The General Assembly,

Considering that progress towards the goal of general and complete disarmament can be achieved through the implementation of a programme of measures for disarmament, in accordance with the principles and guidelines established in the Declaration on Disarmament,

Adopts the following Programme of Action:

I. Prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

(1) An international agreement or another form of binding international instrument should be adopted, as early as possible, under which the nuclear-weapon States would commit themselves not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the nuclear security arrangements of some nuclear Powers.

(2) Nuclear-weapon States should undertake, in a binding legal form, not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States which comprise nuclear-weapon-free zones or zones of peace and not to introduce nuclear weapons in such zones.

(3) Following the adoption of the above measures, negotiations should be initiated among the nuclear-weapon States for an agreement on the total prohibition of the use or threat of use of all nuclear weapons, strategic or tactical, under any circumstances.
II. Reductions and elimination of nuclear weapons and delivery systems and prohibition of their qualitative development

(1) The negotiations between the United States, USSR and UK on a treaty for the prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests should be finalized as early as possible so as to enable the CCD to consider and adopt the treaty in the shortest possible time.

(2) The two major nuclear Powers should conclude in the course of 1978 the second agreement on strategic arms limitations providing for meaningful reductions in their deployment of nuclear weapons and to halt the development and refinement of new kinds of nuclear weapons and delivery systems.

(3) The two major nuclear Powers should conclude, in the shortest possible time, a third agreement on strategic arms limitation which would translate into specific commitments their declared willingness to implement substantial reductions, of up to 50 per cent, in their deployments of strategic nuclear weapons and delivery systems. This agreement should also prohibit all research into the development and refinement of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

(4) An international agreement should be reached on measures to prevent the diversion of the results of scientific research and development (R and D) to war-like purposes.

(5) The two major nuclear Powers, and their allies, should initiate, as soon as possible, within the negotiations for mutual force reductions in Europe, consideration of an agreement to limit, reduce and ultimately eliminate tactical nuclear weapons in co-ordinated phases.

(6) Negotiations should be initiated among all the nuclear-weapon States for a general agreement to limit, reduce and ultimately eliminate all nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

III. Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

(1) Immediate steps should be taken to ensure that nuclear facilities which are not presently subject to IAEA safeguards are brought under international inspection and control.

(2) International safeguards should be applied by the IAEA to supplies of nuclear equipment, materials, technology and facilities on a universal and non-discriminatory basis.

IV. Promotion of nuclear technology for economic development, especially of developing countries

(1) An international programme should be adopted, under United Nations auspices, for the promotion of the transfer and utilization of nuclear technology
for economic and social development, especially of the developing countries in accordance with the principles approved in the United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/ .

V. Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones

(1) The nuclear-weapon States which have not ratified Protocols I and II of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons in Latin America should do so without delay.

(2) All States and parties in the regions of Africa, the Middle East and South Asia and the South Pacific should take steps to implement the objective of denuclearizing their respective regions.

(3) In the meantime, no action should be taken which would retard the establishment of the nuclear-weapon-free zones in these regions.

(4) All States and parties in these regions should accept the application of IAEA safeguards over their nuclear facilities on a non-discriminatory basis.

(5) The United Nations should continue to encourage measures to establish the nuclear-weapon-free zones in these regions.

VI. Creation of zones of peace in the Indian Ocean and other regions

(1) The littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean should reach agreement at their forthcoming meeting on measures, such as a commitment to settle outstanding disputes by peaceful means, the renunciation of nuclear weapons and the maintenance of a reasonable military balance among themselves, in order to promote conditions of security within the Indian Ocean region.

(2) The great Powers should, for their part, agree at an early date to eliminate altogether their presence and rivalry from the region.

(3) Consultations regarding all aspects of the proposal to create a peace zone in the Indian Ocean should take place in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean with the participation of all the States concerned and lead to the early convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean.

(4) Efforts should be made to encourage the creation of zones of peace in other regions, such as the Mediterranean.

VII. Other weapons of mass destruction

(1) The 1925 Geneva Protocol on Asphyxiating Substances should be adhered to universally.

(2) The Biological Weapons Convention, adopted by the General Assembly, should be ratified by all States.
(3) The Convention on Environmental Modification Techniques should be ratified by States as widely as possible.

(4) Early agreement should be reached by the US and the USSR in their negotiations for a chemical weapons treaty so that the CCD can finalize the treaty at an early date. The absence of completely foolproof verification measures should not be allowed to prevent the conclusion of the treaty.

(5) The negotiations for a treaty prohibiting the development of all new kinds of weapons of mass destruction should be intensified in the CCD with a view to reaching agreement in the next two years.

(6) Separate agreements should be simultaneously reached on identified weapons of mass destruction, e.g. radiological weapons.

VIII. Reduction and limitation of conventional weapons

(1) The major Powers should reach an agreement to progressively reduce their military budgets and level of conventional armed forces.

(2) Other militarily significant States should also join in co-ordinated reductions in their military budgets and armed forces.

(3) An international convention should be adopted by 1979 to prohibit the use of incendiary and certain other conventional weapons deemed to have extremely injurious or indiscriminate effects.