Twelfth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE TWELFTH
SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda item 12

ENHANCEMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MACHINERY IN THE FIELD
OF DISARMAMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE UNITED
NATIONS IN THIS FIELD, INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE CONVENING OF
A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Note verbale dated 28 June 1982 from the Permanent Mission
of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations presents its compliments
to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that
the enclosed proposal, relating to the various organs of the disarmament machinery,
be distributed as a document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly
under agenda item 12.
ANNEX

Organs of the disarmament machinery

1. Turkey has consistently stressed in the past the importance of ensuring the effectiveness of international machinery to help promote collective efforts in the field of disarmament. In this context and together with the necessary organizational and procedural adjustments and improvements to be accomplished during this special session in connexion with the composition and working methods of the single multilateral negotiating body, the Committee on Disarmament, appropriate consideration should also be given to the strengthening of the Secretariat units and to the effectiveness of deliberative organs which provide intellectual impetus and orientation for the negotiations. In the view of the Turkish Government, the twelfth special session should take relevant decisions in this field and provide guidance in the following areas.

A. Centre for Disarmament

2. It is a well recognized fact that in the coming years the Centre for Disarmament will have to deal with additional responsibilities deriving from the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament and other decisions and recommendations of the twelfth special session. Consequently, the Centre should be provided with additional staff and financial means. It present status within the Secretariat should be upgraded so as to enable it to act as the focal point of all disarmament efforts and the co-ordinating unit for other United Nations institutions.

B. Advisory Board and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

3. The studies in the field of disarmament have acquired increased significance in view of the growing awareness of the dangers of modern warfare fought with sophisticated weaponry and also the real need for monitoring the implementation of disarmament agreements. The United Nations studies help to identify the problem areas and to devise appropriate methods and means to deal with complex matters. The Advisory Board and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) have a special role to play in this very important domain:

(a) The Advisory Board may serve in the future as a Governing Council of UNIDIR, thus establishing an appropriate liaison between the latter and the Centre for Disarmament. The secretariats of UNIDIR and the Advisory Board should be one and the same. The unit within the Centre for Disarmament dealing with studies should participate in its work and this Governing Council should be chaired by the Head of the Centre for Disarmament. UNIDIR should be preserved as an independent research unit dealing in depth with specific problems and its should also be strengthened logistically.

(b) On the basis of the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament, the Advisory Board may elaborate general guidelines for a programme of studies to be integrated
with the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament, as necessary, taking into account the progress accomplished. In order to ensure efficiency, the membership of this Governing Council as a scientific body would have to be kept within certain limits.

(c) Eventually the Advisory Board may review and formulate suggestions if and when requested by the Secretary-General for the conduct of the World Disarmament Campaign.

C. First Committee

4. The First Committee of the General Assembly should continue to deal only with the issues of disarmament and related security questions. The special session may emphasize the necessity to devote more time for the negotiations of draft resolutions. Early submission of drafts would allow sufficient time for their careful consideration before voting. The avoidance of repetitive or very similar resolutions or, if possible, the grouping of resolutions with related subject-matter will help in increasing the efficiency of the Committee's work.

D. Disarmament Commission

5. The work of the Disarmament Commission should not be a repetition of the deliberations of the First Committee. Its agenda should comprise a very limited number of items, in order to give opportunity for in-depth consideration. General debate of any kind should be avoided and its work should proceed in light of the debate held within the First Committee. Decisions should continue to be taken by consensus in order to ensure universal acceptance. Its deliberations should consequently pave the way for future endeavours and negotiations.