Annex III

Proposal by Bulgaria

PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

The first special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament stated that nuclear weapons posed the greatest danger to mankind and to the survival of civilization. It further stated that effective measures for the prevention of nuclear war had the highest priority. In its Final Document the General Assembly declared that measures designed to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war and to lessen the danger of the threat or use of nuclear weapons should be taken.

Moreover, the General Assembly, expressing the views of the overwhelming majority of Member States, has consistently reiterated that the use of nuclear weapons or the first use of nuclear weapons would constitute a crime against humanity. The General Assembly adopted various resolutions on this subject, in particular, resolutions 36/81 B, entitled "Prevention of nuclear war"; 36/92 I entitled "Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war"; and 36/100 entitled "Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe".

Conditions prevailing today are a source of even more serious concern than those existing in 1978 because of several factors, such as the deterioration in the international situation, the growth of nuclear arsenals, the increase in accuracy, speed and destructive power of nuclear weapons, the promotion of dangerous doctrines of "limited" or "winnable" nuclear war and the many false alarms which have occurred owing to malfunctioning of computers.

The time has come to realize that nuclear war would have devastating results on the whole of humanity. All States, in particular nuclear-weapon States, should consider as soon as possible various proposals designed to secure the avoidance of the use of nuclear weapons, the prevention of nuclear war and related objectives.

Although the most effective guarantee against the danger of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, as a first step in this direction, the use of nuclear weapons and the waging of nuclear war should be outlawed.

While it is the common responsibility of all Member States to initiate action to save succeeding generations from nuclear war, the nuclear-weapon States have special responsibility. In this connexion, the obligation by nuclear-weapon States not to be the first to use nuclear weapons should be welcomed and those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet assumed such an obligation should take reciprocal steps to this effect.

It is also the duty of nuclear-weapon States to show restraint and responsibility and act in such a way as to eliminate the risk of the outbreak of a nuclear conflict.

...
The General Assembly is convinced that no contradictions between States or groups of States, no differences in social systems, ways of life or ideologies and no transient interests can eclipse the fundamental need common to all the peoples - the need to safeguard peace and avert a nuclear war.

Today, as never before, a resolute, purposeful, considered action is required of all States in order to achieve this lofty goal.

**Proposal by Germany, Federal Republic of, Netherlands, Japan**

**Prevention of war, in particular nuclear war**

1. The text could start with language to express the grave concern of all people about the continuing arms race - particularly in its nuclear aspects - and could express the profound preoccupation over the danger of war - in particular nuclear war - the prevention of which remains the most acute and urgent task of the present day. It could reiterate that it is the shared responsibility of all Member States to initiate action to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, in particular nuclear war.

The text could also indicate that conditions prevailing today are unimproved since 1978 because of several factors, such as the deterioration of international confidence, the increase of regional conflicts and the growth of arsenals - both conventional and nuclear.

2. The text could then continue by recalling the provisions of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and the provisions of Article 51 regarding the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs.

3. The text could underline the primary responsibility which nuclear-weapon States, in particular those among them which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, must bear for nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war.

4. It could call upon all nuclear-weapon States to maintain, as a priority objective, their policies to remove the danger of war, in particular nuclear war and of the use of nuclear weapons.

5. It could urge again all States to adhere to a policy of constraint and act in such a manner as to prevent the development of situations capable of causing dangerous exacerbation of their relations, so as to avoid military confrontations and exclude the outbreak of war, and in particular nuclear war, between nuclear-weapon States and between any of them and other States.

6. The text could continue with a reference to existing commitments not to use any weapons, whether conventional or nuclear, except in response to attack.
7. The text could then take note of the declarations made by the nuclear-weapon States concerning security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States and stress the need to harmonize those assurances with a view to concluding effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of such weapons.

8. In the context of the prevention of nuclear war, the draft could underline the importance of inhibiting a further proliferation of nuclear weapons.

9. The text could also urge all States, in particular nuclear-weapon States, to promote the objective of the prevention of nuclear war through the preparedness for more openness and transparency, including on military budgets, and an expanded exchange of information and views on military strategy, in particular as related to nuclear weapons, with a view to enhancing both confidence and stability.

10. The text could stress the necessity to prevent attacks which may take place by accident, miscalculation or communications failure, by taking steps to improve communications between Governments, particularly in areas of tension, by the establishment of "hot lines" and other methods of reducing the risk of nuclear conflict, such as advance notification of ICBM launches within, as well as beyond, national boundaries, advance notification of strategic exercises and an expanded exchange of strategic forces data.

11. In a final paragraph the text could call upon the nuclear-weapon States, in particular the two major ones, to attain the objective of halting and reversing the nuclear arms race by concluding agreements on significant and verifiable reductions, thereby establishing a stable equilibrium of forces at the lowest possible level on the principles of equality and undiminished security.

Appendix

List of official documents other than existing treaties:

- Agreement between the United States and the USSR on the Prevention of Nuclear War;

- Resolution and decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its tenth special session;

- The declarations made by the nuclear-weapon States on the question of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

- Resolution 36/81 B adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1981, entitled: "Prevention of Nuclear War";
- Special Report of the Committee on Disarmament on the state of negotiations
  on the various questions under consideration by the Committee to the
  General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament
  (Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2));

- Substantive Report of the United Nations Disarmament Commission on its work
  to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to
  disarmament (Supplement No. 3 (A/S-12/3));

- Declaration of the Heads of State and Government participating in the
  meeting of the North Atlantic Council at Bonn on 10 June 1982;

- Replies of Governments in relation to resolution 36/81 B adopted by the
  General Assembly on 9 December 1981, entitled "Prevention of Nuclear War".

Proposal by India

Prevention of nuclear war

Concern:

1. Should a nuclear war break out the escalation to an all-out exchange of all
kinds of nuclear weapons will be rapid and inexorable. The civilization as we know
it will cease to exist. All people, whether combatants or non-combatants, will
perish. There will be a grave threat to the very survival of mankind and indeed of
any life on the planet earth. The earth’s environment may even become unfit for
any kind of life in the future.

2. The international community is therefore gravely concerned at the possible
outbreak of nuclear war and believes that urgent, effective steps should be taken
without any further delay for the prevention of nuclear war. Any use or threat of
use of nuclear weapons will, therefore, be a violation of the Charter of the United
Nations and a crime against humanity.

Danger of nuclear war:

3. The danger of the outbreak of nuclear war stems basically from the very
existence of nuclear weapons in the arsenals of any nation or nations. This danger
has grown with the increase in both the quality and quantity of nuclear arsenals,
as also with the advocacy of various theories and doctrines regarding the possible
use of nuclear weapons in certain situations, which have continued to erode trust
among nations and which have increased fear and insecurity all around.

Measures for the prevention of nuclear war:

4. The prevention of nuclear war can be ensured only by stopping all kinds of
proliferation of nuclear weapons and achieving the complete elimination of nuclear
weapons from the arsenals of all those States that possess them. The imperative
need is to work for nuclear disarmament as part of the process of general and
complete disarmament under effective international control. Pending nuclear disarmament, any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons should be prohibited. A nuclear freeze should be agreed to so that there is no further growth of nuclear weapon arsenals. Pending a comprehensive test ban, there should be an immediate suspension of all testing of nuclear weapons.

Responsibility of States:

5. The nuclear-weapon States have a special responsibility for the prevention of nuclear war. All Member States have a shared responsibility to make their contributions to international deliberations and negotiations for the achievement of the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, with the highest priority being accorded to the elimination of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.

Appeal:

6. The General Assembly of the United Nations meeting in its second special session devoted to disarmament appeals to all Member States, in particular nuclear-weapon States, to initiate urgent action for the prevention of nuclear war. The General Assembly is also convinced that an aroused public opinion against the very existence of nuclear weapons and for their elimination is the best hope of mankind for the prevention of nuclear war.