Tenth special session
Item 11 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF A PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON DISARMAMENT

Report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship
between Disarmament and Development

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By resolution 32/88 A of 12 December 1977, the General Assembly decided that a study on the relationship between disarmament and development should be initiated and that the terms of reference of the study should be determined by the Assembly itself at its special session devoted to disarmament to be held from 23 May to 28 June 1978. In this connexion, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint, at the earliest possible date, an ad hoc group of governmental experts with the task of elaborating a possible framework and terms of reference for the above-mentioned study and requested the ad hoc group to report on its work not later than 1 April 1978. The General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Ad Hoc Group to Member States not later than a month before the opening, on 23 May 1978, of the special session.

2. Pursuant to the resolution, the Secretary-General appointed the Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as indicated in the letter of transmittal below.

3. On 21 March 1978, the Ad Hoc Group submitted its report to the Secretary-General, which is annexed to the present document.

* A/32/41, para. 17.
ANNEX

Report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development

CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE STUDY</td>
<td>2 - 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STUDY</td>
<td>6 - 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Present-day utilization of resources for military purposes</td>
<td>8 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Economic and social effects of a continuing arms race and of the implementation of disarmament measures</td>
<td>11 - 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Conversion and redeployment of resources released for military purposes through disarmament measures to economic and social development purposes</td>
<td>13 - 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. TENTATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK</td>
<td>16 - 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX I. United Nations documents on economic and social development relating to the establishment of a new international economic order</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX II. United Nations documents on disarmament with particular reference to the relationship between disarmament and development</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

21 March 1978

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, which was appointed by you in pursuance of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 32/88 A of 12 December 1977.

The governmental experts appointed were the following:

Mr. Tamas BACSKAI
Managing Director, National Bank of Hungary
Budapest, Hungary

Mr. Abdel Halim BADAWI
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations
New York

Mr. Radomir Ghoeorghevich BOGDANOV
Deputy Director, USA-Canada Institute
Academy of Sciences of the USSR
Moscow, USSR

Mr. José A. Encinas del Pando
Dean, School of Economics
University of Lima
Lima, Peru

Mr. Gheorghe DOLGU
Professor of Economic Studies
Piata Romana
Bucharest, Romania

Mr. B. A. FIELD
Economic Adviser
Ministry of Defence
London, S.W.1, United Kingdom

Mr. Daniel GALLIK
Weapons Evaluation and Control Bureau
Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
Washington, D.C., United States of America

/...
Mr. Ignac GOLOB
Ambassador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Mr. John M. N. GOOMERATNE
Counsellor
Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations
New York

Mr. Carlos GUERÓN
Professor, University of Venezuela
School of International Studies
Caracas, Venezuela

Mr. Hendrik de HAAN
Professor of International Economics
University of Groningen
Groningen, The Netherlands

Mr. Rikhí JAIPAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations
New York

Mr. Masayoshi KAKITSUBO
Ambassador
Disarmament Division, United Nations Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tokyo, Japan

Mr. Sten F. LUNDBO
Counsellor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Oslo, Norway

Mr. Myila NGONDA
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Zaire to the United Nations
New York

Mr. Maciej PERCZYNSKI
Professor
Polish Institute of International Affairs
Warsaw, Poland

Mr. Plácido García REYNOSO
Former Professor of Economics
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
Mexico City, Mexico

/...
Mr. Anton ROSSBACH
Counsellor
Political Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Bonn, Federal Republic of Germany

Mr. Anire SAGAY
Under-Secretary
Economic Department
Federal Cabinet Office
Lagos, Nigeria

Mr. Guy SCALABRE
Direction des Nations Unies et des organisations internationales
Ministère des affaires étrangères
Paris, France

Mrs. Inga THORSSON (Chairman of the Ad Hoc Group)
Under-Secretary of State
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Stockholm, Sweden

Mr. Nicasio G. VALDERRAMA
Minister
Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations

The report was prepared between 13 to 21 March 1978, during which period the Ad Hoc Group held eight meetings in New York.

The members of the Ad Hoc Group wish to express their gratitude for the assistance which they received from the members of the Secretariat of the United Nations. They wish to convey, in particular, their thanks to Mr. Rolf Björnerstedt, Assistant Secretary-General, Centre for Disarmament, who was the representative of the Secretary-General in the Ad Hoc Group, to Mr. Saad Alfarargi, Consultant of the Centre for Disarmament, who served as Secretary of the Ad Hoc Group, and to Mr. Ronald Huiskens of the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, who served as consultant to the Secretariat.

I have been requested by the Ad Hoc Group, as its Chairman, to submit to you, on its behalf, this report which was unanimously approved.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Inga THORSSON
Chairman of the
Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts
on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development

His Excellency
Mr. Kurt Waldheim
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

/...
REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN 
DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposal on the framework and terms of reference for a study on 
the relationship between disarmament and development pursuant 
to General Assembly resolution 32/88 A of 12 December 1977

I. Introduction

1. The Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development was 
established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/88 A, the relevant passage 
of which requested the Secretary-General to appoint an ad hoc group of governmental 
exerts with the task of elaborating a possible framework and terms of reference for 
a study on the relationship between disarmament and development. Accordingly, a 
group of 22 governmental experts was appointed. a/ They agreed on the following 
proposals concerning the general guidelines and terms of reference for a new and 
in-depth study on the relationship between disarmament and development and on the 
organizational aspects of the work.

II. General guidelines for the study

2. The study should be made in the context of the current situation in the field 
of disarmament, the importance of disarmament for détente, international peace and 
security, economic and social development and the promotion of international 
co-operation and their reciprocal relationships. A real and effective process of 
disarmament is imperative. The study should in this respect advance new arguments 
of an economic and social nature by pursuing the following two main objectives:

(a) To serve as a basis for decisions on concrete actions, following 
disarmament measures, to release real resources now being used for military 
purposes to economic and social development in the world, particularly for the 
benefit of the developing countries;

(b) To inform the public on the issues of the relationship between disarmament 
and development.

3. The study should be made in the context of how disarmament can contribute to 
the establishment of a new international economic order. The study should take 
account of the results of various sessions of the General Assembly and United 
Nations conferences held during recent years on various topics relating to economic 
and social development, which pertain to the establishment of a new international

---

a/ Experts were appointed from the following countries: Egypt, France, 
Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, 
Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Union of Soviet 
Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United 
States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

/...
economic order. These include, inter alia, General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation, as well as resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and resolution 32/174 of 19 December 1977 on the assessment of progress on the establishment of the new international economic order; also, resolutions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its fourth session and other recent documents. b/

4. Where appropriate, use should be made of relevant past studies in the disarmament area, c/ but to the extent necessary new research leading up to practical results should be undertaken. In this context, the construction of a comprehensive and reliable data base will be highly desirable.

5. The study should be forward-looking and policy-oriented and place special emphasis on both the desirability of a reallocation, following disarmament measures, of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries, and the substantive feasibility of such a reallocation. A principal aim should be to produce results that could effectively guide the formulation of practical measures to reallocate military resources at the local, national, regional and international levels. To this end the Ad Hoc Group recommends that an integrated study programme should be initiated with three broad lines of inquiry. The purposes and possible scope of each of these are outlined below.

III. Terms of reference for the study

6. The study should be undertaken by a group of governmental experts, the composition of which is to be decided by the General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament. The General Assembly, at its special session, should decide on the procedure to be followed with regard to the consideration of the report. The Group should endeavour to formulate, as a result of the study, a set of conclusions and recommendations that would assist Governments of Member States in deciding upon concrete actions.

7. Bearing in mind the guidelines set out above, the following three main areas should be investigated:

(a) Present-day utilization of resources for military purposes;

b/ For fuller references to these documents, see appendix I.

c/ For a list of the numerous United Nations resolutions, expert studies and other related documents, see appendix II.
(b) Economic and social effects of a continuing arms race and of the implementation of disarmament measures;

(c) Conversion and redeployment of resources released from military purposes through disarmament measures to economic and social development purposes.

A. Present-day utilization of resources for military purposes

8. The work under this heading would be concerned with assessing the total magnitude of the financial resources devoted to military purposes and with identifying the extent to which real resources are utilized for such purposes. The following is one possible breakdown that could be used in estimating the total utilization of real resources for military purposes:

(a) Utilization of labour (military, paramilitary and civilian personnel, conscripts) within the military sector as well as within industry for the production of weapons systems and military equipment;

(b) Utilization of research and development (R and D) capacity (scientists, engineers, technicians, research facilities) for military research and development;

(c) Utilization of production facilities in industry, of service industries and of raw materials for the production of military supplies, particular attention to be paid to military consumption of non-renewable resources and scarce raw materials;

(d) Utilization of land and facilities of different kinds for military purposes.

9. The aim should be to determine, to the largest extent possible and within reasonable intervals, the share of the total real resources available which are now devoted to military purposes nationally, regionally and globally. This should be done against the background of the present utilization of resources at the national, regional and global levels for development purposes. In addition, the experts conducting the study should utilize, to the extent possible, any relevant studies carried out by the United Nations or other sources.

10. A particular effort should be made to examine the opportunity cost of resources devoted to military purposes. In this context, resource requirements arising out of aims related to economic and social development, particularly in the developing countries, should be given special consideration.

---

d/ For a list of such studies and documents, see appendix II.
B. Economic and social effects of a continuing arms race and of the implementation of disarmament measures

11. Under this heading the study could undertake the analysis of the effects of both a continuing arms race and the growth of world armaments and of the implementation of a disarmament programme on economic growth, economic stability and social development. This examination could be carried out on the local, national, regional and international levels and it may also explore, wherever appropriate, how these effects would differ among countries with different economic and social systems or of different levels of economic development.

12. Additional important tasks under the heading armament/disarmament would be analyses of the following:

(a) Effects on the utilization of limited resources of energy and raw materials, and effects on trade relations of changes in the patterns of consumption;

(b) Effects on the supply of and demand for R and D capacity and on technology transfer between sectors and between countries, particularly in light of the technological needs of the developing countries;

(c) Implications for the dynamics and structure of international trade and national balances of payments, including the effects of changes in the international arms trade;

(d) Effects on employment and production, including the role of military industrial complexes in all countries and regions concerned, and on the social and industrial infrastructures;

(e) Environmental implications of military activities;

(f) Effects on development programmes for improving well-being and living standards as well as for eliminating abject poverty, unemployment, disease, hunger and illiteracy.

C. Conversion and redeployment of resources released for military purposes through disarmament measures to economic and social development purposes

13. The object of the research under this heading would be to analyse the short- and long-term problems associated with the reallocation of real resources to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries, and to suggest methods by which these problems can be overcome. In the short-term, problems of various kinds, for instance with regard to employment, arise when resources are to be transferred from one sector to another. Over the long-term, the main question will be the relationship between the demands of economic and social development and the resources now allocated to military purposes.

/...
14. With regard to the problems of redeployment of resources, the following factors should, inter alia, be taken into account:

(a) Replacement of military demands by civilian demands for the benefit of all countries, particularly the developing countries, and any required measures of planning.

(b) Time factors in the process of readjusting production, including possibilities of co-ordinating disarmament measures and measures of economic policy.

15. With respect to the transfer of resources released through disarmament measures to international economic and social development, the study should, inter alia, include the following:

(a) Resource requirements arising out of aims related to the social and economic development of all countries and especially the developing countries. Use of the resources released as a result of disarmament for acceleration of the economic development of countries, in particular that of the developing countries, in accordance with their plans for economic and social development in such fields as agriculture, industry, transport, communications and the professional training of the labour force, in the use of natural resources, and in other fields mentioned in the documents cited in paragraph 3 of the general guidelines, annex I, or in the other relevant studies;

(b) Possible practical methods for transferring, following disarmament measures, the real resources released to economic and social development efforts, particularly in the developing countries and in accordance with principles complying with the decisions of these countries;

(c) Utilization of strategic raw materials no longer needed for military purposes but of great importance to the exports of developing countries;

(d) Global economic and social problems facing the contemporary world, such as energy, food and raw material shortages, instability of world market conditions, balances of payments and monetary systems, and pollution of the environment.

IV. Tentative recommendations for the organization of work

16. In view of the broad and complex field to be studied, the Ad Hoc Group will have to draw on expert assistance from all over the world. This would also meet the interest of securing a broad participation in the project.

17. Work should start immediately on the three main areas of research outlined above, in three subgroups set up for this purpose. These subgroups could call on the assistance of experts selected by the Ad Hoc Group. The meetings of these subgroups should not coincide. Anyone who so wishes would thus be able to take part in some or all of the meetings of the subgroups. The Group should ensure the
necessary co-ordination between the subgroups, formulate the over-all conclusions and recommendations of the study and prepare the main report with assistance from the Centre for Disarmament. For the purpose of the study, it would seem necessary to strengthen the staff of the Centre with a number of qualified research consultants.

16. The study would be of a duration of two or, at most, three years. The Ad Hoc Group would start its work before the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly. The final report would be submitted in advance of the thirty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly. In view of the importance of informing the public on the issues of the relationship between disarmament and development, a short and popular version of the main report should be prepared for general distribution.
APPENDIX I

United Nations documents on economic and social development relating to the establishment of a new international economic order

A. Selected resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, 1970-1977

1. Resolution 2626 (XXV), 24 October 1970
   International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade

2. Resolution 2801 (XXVI), 14 December 1971
   Review and appraisal of the objectives and policies of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade

3. Resolution 3037 (XXVII), 19 December 1972
   Charter of the economic rights and duties of States

4. Resolution 3172 (XXVIII), 17 December 1973
   Holding of a special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation

5. Resolution 3201 (S-VI), 1 May 1974
   Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order

6. Resolution 3202 (S-VI), 1 May 1974
   Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order

7. Resolution 3281 (XXIX), 12 December 1974
   Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States

8. Resolution 3312 (XXIX), 14 December 1974
   Reduction of the increasing gap between the developed countries and the developing countries

9. Resolution 3345 (XXIX), 17 December 1974
   Research on the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development

/...
10. Resolution 3362 (S-VII), 16 September 1975
   Development and international economic co-operation

11. Resolution 3486 (XXX), 12 December 1975
   Implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States

12. Resolution 3489 (XXX), 12 December 1975
   Acceleration of the transfer of real resources to developing countries

13. Resolution 3508 (XXX), 15 December 1975
   Examination of long-term trends in the economic development of the regions
   of the world

   Ways and means of accelerating the transfer of real resources to developing
   countries on a predictable, assured and continuous basis

15. Resolution 31/182, 21 December 1976
   Preparations for a new international development strategy

   United Nations Development Programme

17. Resolution 32/174, 19 December 1977

18. Resolution 32/181, 19 December 1977
   Acceleration of the transfer of real resources to developing countries

B. Other documents

    Trade and Development, fourth session

   Measures of support by developed countries and international organizations for
   the programme of economic co-operation among developing countries

    Trade and Development, fourth session

   Debt problems of developing countries

/...

22. Resolution adopted by the Trade and Development Board at its ninth special session, third part, 11 March 1978

Debt problems of developing countries
APPENDIX II

United Nations documents on disarmament with particular reference to the relationship between disarmament and development

A. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly

Note: A compilation of all resolutions on disarmament adopted by the General Assembly at its first to thirty-first sessions (1946-1976) appears in document A/AC.187/29.

1. Resolutions on disarmament adopted by the General Assembly: background papers prepared by the Secretariat


2. Resolution 32/75, 12 December 1977

   Economic and social consequences of the arms race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security

3. Resolution 32/80, 12 December 1977

   Effective measures to implement the purposes and objectives of the Disarmament Decade

4. Resolution 32/85, 12 December 1977

   Reduction of military budgets

5. Resolution 32/88 B, 12 December 1977

   Special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

B. Expert studies and other related documents

1. Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and of Military Expenditures

   United Nations publication, Sales No. E.72.IX.16


   United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.IX.1
3. Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.I.10

4. Reduction of military budgets: measurement and international reporting of military expenditures

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.I.6

5. Disarmament and development: an analytical survey and pointers for action

Paper prepared by Barry M. Blechman and Edward R. Fried (E/AC.54/L.90), 1977

6. Reduction of military budgets

A/32/194, 14 September 1977

7. The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook
   volume 1:1976

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.IX.2

8. Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and of Military Expenditures

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.IX.1