Tenth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE TENTH SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12


ADOPTION OF A DECLARATION ON DISARMAMENT

ADOPTION OF A PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON DISARMAMENT

REVIEW OF THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN DISARMAMENT AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON DISARMAMENT, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR THE QUESTION OF CONVENING A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Letter dated 7 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should appreciate it if you would circulate as an official document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12, the USSR proposals for inclusion in the text of the draft final document which were submitted by the USSR delegation in the Ad Hoc Committee on 7 June 1978.

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY
Permanent Representative of the USSR to the United Nations
ANNEX

Proposals to be included in the draft final document

1. Insert the following provision after the first sentence of paragraph 6.3 (p. 27) of the Declaration:

"Ending the arms race requires an early and successful completion of the talks already under way to this end at the bilateral, regional and international levels."

2. Insert the following provision after the first sentence of paragraph 6.12 (p. 24) of the Declaration:

"The formulation and implementation of measures to end the production of nuclear weapons and gradually destroy their stockpiles should run parallel to, and be inseparable from, the consolidation of political and international legal guarantees for the security of States; this would be greatly facilitated by the solution of the question of the non-use of force in international relations and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons."

3. Replace paragraph 6.15 (p. 24) with the following text:

"It is necessary to strengthen the international treaties and agreements in force which are designed to limit the arms race and to ensure their universality, and the participation in them of all States without exception."

4. Insert the following text in the Programme of Action after the section entitled "B. Priorities" (p. 25):

"For the purposes of completely ending any further quantitative and qualitative build-up of arms and armed forces of States with a large military potential it is necessary to adopt a programme for the implementation of the following measures within a specified time-limit:

"- Cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons;

"- Cessation of the production of, and prohibition of, all other types of weapons of mass destruction;

"- Cessation of the development of new types of conventional armaments with a high destructive capability;

"- Renunciation by the permanent members of the Security Council, and by countries which have military agreements with them, of the expansion of their armies and the build-up of their conventional armaments.

/...
"A start should be made, for example, by discontinuing the production of nuclear weapons."

5. Replace the paragraph in the first section entitled "Nuclear disarmament" (p. 27) by the following text:

"It is essential to start negotiations on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing their stockpiles until they have been completely destroyed. All the nuclear-weapon States should take part in the negotiations. It would also be useful to have a certain number of non-nuclear-weapon States involved in the negotiations. The specific formula for participation in the negotiations could be agreed upon through the diplomatic channel, or within the framework of an appropriate preparatory committee. The same procedure could be applied in order to reach agreement on the agenda for the negotiations and to determine the issues to be considered and resolved.

"The formulation and implementation of measures to end the production of nuclear weapons and gradually destroy their stockpiles should run parallel to, and be inseparable from, the consolidation of political and international legal guarantees for the security of States. The conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations would be a major step in that direction.

"The negotiations on nuclear disarmament and on the non-use of force should start as soon as possible and in any case not later than ..."."

6. Insert the following in the section entitled "Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of the outbreak of nuclear war" in the Programme of Action (p. 28) after the third paragraph:

"The declarations of nuclear-weapon States to the effect that they will not use nuclear weapons against those States which renounce the production and acquisition of nuclear weapons and have no nuclear weapons in their territory are of considerable importance for ensuring the security of such non-nuclear States. All nuclear States must make similar declarations. Special bilateral agreements between nuclear and appropriate non-nuclear States must be concluded to that effect."

7. Insert the following text at the beginning of section "2. Other weapons of mass destruction" (p. 35) in the Programme of Action:

"International action is urgently required to rule out, once and for all, the emergence and deployment of neutron weapons. As a result of the discussions on that subject it can be stated with full confidence that:

"- Neutron weapons are particularly inhuman means of mass destruction of people;"
Neutron weapons will inevitably lower the threshold of a nuclear war and consequently increase the probability of such a war;

The introduction of neutron weapons by one group of States will inevitably lead to similar action on the part of another group of countries, and this will open up a new trend in the nuclear arms race, as happened in the 1940s with atomic weapons and in the 1950s with thermonuclear weapons;

The emergence of any one type of neutron weapon could merely mark the start of this race: the first type will inevitably be followed by other types, with even greater destructive capability, designed to attain objectives broader than those currently conceived, including objectives which go beyond the confines of a single continent.

In the interests of the security of the peoples and in the light of the above-mentioned facts, consideration of the draft convention on the prohibition of the production, stockpiling, deployment and use of nuclear neutron weapons should be accorded high priority and, at its thirty-third session, the General Assembly should sum up the results of the work accomplished.

8. Insert the following text in the section on the reduction of military budgets (p. 37) in the Programme of Action, after the first paragraph:

"To facilitate a solution to this question, States with a large economic and military potential, including all the permanent members of the Security Council, should agree on specific reductions in their own military budgets not in terms of percentage points but in absolute figures. Such agreement might cover, for instance, a period of three years, beginning with the budget for the next financial year.

"At the same time, agreement could be reached on specific amounts which each State that reduced its military budget would allocate for increased aid to developing countries. In that event it would be desirable to set up machinery within the framework of the United Nations for the apportionment of such funds among the States receiving aid."

9. Insert the following text in the section entitled "Other measures to strengthen international security and to build confidence" (p. 39) in the Programme of Action:

"For the purposes of halting the process, which can lead to dangerous consequences, including the destabilization of the existing strategic situation, it is necessary to reach agreement on the non-stationing of nuclear weapons in the territories of States in which there are none at present. In practice, this means that no nuclear weapons should be stationed in the future, either in the form of deployed combat nuclear systems or in the form of stockpiles of nuclear warheads, bombs, shells and mines, in the territories of States in which there are no nuclear weapons at present."
"Non-nuclear-weapon States should make declarations to the effect that they will not allow the stationing of nuclear weapons in their territories.

The nuclear-weapon States could take a major positive step by assuming the obligation not to station nuclear weapons in countries in which there are none at present. Such an obligation should be universal in character, that is, it should be applicable to any non-nuclear State in whose territory there are no nuclear weapons, regardless of whether any particular nuclear State is or is not an ally of that State.

The form of such an obligation could be determined through an exchange of views among nuclear-weapon States."