Twelfth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE TWELFTH
SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda item 9

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND
DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH
SPECIAL SESSION

Letter dated 8 June 1982 from the Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs and Permanent Representative of the German Democratic
Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of
the General Assembly

I would be grateful if you would arrange for the message of greeting of the
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany
and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic,
Erich Honecker, which was submitted by His Excellency Mr. Oskar Fischer, Minister
for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, on 8 June 1982, to be
circulated as an official document of the twelfth special session of the General
Assembly under agenda item 9.

(Signed) Harry OTT
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative to the United Nations
ANNEX

Message from the General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the
Council of State of the German Democratic Republic to the
President of the General Assembly

On behalf of the Council of State, the Government and all citizens of the
German Democratic Republic, I offer the United Nations General Assembly sincere
wishes of success for the work of its second special session devoted to disarmament.

The fact that the United Nations is concentrating on disarmament especially
now in a time of heightened tension, is very significant. The cessation of the
arms race and the reduction of military arsenals are decisive for the preservation
of peace, which can neither thrive nor be ensured on mountains of weapons of mass
destruction.

Today, nothing preoccupies the minds of peoples more than the danger of a
nuclear inferno. This peril has been made even more acute by the policy of all-out
rearmament and confrontation and by the doctrines proclaimed about the feasibility
of fighting, limiting and winning a nuclear war. The German Democratic Republic,
therefore, regards it as imperative that decisions on measures aimed at ending the
nuclear arms race be adopted and vigorous follow-through action ensured without
delay.

Given the firm will of all sides, the task of achieving arms limitation and
disarmament can be resolved. The only prerequisite is readiness to conduct honest
and fruitful negotiations taking as a basis the principles of equality and equal
security. Paths towards the accomplishment of this goal have been set out.

Our people wholeheartedly welcome the latest peace proposals of the General
Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the
Supreme Soviet of the USSR, L. I. Brezhnev, as an exemplary step towards limiting
and reducing nuclear weapons. These proposals merit a favourable response.

The German Democratic Republic will always be an active and reliable partner
in the struggle for lasting peace and disarmament. It remains staunchly committed
to the policy of détente and peaceful coexistence of States with different social
systems. In socialist society, no one has a political or economic interest in
rearmament and preparations for war. For our people, like for all peoples, peace
is to be made durable by means of internationally agreed disarmament measures. The
German Democratic Republic is ready to contribute its share in this endeavour.

Few sessions of the United Nations in the course of its history have caught as
much world-wide public attention as this one. The expectations of the peoples run
high. The maniacal arms drive must be to put an end, so that man can breathe more
freely and develop his creative forces without fear of the future. There is nothing more important than peace and, hence, the guarantee of the right to life.

May the United Nations General Assembly be guided by this awareness at its second special session devoted to disarmament.

(Signed) Erich HONECKER