Fifteenth special session
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE
FIFTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda items 13 and 14

CONSIDERATION OF THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE
FIELD OF DISARMAMENT AND OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
DISARMAMENT MACHINERY

UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN
THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT, INCLUDING MEASURES TO MOBILIZE
WORLD PUBLIC OPINION IN FAVOUR OF DISARMAMENT

Report of the Chairman of Working Group III

1. In the course of the consideration of the Chairman's working paper
   (A/S-15/AC.1/WG.III/CRP.2), a number of proposals and amendments to the text were
   submitted.

2. Despite strenuous efforts made by delegations, including informal
   consultations conducted at the Chairman's request, it was not possible to reach
   consensus on all aspects of the Chairman's working paper.

3. In order that issues and proposals thereto should not be lost, the Chairman
   decided to annex them to this present report to the Committee of the Whole.

4. Special attention is drawn to continuing consultations on section II.A,
   paragraph 7, of the working paper. In that paragraph, it was proposed that the
   Secretary-General should prepare, with the help of qualified experts, an outline of
   an integrated multilateral verification system which would form an integral part of
   a strengthened multilateral framework required to ensure peace and security during
   the process of disarmament, as well as in a nuclear-weapon-free world. It was
   clear from the debate that the principle of the study per se did not divide the
   Working Group. The issue appeared to relate to the mandate of the expert study
   group. Delegations that held strong positions on the issue were encouraged to hold

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consultations among themselves and to report to the Chairman on any consensus reached in order to avoid protracted debate on the subject. A delegation, which was requested by the Chairman to undertake the co-ordination of the consultations on the subject, informed him at the final meeting, prior to the adjournment of the Working Group, that the consultations were continuing. It would appear that there was then general agreement that the study should be conducted, but the actual wording of the mandate of the expert group still eluded consensus. The Chairman feels encouraged to share the view that an agreement will soon be achieved. Such a result will be reported directly to the Committee of the Whole.

5. Taking into account the discussions and the proposals made and on the basis of consultations, the Chairman prepared a revised text of his working paper (A/S-15/AC.1/20, annex), in which he attempted to identify points of convergence and present formulations that might command consensus.

6. For the purposes of easy reference, the proposals and amendments are listed in the order in which the topics concerned appear in the Chairman's working paper (A/S-15/AC.1/WG.III/CRP.2).

Role of the Secretary-General

Secretary-General

7. With regard to section II.A, paragraph 1, a series of amendments were introduced and subsequent consultations were held among interested delegations. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The alternatives proposed are contained in paragraphs 1 to 5 of the annex.

8. With regard to section II.A, paragraph 7, reference has been made (see para. 4 above) to continuing consultations. Consequently, the Chairman's revised text has maintained the original paragraph (A/S-15/AC.1/20, sect. II.A, para. 4). In addition, a proposal regarding other aspects was made and is contained in paragraph 6 of the annex.

9. Proposals were made for inclusion of additional paragraphs under section II.A regarding a study on arms transfers/arms trade. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposals are contained in paragraphs 7 to 10 of the annex.

10. In addition, also under section II.A, a proposal was made for inclusion of a new paragraph on a separate issue. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 11 of the annex.

Department for Disarmament Affairs

11. With regard to section II.B, a proposal was made to include a new paragraph. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 12 of the annex.
Other organs

Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies

12. With regard to section III.A, a proposal was made. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 13 of the annex.

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research - UNIDIR

13. With regard to section III.B, a proposal was made for inclusion of a new paragraph. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 14 of the annex.

Security Council

14. It was generally agreed that the formulation contained in section IV of the Chairman's working paper was a good basis for consensus. However, a number of proposals were submitted with the express objective of improving on it. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. Alternatives are contained in paragraphs 15 to 17 of the annex.

Conference on Disarmament

15. With regard to the heading of section V, a proposal was made to alter it, but was not accepted. The proposal is contained in paragraph 18 of the annex.

16. With regard to paragraph 2 of section V, proposals were made to amend that paragraph. Owing to lack of time, no consensus was reached. The proposals are contained in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the annex.

17. With regard to paragraph 3 of section V, alternatives were proposed. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The alternatives are contained in paragraphs 21 and 22 of the annex.

18. With regard to paragraph 4 of section V, a proposal was submitted. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 23 of the annex.

19. With regard to paragraph 5 of section V, proposals for its deletion or alteration were submitted. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposals are contained in paragraphs 24 and 25 of the annex.

20. With regard to paragraph 6 of section V, a proposal was made for the addition of a sentence. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 26 of the annex.

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World Disarmament Campaign and other information activities

21. A proposal was made for the addition of a new paragraph after paragraph 2 of section VI. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 27 of the annex.

22. With regard to paragraph 3 of that section, proposals were made. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposals are contained in paragraphs 28 and 29 of the annex.

23. With regard to paragraph 4 of that section, a proposal covering a wider range of ideas was submitted. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 30 of the annex.

24. With regard to section VI as a whole, the inclusion of two additional paragraphs was proposed. Owing to lack of time, consensus could not be reached. The proposal is contained in paragraph 31 of the annex.
ANNEX

Proposals and amendments to the text of the working paper of the Chairman of Working Group III (A/S-15/AC.1/WG.III/CRP.2)

Role of the Secretary-General (sect. II.A)

1. Replace paragraph 1 of section II.A with the following:

"The Secretary-General should investigate without delay reports of possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons in accordance with resolution 42/37 C." (Australia)

2. Amendment to the proposal submitted by Australia regarding paragraph 1. Add the following sentence to the end of that proposal:

"He should have at his disposal agreed guidelines and procedures for these investigations as well as a standing team or pool of experts to be sent out for on-the-spot investigations." (Netherlands)

3. Replace paragraph 1 with the following:

"The Secretary-General should investigate reports of alleged violations of international agreements applicable in times of war." (Iraq)

4. Replace paragraph 1 with the following:

"In view of the importance for humanitarian and legal considerations of responding without delay as provided in General Assembly resolutions 37/98 D and 42/37 C to reports of the possible use of chemical, bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons, the Secretary-General is requested to report to the forty-third General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/37 C on the further development of procedures for the timing and efficient investigation of such reports." (United Kingdom)

5. Amendment to the proposal submitted by the United Kingdom regarding paragraph 1. Add the following sentence to the end of that proposal:

"He should further consider the possibility of such investigation on alleged use of biological weapons, in relation with the 1972 Convention, thus contributing to the preparation of the 1991 Review Conference." (France)

6. Replace paragraph 7 of section II.A with the following:

"Without prejudice to other measures which may be considered in other regions, the Secretary-General should undertake a study with the assistance of a Personal Representative or a group of qualified experts on the elements of a model agreement and specific practical measures capable of creating the necessary conditions to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East." (Egypt)
7. Add the following paragraph to section II.A:

"The Secretary-General is requested to carry out with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, a comprehensive study on all types of international arms transfers, both overt and covert, of conventional weapons and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session. In this context, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the General Assembly proposals for encouraging greater openness in all types of international transfer of conventional weapons, including the possibility of establishing a United Nations register of such transfers on a universal and non-discriminatory basis." (Australia)

8. Add the following paragraph to section II.A:

"The Secretary-General is asked to carry out, with the assistance of governmental experts appointed by him, a study on the problem of illicit arms trade, the spread of such a practice and means to prevent it, as well as on the possible establishment of adequate procedures to monitor, within existing structures of the United Nations, international arms transfers, based on import and export data supplied by all Member States. The Secretary-General shall submit a report thereon to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly." (Italy)

9. Add the following paragraph to section II.A:

"The Secretary-General is requested to carry out, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts and taking into account geographical and political distribution, a comprehensive study on arms transfers in both their overt and covert forms, conducive to the adoption in the future of concrete international measures aimed at the control of arms transfers, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session." (Peru)

10. Add the following paragraph to section II.A:

"The Secretary-General is requested to submit to the General Assembly proposals for encouraging greater openness on all types of international transfer of conventional weapons, including the possibility of establishing a United Nations register of arms transfers on a universal and non-discriminatory basis." (United Kingdom)

11. Add the following paragraph to section II.A:

"The Secretary-General should pay attention to the question of dumping nuclear wastes and other industrial wastes with radioactive material in the territory of (Other States) or African States." (Mauritania)
Department for Disarmament Affairs (sect. II.B)

12. Add the following paragraph to section II.B:

"Working within existing resources, the Department for Disarmament Affairs should further the goals of disarmament and development by providing advisory services on such matters as conversion to developing countries." (Philippines)

Other organs (sect. III)

Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies (sect. III.A)

13. Replace the second sentence of paragraph 1 with the following:

"The expertise of the Board could be more fully utilized if it were able to provide the Secretary-General, at its own instigation, with advice on arms limitation and disarmament matters." (Australia)

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research - UNIDIR (sect. III.B)

14. Add a new paragraph at the end of section III.B as follows:

"Its work should be closely connected with the highest priority items on the disarmament agenda." (USSR)

Security Council (sect. IV)

15. Replace the existing text with the following:

"The General Assembly, considering the interrelationship between disarmament and international security, recalls the Security Council's responsibilities conferred on it under Article 24 of the Charter. Bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, the Assembly stresses the importance of the role of the Council in seeking to prevent the resort to force and so limiting the instances in which conflicts take place, thereby contributing to the creation of a positive political atmosphere conducive to arms reduction and disarmament." (Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of the Twelve States members of the European Community)

16. In the second and fourth lines replace the words "calls upon" with the word "recommends". (France)

17. Replace the existing text with the following:

"The General Assembly, reiterating the interrelationship between disarmament and international security, calls upon the Security Council to exercise fully its responsibilities under the relevant provisions of the Charter with the view of its greater sensitizing to the arms control and disarmament issues in
the context of the broad efforts to prevent the resort to force and to create a positive political atmosphere conducive to arms reduction and disarmament." (Ukrainian SSR)

Conference on Disarmament (sect. V)

18. Replace the title of the section with the following:

"Other multilateral disarmament negotiating organs outside the United Nations system" (United States)

19. Add the following sentence at the end of paragraph 2 of section V:

"It notes that the Conference on Disarmament is currently considering its improved and effective functioning and expresses the hope that the Conference will be able to adopt appropriate concrete recommendations and decisions at the earliest possible time." (Australia)

20. Add the following sentence at the end of paragraph 2 of section V:

"The General Assembly reaffirms further that all States have the duty and the right to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations." (Iraq)

21. Replace paragraph 3 of section V with the following:

"The General Assembly therefore calls on the members of the Conference to show genuine will to advance and conclude its negotiating process on the prohibition of chemical weapons as well as to initiate, in accordance with its mandate, effective negotiations on all the remaining items of its agenda". (Brazil)

22. Replace paragraph 3 of section V with the following:

"The General Assembly therefore calls on the members of the Conference to advance its negotiating processes." (Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of the Twelve States members of the European Community)

23. Replace paragraph 4 of section V with the following:

"The special session, taking into account the need to maintain balance in the membership of the Conference on Disarmament and to ensure its effective functioning, recommends that the Conference on Disarmament consider the question of an expansion of its membership in terms of a step-by-step but limited expansion over a specified period of time and report of its decision thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third regular session". (Cameroon and Finland)

24. Delete paragraph 5 of section V. (Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of the Twelve States members of the European Community)
25. Add the following to paragraph 5 of section V:

"Facilitating the participation of non-member States in the work of the Conference." (Iraq)

26. Add the following sentence at the end of paragraph 6 of section V:

"The United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are invited to present a report on their bilateral arms limitation and disarmament negotiations each year to the Conference on Disarmament at its spring session and to the General Assembly at the commencement of each regular session, and at any other time when significant developments in the negotiations have taken place." (India, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria and Sweden)

World Disarmament Campaign and other information activities (sect. VI)

27. Insert a new paragraph after paragraph 2 of section VI as follows:

"The Secretary-General should also encourage States to adopt unilateral measures for freezing and reduction of armaments, troops and military expenditures, as concrete deeds for supporting disarmament. The actions taken by States would be registered at the United Nations and brought to the attention of other Member States." (Romania)

28. In the third line of paragraph 3 of the section, after the words "of regional centres" insert the following:

"including, inter alia, on the results of the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament," (Bulgaria)

29. Amendments to paragraph 3: delete the words "and the expansion of the" in line 4; delete lines 5 and 6; insert the following:

"The Campaign should avail itself of the expertise and experience of women in the preparation and presentation of such meetings. In addition, the target audience for the Campaign should be expanded to include increased emphasis on women, women's organizations, youth and youth organizations." (New Zealand)

30. Replace paragraph 4 of section VI with the following:

"In order to assure the continued viability of the Campaign and to reflect the additional mandate given to the Campaign with the establishment of three regional centres in Africa, Asia and Latin America, adequate staff and budgetary resources should be available. Member States are thus again invited to supplement existing United Nations resources with voluntary contributions to carry out the objectives of the Campaign on a world-wide basis as well as on a regional basis." (Peru)
31. Add two new paragraphs in section VI, as follows:

"The Secretary-General should establish an orientation programme designed to promote and inspire the understanding by non-governmental organizations and research institutes, of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament."

"Further, the Secretary-General is urged, on a regular and substantive basis, during the planning and implementation of disarmament activities, to draw substantially upon non-governmental organizations and research institutes experience and expertise." (Canada)