Fifteenth special session
Agenda items 9, 11 and 12

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION,
especially in the light of the vital objective of
terminating the arms race and the pressing need to achieve
substantial progress in the field of disarmament

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE
PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT

ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS, INCLUDING QUALITATIVE AND
QUANTITATIVE ASPECTS, RELEVANT TO THE DISARMAMENT PROCESS, WITH
A VIEW TO THE ELABORATION OF APPROPRIATE CONCRETE AND PRACTICAL
MEASURES AND, IF NECESSARY, ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES, TAKING DULY
INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED IN THE
FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE TENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 22 June 1988 from the Permanent Representative
of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a working paper on the creation
of a nuclear-weapon-free corridor in central Europe.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and the
attached working paper distributed as a document of the fifteenth special session,
the third special session devoted to disarmament, under agenda items 9, 11 and 12.

(Signed) Harry OTT
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

* Reissued for technical reasons.
ANNEX

Working paper submitted by the German Democratic Republic

The creation of a nuclear-weapon-free corridor in Central Europe

1. The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones can lead to the reduction of nuclear weapons, thus fostering the achievement of a world free from nuclear weapons. To promote the dialogue on this issue vital for mankind, an International Meeting for Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones was held at Berlin, capital of the German Democratic Republic, from 20 to 22 June 1988, which was attended by 1,043 participants from 113 countries. At the meeting, 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, reaffirmed initiatives with regard to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free corridor and submitted new proposals.

2. A nuclear-weapon-free corridor at the dividing line between the two alliances could under the given circumstances become a crucial link-up to achieving more far-reaching steps in the field of nuclear disarmament, extending it to cover tactical nuclear weapons so far not subject to negotiations, and to the reduction of conventional forces and armaments.

In order to pave the way for such steps in central Europe and in particular to stabilize further the situation at the dividing line between the two alliances, the German Democratic Republic would welcome the setting up of machinery for peaceful crisis management and for the prevention of military incidents in Central Europe. These could include, for instance, a hot-line between Prague, Berlin and Bonn, a joint standing body set up with this aim in mind, an exchange of data on relevant military activities in the region - in other words, a centre of permanent confidence-building equipped with the requisite technical means. The elaboration of these ideas could also form an integral part of future negotiations on confidence- and security-building measures.