PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

Third session

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 15TH TO 20TH MEETINGS*

Held at Headquarters, New York,
from 31 August to 9 September 1977

Corrigendum

This corrigendum contains delegation and Secretariat corrections to the
English text of the summary records of the meetings held by the Preparatory
Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament
at its third session (A/AC.187/SR.15-20).

With the issuance of this corrigendum, the records of the above-mentioned
meetings may be considered final.

15th meeting

Paragraph 12, line 11

For the use of nuclear weapons read nuclear-weapon tests

17th meeting

Paragraph 20

Replace the first sentence by the following:

20. The Australian delegation believed that it would be helpful if there was a
common attitude towards a framework of a declaration on disarmament. If a

* The record of the 16th meeting was reissued as document A/AC.187/SR.16/Rev.1.
measure of agreement could be reached now, the later work of the Committee in reconciling texts submitted to it would be greatly facilitated.

Paragraph 28

Replace the paragraph by the following:

28. The Australian representative stressed that, in particular, the declaration on disarmament should be designed to be read by as many people as possible. It should therefore be drafted in clear, simple language, making minimal use of technical vocabulary and containing as little "U.N.-ese" as possible.

Paragraph 29, lines 4 and 5

For all agreements and relations between States read all negotiations and agreements concerning disarmament.

Paragraph 30, line 4

Replace the line by the following:

stating the problem and principles applicable in the field of disarmament,

18th meeting

Paragraph 5

Replace the paragraph by the following text:

5. Mr. OXLEY (Australia) said that his delegation had studied the Nordic working paper and that it merited serious consideration. However, it was difficult to endorse the idea of a study without knowing what its terms of reference would be. His Government recognized the need for a study of the economic and social consequences of the arms race and had provided an expert for the Secretary-General's expert group which had been established, in accordance with resolution 3462 (XXX), to update the existing United Nations report on that subject; however, his delegation had not had the opportunity to refer the proposals in the Nordic paper to the Australian Government. It was indicated in the paper that the objective was for the General Assembly to endorse the idea of a study, which might lead to specific action of some kind by the United Nations. However, several possible studies were outlined in the paper. He would be happy to support the principle of a study if the terms of reference were more clearly defined. He would be grateful if the representatives of the Nordic countries would make clear what they hoped the General Assembly would endorse.

Paragraph 51

Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

The Preparatory Committee was not the place to discuss ongoing negotiations. It
would be better for its members to accept the challenge of the special session and to use their imaginations collectively to advance the common effort to attain the goal of real progress in disarmament. Harsh words had never dismantled a single cannon, missile or nuclear weapon.

19th meeting

Paragraph 5

Replace the second sentence by the following:

He noted, however, that the paragraph did not mention the letter to the President of the General Assembly from the Group of Western European and other States on the question of the representation of that Group in the Preparatory Committee, in which it was indicated that the Group had selected its members on the understanding that no changes would be made in the allocation of seats in the Committee; it might therefore be appropriate to retain the paragraph as it stood.