal importance should be attached to the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction and to the control of conventional armaments.

2. One of the principal long-term objectives should be the total cessation of nuclear tests. Luxembourg could support any proposal likely to bring about progress in the debate among the nuclear Powers.

3. The Government of Luxembourg remains attached to the objective of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Treaty on Non-Proliferation must remain the basic instrument for the attainment of that objective.

4. A World Disarmament Conference could be envisaged during the special session, provided that principal nuclear States agree to participate in it.

5. With regard to the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, Luxembourg is in favour of measures contributing to the strengthening of that role in so far as such measures are within the areas of competence of the organs of the United Nations as defined by the Charter.

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