Note verbale dated 5 July 1977 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

The Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in response to His Excellency's note No. CR 421/6 (3), has the honour to transmit herewith the views of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya regarding the convening of a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.
The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has long deplored the waste of human and economic resources implicit in the arms race and the large-scale expenditures on armaments. Not only could these resources have been better used in the cause of economic and social development but also it is now well recognized that the arms race has only exacerbated international insecurity. It is furthermore well recognized by the international community that despite various initiatives and discussions in various forums little progress has been made in the field of disarmament since the establishment of the United Nations, whose objectives under the Charter include disarmament.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was, therefore, one of those States that strongly supported the convening of a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. Our support for this initiative is based on our belief that the said special session would provide an excellent forum for multilateral discussions by sovereign States on an equal footing of such world-wide problems as the arms race and international security. The special session will be an appropriate forum for discussions on issues that are extremely complex and inextricably interrelated, for it is widely recognized that such problems as the arms race, international insecurity and the consequences of acts of aggression and other hostile practices, as they are perpetrated by Zionist and other racist régimes, are just such interrelated issues. The special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament will be in a position to arrive at balanced conclusions and assessments on these matters as well as fully taking into account those aspects and implications of disarmament affecting the achievement of the new international economic order. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya believes that only if all these factors are taken into consideration on a global and comprehensive scale can progress be achieved in the field of disarmament.

The objectives of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament should therefore be to focus the attention of the international community on the question of disarmament and to make recommendations on certain priority issues. Among the priority issues and principles that are particularly important and urgent in the view of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya are the following:

Full participation of all nuclear-weapon States must be secured, for the utmost priority must be given to the elimination of all arsenals of nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass destruction;

Complete cessation of all nuclear-weapon tests;

U unequivocal renunciation by nuclear-weapon States of the use, or threat of use of such weapons against any State, especially non-nuclear-weapon States;

Nuclear-weapon States must undertake to respect nuclear-weapon-free zones and zones of peace and co-operation;
The dissolution of military blocs, and the dismantling of foreign military bases and withdrawal of military forces from foreign territories;

Funds released as a result of measures achieved in the field of disarmament should be allocated to the economic and social development of the developing countries;

Free and equal access of all States to the technologies and technical information for the exploitation of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

The special session should, in accordance with its worthy and ambitious objectives, consider the formulation of a declaration calling upon all States to pledge to refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. This declaration must be agreed upon and signed by all States and must be promulgated under the auspices of the United Nations and considered an international covenant.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya realizes that the field of disarmament is very complex and extensive and therefore considers that the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament must be carefully prepared, if it is to achieve the desired results. Otherwise there is a risk that the special session may be merely a repetition of the work of the First Committee of the General Assembly, though at a higher level of representation. In this context, the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament may wish to consider the convening of a world disarmament conference to further pursue and follow up on its objectives of achieving world disarmament under international control and thereby ensuring international security.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya takes this occasion to repeat its complete support for the United Nations efforts in the field of disarmament and assures of its active co-operation at the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.