Fifteenth special session
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE FIFTEENTH
SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda items 10 and 12

ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT
ITS TENTH AND TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSIONS

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

Prohibition of attacks on nuclear installations

Working paper submitted by Argentina

1. Over the past four decades the peaceful uses of nuclear energy have
contributed to the economic and social development of peoples. Their benefits are
noteworthy chiefly in the area of the generation of electric power, but also as a
result of the application of nuclear technology in such fields as agriculture,
health, medicine, industry and hydrology.

2. As indicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of
the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the International Atomic Energy
Agency, nuclear energy currently accounts for approximately 16 per cent of total
world production of electric power. There are over 400 nuclear power plants
operating in 26 countries. It is expected that by 1990 a total of 480 nuclear
power plants will be functioning.
3. Nuclear power plants and other nuclear installations that improve the quality of life of peoples can also be a source of destruction if they are attacked. The radiation thus released would have catastrophic consequences not only in the country where the source of the radiation is located but also beyond that country's frontiers.

4. Attacking nuclear installations as a means of wreaking destruction is to be condemned both morally and politically and should therefore be prohibited by means of the drafting of an international convention with a wide scope that would also cover non-land-based installations.