VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 16TH MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ORTIZ DE ROZAS (Argentina)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 9, 10, 11 and 12 (continued)


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

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to begin by apologizing to delegations for the successive postponements prior to the start of this meeting. I wish to apologize also for holding this meeting at this late hour. As you all know, we worked until 9 o’clock on the draft final document. Even just a few minutes ago, we were touching up a few matters that needed drafting corrections. It has also been materially impossible to print the final document as quickly as would have been desirable. However, the texts are now being printed and will soon be in the hands of representatives. I am pleased to announce that the final version of the document does not have any brackets in it at all.

I now wish to refer to a pending matter the proper settlement of which will make an important contribution to the work of this Committee.
(The Chairman)

I mean the draft resolution in document A/S.10/AC.1/L.1/Rev.1, introduced by 32 countries. Now that the Ad Hoc Committee has reached the stage at which it must adopt the final document—a significant event in the field of disarmament—I should like to direct a sincere, special and, I would add, cordial appeal to the 32 sponsors of this draft resolution to accept the following proposal: that the Ad Hoc Committee take note of the draft resolution in document A/S.10/AC.1/L.1/Rev.1 and recommend by consensus that it be referred to the regular session of the General Assembly for consideration.

I am making this appeal to preserve the consensus that has prevailed in our deliberations thus far, and I fervently hope that the sponsors will respond favourably to my appeal, in the same spirit in which I am making it. I also hope that my appeal will not give rise to a debate on the subject.

The 32 sponsors may need to hold consultations on this matter, as I understand it, and if there are no objections the meeting will be suspended for 10 minutes to make possible consultations among the sponsors, in the confident hope that at the end of the recess we shall receive an affirmative reply. If there is no objection, I shall take it that this is acceptable.
The meeting was suspended at 10:45 p.m. and resumed at 12 midnight.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The supposed 10-minute recess went beyond that time. This, I must say, was not the fault of the sponsors, to whom I addressed my appeal; but we had to wait for the printing and distribution of the draft final document, which has just been made available to representatives in document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1.

I now call on the representative of Sri Lanka, who will reply to the appeal that I addressed to the sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mr. FERNANDO (Sri Lanka): I am speaking on behalf of the 32 sponsors of the draft resolution contained in document A/S-10/AC.1/L.1/Rev.1.

Mr. Chairman, we have heard the appeal that you have addressed to us; we have consulted among ourselves and we have given every consideration to that appeal. We are aware of its significance and of the circumstances in which you made it. We attach special significance to the fact that by your efforts you have brought about a significant result and achievement as a result of which you are about to present a consensus document on the main item before this tenth special session.

Again, on behalf of the sponsors, I should like to say that we should not wish to appear as dissenters from this consensus.

I shall not today recount the reasons or the circumstances behind our proposing this draft resolution: they are only too well known to this Committee and to the group of the non-aligned. We have no doubt that if the draft resolution now before us were put to a vote in this Committee, it would be bound to be adopted with significant support. However, Mr. Chairman, the sponsors have nevertheless given careful thought to what you have placed before us; in response to your appeal they have agreed that the cause which this draft resolution espouses will be well served if the draft resolution is placed before the forthcoming thirty-third session of the General Assembly, where we have no doubt whatsoever that it will receive the same overwhelming support.
We have decided to take this course of action because, as I said earlier, of the significance of this occasion - this first special session devoted to disarmament, a session made possible largely because of the instance of the non-aligned, and which we should like to see concluded in an atmosphere of consensus and complete harmony.

On behalf of the sponsors, I would therefore request that this Ad Hoc Committee take note of the draft resolution in document A/S-10/AC.1/L.1/Rev.1 and would recommend that it be formally communicated to the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly for its consideration. I should like to thank those delegations that have been with us on this draft resolution, and may I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the understanding that you have shown us in this matter. We are acceding to your appeal in the same spirit as it was made - namely, on the understanding that we should preserve the rule of consensus for all decisions of this session and that there would be no debate.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to thank the representative of Sri Lanka and the other sponsors of the draft resolution for having acceded to the appeal that I addressed to them. Postponing consideration of this draft resolution till the thirty-third session of the General Assembly will make it possible for the Assembly at this special session to conclude its work on a note of harmony, and for that reason may I once again express my appreciation.

As I said when I made my appeal, this draft resolution will be communicated to the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, and the report of this Committee will give an account of the circumstances.
(The Chairman)

We turn now to the draft final document. Before we consider it, I should like to say that, because of a printing error the subtitles of the document appear in square brackets. Neither the square brackets nor the subtitles should appear. The final version of this document will not contain any subtitles and, obviously therefore, no brackets.

I wish to announce to the Committee that an addendum is now being printed, made up of the texts drafted at the last minute for inclusion in the section devoted to the programme of action and in the final part of the document. The first part of the addendum refers to action to be pursued in connexion with some of the texts which have not been included in the document. This addendum will be available to representatives very soon.

In connexion with two draft resolutions that had been submitted to the Committee for consideration, I call on the representative of India, the sponsor of those draft resolutions.
Mr. JAIPAL (India): My delegation does not intend to press its two draft resolutions to the vote at this session because their provisions in essence have found some measure of reflection in paragraphs 51 and 56 of the final document, thanks to the co-operation shown by several nuclear-weapon States. However, since our proposals continue to be valid and continue to be of significance to the cause of halting the arms race and the prevention of nuclear war, we reserve our right to reintroduce our draft resolutions at the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly.

In the circumstances, we would request you, Mr. Chairman, to remit our two draft resolutions, together with other documents, to the thirty-third session of the General Assembly.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): In the documents that will be distributed as an addendum is a text which says that all the official documents of this special session will be referred to among other bodies the General Assembly at its thirty-third session and that would include the draft resolutions proposed by India. But I thank the representative of India for withdrawing those drafts in the present circumstances. As the representative of India said, the concerns of his delegation have been reflected in this draft final document, so they will not have to be put to the vote.

I should now like to submit the draft final document to the Committee for consideration. If representatives have any comments to make on the draft document, perhaps it might be appropriate for us to go through the draft part by part. We should perhaps first take up the first section, "Introduction", and then proceed to section II, "Declaration", then section III, "Programme of action", and, finally, section IV, "Machinery". This should permit an orderly consideration of our document, and whatever comments have to be made will be made in an organized fashion.

Does any delegation have any comment on the preambular paragraphs that appear on page 1 of the document or on the introduction on pages 2 and 3? It appears not.

Does any delegation wish to comment on section II, "Declaration", on pages 4 to 9?
Mr. LEONARD (United States of America): I have a comment on one of the paragraphs of the declaration, and this same comment applies to one of the paragraphs of the programme of action, so, to save time, which I think is a desirable objective at this time of the evening, I shall make them both now. Before I do, I should like to say a word about what an extraordinary achievement our delegation considers this document to be. I think we all very well know the great efforts that have been put into it by you, Sir, as Chairman of this Ad Hoc Committee, and I should like to pay a tribute to those efforts as also to the great skill manifested by your assistant in this effort, Ambassador García Robles of Mexico.

With regard to paragraph 32 of the document as it stood in the earlier text, the paragraph relating to the non-use of nuclear weapons, and also the corresponding paragraph, which was numbered paragraph 63 in the programme of action, there was, for understandable reasons, insufficient opportunity for the thorough discussion of these two paragraphs. This subject is an extremely important one bearing on the vital national security interests of my country and on the interests of our allies. I regret therefore that at this point I must reserve the position of our delegation on these two paragraphs.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Does any other delegation wish to comment on section II? It appears not.

We shall now consider section III, "Programme of action", on pages 10 to 24. Does any delegation wish to comment?

Mr. BUENO (Brazil): I wish to make brief comments on paragraphs 81 and 82 of the document before us, and specifically on references made to regional agreements on conventional disarmament.

Brazil considers that the question of disarmament is in principle and above all a global and universal one. We do not oppose the negotiation of agreements on disarmament by a number of States grouped by similar interests and geographically located in the same region. However, we are of the view that regional disarmament is a concept that should be based only on specific interests that are limited to those countries of a certain region or a concept that necessarily embraces all the components of a regional organization and/or the totality of the countries of the same region.
Furthermore, the concept of regional disarmament requires binding undertakings on the part of the States which do not belong to the region not to use or threaten to use force against the States of the region. The formulation arrived at in paragraphs 81 and 82 lacks these elements and therefore does not satisfy the requirements which in our view are essential for the preservation of the national security of the States concerned.

My delegation does not wish to reopen a debate on substance or to challenge the procedure followed throughout the informal consultations prior to the submission of the text now before us. It suffices to point out that we disagree with the procedure followed in the past few days for the hasty conclusion of the negotiations on the final text. This is only one instance among many in which delegations were confronted with texts and were forced to take positions in hours, and sometimes even in minutes, on matters of great importance to their respective Governments.

At this final stage, my delegation wishes to place on record its reservations on paragraphs 81 and 82 and to dissociate itself from the concept embodied therein. At the same time, we reserve our right to return to the document as a whole tomorrow, when it is submitted to the plenary General Assembly.

Mr. VELLODI (India): We should like to refer to one matter which concerns the comprehensive programme of disarmament. There are references to this issue in two places in the document.

In paragraph 107, it is stated that

"the Committee on Disarmament will undertake the elaboration of a comprehensive programme of disarmament ...". (A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1, para. 107)

There is no reference in this section of the document to the role the United Nations Disarmament Commission has with regard to the comprehensive programme of disarmament.
I should like to draw the Committee's attention to paragraph 116, which deals with the Disarmament Commission. It is explicitly stated there that:

"The Disarmament Commission should, inter alia, consider the elements of a comprehensive programme for disarmament to be submitted as recommendations to the General Assembly and through it to the negotiating body". (Ibid., para. 116)

I am not asking for any changes in the final document, but we wish to state that it is our clear understanding that the Committee on Disarmament will take up the elaboration of the comprehensive programme after it has received, through the General Assembly, the recommendations of the Disarmament Commission, once that Commission has completed consideration of the elements of the programme.

Mr. LEPRETTE (France) (interpretation from French): At this stage, I should like first to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the efforts you have made to enable us to have before us this evening the final document of this special session devoted to disarmament. I should like to pay a tribute also to the chairmen of the groups and to the co-ordinators, who have displayed so much imagination and made so many efforts, leading to the elimination of some differences and difficulties that had arisen during the past few weeks.

This evening I shall comment only on the programme of action. At this stage I should like to say that while we appreciate the importance of a whole series of developments reflected in the programme of action, while we believe that some of the recommendations and suggestions are in keeping with an aspiration shared by the international community as a whole, some of the language used in this document - and particularly in paragraphs 32, 51, 56 and 57 - is not the language we would have wished to see adopted. My delegations reserves the right to go into more detail about this tomorrow.

This evening I should like to say that, in a spirit of co-operation and in order not to place any obstacle in the way of the consensus, we have not opposed the language used. We would simply reserve our right to make clear tomorrow the reasons for our reservations on various formulations.
Mr. ISSRAELyan (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to call attention to the fact that two paragraphs that were in document A/S-10/AC.1/37 are missing from document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1. I refer to paragraphs 59 and 60. I shall read these two paragraphs out:

(spoke in English)

"59. Significant progress in nuclear disarmament would be facilitated both by parallel political or international legal measures to strengthen the security of States and by progress in the limitation and reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments of the nuclear-weapon States and other States in the region concerned.

"60. Real progress in the field of nuclear disarmament could create an atmosphere conducive to progress in conventional disarmament world-wide."

(A/S-10/AC.1/37, p. 16)

(continued in Russian)

I repeat that those two paragraphs, both of which were approved, do not appear in document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1. They should appear in that document, with the appropriate numbers, after paragraph 53, on page 11.

I believe that there must have been some technical error, and I would request that the correction be made.

Mr. ADENIJI (Nigeria): The representative of the Soviet Union is quite correct. The two paragraphs to which he referred were no doubt omitted in the confusion that followed the rearrangement of the paragraphs in this section. I would apologize to him for this inadvertent omission and would assure him that these paragraphs, which were approved almost a week ago, will certainly re-emerge in the text.
The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I thank the representative of the Soviet Union for having drawn my attention to the omission of those two paragraphs. He is quite right, the paragraphs had been approved, and they will come after paragraph 53 in the final text, which will be submitted later today to the General Assembly, and will appear as paragraphs 54 and 55. As the representative of Nigeria said, we are sorry that owing to the confusion and the somewhat abnormal manner in which we have had to work because of the pressure of time, this involuntary omission occurred.

Mr. LEONARD (United States of America): We too must reserve our position on the text of paragraph 62 of the document before us. Our delegation made clear during the consultations that provisional acceptance of the language of that paragraph was on an ad referendum basis, in the spirit of co-operation which has been so evident here in the last few days, in order to assist in the search for a consensus. It remains our view that zones of peace in various regions of the world have to be clearly defined and determined freely by all the States concerned. Those States cannot be arbitrarily limited to States in a given zone since there is clearly an integral relationship between those States and others which play a role in various ways in such zones. We would therefore prefer that the first sentence of that paragraph read:

"The establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world, under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned, wherever situated, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole."

The text of paragraph 66 of the document before us also does not adequately reflect our view on the relationship between the need to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons and the right of all States to have access to technology, equipment and materials for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Our views on this subject are more accurately reflected in paragraph 36 of the "Principles" section of the declaration, which we regard as a more balanced expression of this principle. We would have preferred that this paragraph be used in place of paragraph 66, which is in fact another statement of principle rather than a call for action.
Mr. Fonseka (Sri Lanka): My delegation would like, in the first instance, to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the massive efforts you have made to bring about the conclusion of the session so far as this document is concerned. We are well aware of the great troubles and problems you had in achieving this consensus document.

We should like also to extend to the representative of Mexico, Ambassador García Robles, our own thanks for the efforts which he made to secure the successful conclusion of this document.

The representative of India made a reference to the comprehensive programme for disarmament – section H, paragraph 107 – and another reference to paragraph 116 on page 26 concerning the disarmament commission. You may recall, Sir, the circumstances in which this revised paragraph was submitted. It was in the early hours of 28 June and it was submitted at a time when we were fit enough, physically and otherwise, to consider a draft paragraph. This paragraph was reconsidered, I believe, in the late hours of yesterday. In the circumstances, it was not possible for my delegation to give the paragraph on a comprehensive programme for disarmament adequate consideration, and I would refer in particular to the sentence which relates to the Committee on Disarmament and the elaboration of a comprehensive programme of disarmament.

I should like to draw the attention of the Committee, as did the representative of India, to paragraph 116 (a), which says that:

"The Disarmament Commission ... should, inter alia, consider the elements of a comprehensive programme for disarmament to be submitted as recommendations to the General Assembly and through it to the negotiating body".

Those who were involved in the negotiation of this programme will well recall the discussions we had, and I would urge that the new negotiating body consider the comprehensive programme for disarmament after the disarmament commission has itself considered this subject and take that consideration into account.
Mr. GAUCI (Malta): Mr. Chairman, I too should like to congratulate you on the very able way in which you have led our deliberations during these last few days. I feel that it would be proper for me to recall that, had there been more time, we should have been able to produce a better document. There was, in fact, one paragraph on which, despite the importance we attach to it and despite the intensive efforts that my delegation made together with others, there was not sufficient give and take to enable an acceptable formula to be arrived at. I refer to paragraph 62. For this reason we feel that there is a very significant omission from this document, and at this late hour we shall have to wait for instructions before we can give our final approval to the document, and certainly until we see all its component parts.

With these observations, I reserve the right of my delegation to come back to this document at our meeting later today.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Since no other delegation wishes to make any comment on this part of the document, we shall proceed to section IV, "Machinery", which begins on page 25 and ends on page 28.

Mr. LAI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): The tenth special session of the General Assembly, after nearly six weeks of intensive work, is now in its final stages and drawing to a close. In order that a better document may be produced at this session, the numerous third-world and other small and medium-sized countries have made great efforts at this session.
They have put forward many just propositions and many reasonable demands.
And now a final draft document has been produced by the Ad Hoc Committee for
the consideration of the General Assembly at this special session.

However, the time is very pressing at this moment and the Chinese
delegation, after preliminary reading of this document, considers it necessary
to state its position on some important questions of principle and to state
its reservations.

At the plenary meeting today, we shall state our opinions in a more
comprehensive way.

Mr. ERNEMANN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Mr. Chairman,
first of all I should like to join in the thanks that have been extended to
you, to Ambassador Garcia Robles and to all those to whom we owe the impressive
document submitted this evening.

The Belgian delegation welcomes the text on "Machinery". Like most
delegations, we believe that this text will represent one of the chief
conclusions of this special session of the General Assembly on disarmament.
We believe that France, the Soviet Union and the other nuclear Powers deserve
credit for this. A group of delegations under the chairmanship of
Ambassador Gharekhan has done some important work which has made this text
particularly precise.

In that informal group, Belgium stressed that there was one basic
obscure point which needed clarification in this text. The phrase which calls
forth reservations on our part appears in paragraph 118, in the first two lines
of page 27:

(spoke in English)

"... that the membership of the Committee on Disarmament will be
reviewed at regular intervals". (A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1)

(continued in French)

If representatives will read the sentence preceding the one that I just
read out, at the end of page 26, they will see that it says that in addition
to the nuclear-weapon States, 32 to 35 other States to be chosen in consultation
with the President of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly will
be members of the Committee.
Would it not have been logical to say that a similar consultation between the President and the States Members of the Assembly will take place whenever the composition of the Committee is revised? We do not wish further to complicate our work. But it is in this spirit that we accept the first sentence of page 27, namely on the understanding that at the time of the periodic review of the membership of the Committee on Disarmament, there will be consultations between Member States of the General Assembly and the President of the General Assembly.

It is my hope that this interpretation will not give rise to any objections.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): It is my understanding that when the membership of the Committee on Disarmament is reviewed, the consultations to which the representative of Belgium has referred will take place.

Mr. ULUÇEVİK (Turkey): On behalf of my delegation, I should like to congratulate you and your collaborators for making it possible for this Committee to have before it a text free of brackets.

The agreement reached on the constitution of a new negotiating body, namely, the Committee on Disarmament, does not provide for a system of rotational membership of the kind my Government favours. Nevertheless, this agreement increases the number of members of the negotiating body and envisages the review of the membership of the Committee at regular intervals, which in our view will provide wider opportunities for other States, particularly the militarily significant States, to become members of the negotiating body.

In this connexion, I should like to point out that the text relating to the establishment of the Committee on Disarmament lacks clarity as to the length of the intervals at the end of which the review of the membership will be carried out. It is the hope of my delegation that a formal understanding will emerge in this respect before the closure of the special session.
Mr. Barton (Canada): Mr. Chairman, I really did not want to discuss this section of the report, but I did want to ask a question before we finally proceeded to adopt the report. I defer to you as to when I should do that.

The Chairman (interpretation from Spanish): In response to the question of the representative of Canada, let me say that, when we have concluded consideration of section IV, we shall hear from a representative of the Secretariat about the financial implications of the adoption of this document, and then I will discuss the question of the adoption of this document.

Mr. Issraelyan (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. Chairman, I should like to remind you of the statement made by the Soviet delegation in connexion with the so-called question of follow-up. We have frequently stated that our consent on a number of questions in connexion with this document was intimately connected with exactly what sort of decision we took on follow-up.

Now it appears that we are approaching the culmination of our work on this document and we have not, so far, seen any text on follow-up. Consultations were held on this subject during this afternoon, and certain amendments have been made to the document which is now being distributed, amendments which have not been agreed on with us. The document is not fully in accordance with the agreement which was reached in the group headed by Ambassador Garcia Robles which prepared this text. Therefore, it will be difficult for us now to take any decision on this document on the report of the Special Committee, in view of the fact that the follow-up text is not, in fact, a reflection of the agreement which was achieved in the group which was headed by Mr. Garcia Robles.

In this connexion may I request you, Mr. Chairman, to suspend the meeting for a short time so that we can have a look at this text. After the suspension, we could take a final decision, since, I repeat, the text which is now being distributed is not in accord with the agreement which was in fact reached and this in essence faces us with a fait accompli.
I would therefore earnestly request you, Mr. Chairman, to take into account this request, and we could at your convenience have a short suspension to consider this matter.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): If there are no objections, I shall suspend the meeting for a short time so that the consideration referred to can take place.

As I hear no objections, I believe that I can suspend the meeting for 10 minutes, until 1 o'clock.
The meeting was suspended at 12.50 a.m. and resumed at 2.35 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I am sorry that the suspension has lasted much longer than 10 minutes, and I express my gratitude to the members of the Committee for the patience and goodwill they have shown during this long wait.

Some misunderstandings have arisen in connexion with the drafting of document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1/Add.1, misunderstandings which are entirely the result of the totally abnormal - one could almost say inhuman - conditions in which we have been working for the past few days. The texts were hastily drafted; they were examined; they were passed from one delegation to another; and sometimes it was assumed that agreement had been reached on them when actually there were still some objections. That is what happened in the drafting of this document.

I turn now to the changes that must be made in order to reflect the consensus reached in the group that until a few hours ago was engaged in the drafting of the definitive version of the final document.

The first part of paragraph 122 of document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1/Add.1 requires no change. The second part of the paragraph is also in order, but the following clarification should be made. Representatives will note that in the first line, after the words "proposals and suggestions", there is an asterisk referring the reader to a foot-note which contains a reference to some documents. When that foot-note is completed, there will be a reference by symbol number to all the other documents, without exception - that is, all the documents that are not listed in this paragraph. Thus, in one form or another, absolutely all the documents produced for this special session will be mentioned.

The third part of the paragraph, beginning with the words "In view of the special significance" should be deleted. It should be replaced by the following:
"Some of these proposals put forward for the consideration of the special session of the General Assembly are listed below."

I should like to make the following clarification. The list referred to in the sentence I have just read out - the relevant words are "listed below" - will include the proposals which, as a whole, cover entire paragraphs of the draft final document that were deleted from document A/S-10/AC.1/37; that is, the version of the document preceding the one we are now examining, the only official document of the Committee which contained the text of the draft in question, and from which entire paragraphs had to be deleted in order to achieve a consensus.

The list will also include the proposals submitted by delegations as official documents of the special session, including those of the Ad Hoc Committee - that is, documents whose symbol numbers begin with A/S-10; A/S-10/AC.1 and A/S-10/AC.1/L.
Delegations wishing to include a reference to these proposals should communicate their desire to the Secretariat at the latest at the end of this meeting for a reference to these proposals to be included in the document in its final version to be submitted to the plenary General Assembly.

Since some delegations may not have a clear idea of what the list I refer to will look like, so as to avoid confusion I wish to make it clear that the references to the proposals must be brief. They will not be entire paragraphs, but short notes. I shall cite one example which appears in this document:

*(spoke in English)*

"(d) Proposal submitted by the Government of Sri Lanka for the establishment of a world disarmament authority. (A/S-10/AC.1/9 and Add.1)"

*(continued in Spanish)*

As the Committee can see, the proposal is mentioned in two lines, that is all. So this is what we are attempting to achieve, simply to have a list of proposals of delegations wishing to have their proposals specifically listed, but listed in this brief and succinct manner in two lines.

May I now draw attention to paragraph 125 of document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1/Add.1, on page 2 of this document. In paragraph 125 the second sentence is to be deleted, starting with "In addition" and ending with "General Assembly". Instead of that sentence, we shall have the following sentence:

*(spoke in English)*

"Several Heads of State and Government addressed the General Assembly. In addition, other Heads of State and Government sent messages and expressed their good wishes for the success of the special session."

*(continued in Spanish)*

The rest of the paragraph would remain as now worded.

I trust that these clarifications have been correctly understood. If there are any doubts then I am, of course, in the hands of the Committee to give any clarifications that the Committee may desire. I am so happy to see that no one is asking for further clarifications.
The Chairman

I take it then that we can return to where we were when I suspended the meeting and I shall call on the representative of the Secretariat to tell us of the financial implications of the document which we are about to adopt.

Mr. Durand (Budget Division) (interpretation from French): The General Assembly at its tenth special session devoted to the question of disarmament will have before it a certain number of proposals which are contained in the final draft document which is now before the Ad Hoc Committee and which has certain financial implications. These proposals are as follows:

The first is to request the Secretary-General to initiate, with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, an expert study on the relationship between disarmament and development. That proposal is contained particularly in paragraph 92 of the draft document. If this proposal is adopted, the group of governmental experts should have an initial meeting in Geneva from 4 to 15 September 1978.

The second proposal is to establish, as successor to the Commission originally established by resolution 502 (VI) of the General Assembly, a Disarmament Commission which should report to the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly. This proposal is contained in paragraph 116 of the draft document. If that proposal is adopted, the Disarmament Commission could meet in New York during the week of 2 to 6 October 1978.

The third proposal is to set up an advisory board on disarmament studies; this proposal is contained in paragraph 121 of the draft document. If that proposal is adopted, the advisory board should meet in New York from 30 October to 10 November 1978 in order to prepare, in time for its discussion by the General Assembly at its thirty-third session, a programme of such studies.

Should the General Assembly at this special session decide to adopt these proposals, the Secretary-General considers that it would be possible to absorb in part, within existing resources, the cost of the necessary services. However, it would be necessary to provide for additional financing to cover the costs of certain conference services, the costs of travel of experts and the travel of staff, and a limited amount of temporary assistance for the department concerned.
For the conference servicing of the three afore-mentioned meetings, the Secretary-General would, in accordance with the provision of General Assembly resolution 32/214 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1978-1979, need the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into commitments in the following approximate expenses: as far as the meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts is concerned, for a sum of $133,700; for the meeting of the Disarmament Commission, a sum of $56,800; and for the meeting of the Advisory Board is concerned, a sum of $136,500 — that is a total, for conference services, of $327,000.
Furthermore, for the preparation and holding of those meetings certain substantive services will also be necessary.

The draft final document also assigns to the Secretariat a number of additional tasks, inter alia: to increase contacts with non-governmental organizations and research institutions; to obtain and analyse the views of Governments on proposals made at the tenth special session of the General Assembly; and to start preparations for the future programme of studies in the field of disarmament to be decided upon by the thirty-third session.

The Secretary-General intends to submit to the thirty-third session of the General Assembly his proposals for strengthening the United Nations Centre for Disarmament and to outline the conditions in which it might be necessary to add to the number of permanent posts. However, for the second half of 1978 it will be necessary to seek interim authorization by the Advisory Committee to spend, under temporary assistance, the equivalent of 36 work-months at the Professional level and 30 work-months at the General Service level, together with some related travel and supplies. At this stage the amount needed is estimated at $210,000.

The total financial implications of the adoption of the draft final document would therefore be: for conference services, $327,000; for substantive services, $210,000; that is, a total of $537,000.
The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): If there are no further comments and if I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee adopts document A/S-10/AC.1/37/Rev.1 and Add.1, together with the corrections that I read out earlier.

The draft final document, as corrected, was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): That brings us to the end of our work.

I crave representatives' indulgence — perhaps it will be an abuse of patience of representatives who are so weary — to express some of my views.

I believe that the adoption by consensus of the final document that has just taken place represents the end of one stage and the beginning of yet another more promising one. The preparatory work for this special session and the negotiations that led to the adoption of this document bear the imprint of two essential factors. The first is the need to harmonize the international co-operation that is inescapable if we are to achieve disarmament goals with the vital requirements for the security of every State. The complexity of that interrelationship explains the difficulties of the entire proceedings and also highlights the merits of the results achieved. The other factor is the universal and active participation of all members of the General Assembly. The need to pay attention to all the points raised led, at the national level, to a review of positions which in many cases produced new attitudes more in accord with the needs of the international community.

Among the various elements which have made this session of the Assembly unique in history we must, in our opinion, emphasize the following: the large number of Heads of State and Government who participated in the general debate; the very high level of representation which included many Foreign Ministers; the political depth in the treatment of all issues; the very many important proposals submitted for consideration by the General Assembly; the comprehensive approach towards determining the essential elements of what we might rightly call a new strategy for disarmament; the messages and expressions of goodwill of Heads of State and Government; as well as the important statements made by the highest-ranking officers of the International
Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the invaluable contribution of the non-governmental organizations and research institutes - 25 of the former and 16 of the latter had an opportunity to address our Committee and thus add to the wealth of our deliberations; and the democratization of our procedure by the participation of all, leading to an active and genuine consensus.

The document that has been adopted contains a coherent set of principles which constitute a doctrine for the future of disarmament, as well as goals and priorities that will determine future negotiations on the measures agreed to.
One of the most far-reaching aspects is also the improvement of the deliberative and negotiating bodies of the United Nations for disarmament, which warrants our hoping that there will be an effective discharge of these functions in the future.

All proposals and positions have been considered in depth, in detail and with great thoroughness and care. In many cases agreements was possible and they have therefore been incorporated in this body of precepts which was adopted by consensus. Where that was not possible, the final document provides the adequate means to allow us to continue our study and consideration in the future. In this manner we have laid the foundations and given the necessary impetus so that from now on we shall be able to make a concerted, permanent effort towards the desired goal of general and complete disarmament. We have provided more than enough material so that States, through the deliberative and negotiating bodies, will be able at the regular sessions and at the next special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament to consider and gradually resolve the problems which deeply concern the international community.

In brief, the steps we started in the Preparatory Committee months ago and concluded in the exhausting last days have resulted in a significant success in which we can all take pride. We have all gained; we have all won because a new impetus has been given to the disarmament cause.

I wish now to pay a well deserved tribute and to express my most heartfelt gratitude to the 149 delegations represented here. It has been thanks to your understanding, your good will, your perception of the problems involved and your resolute decision to arrive at an agreement that we have been able to adopt this final document.

None will be surprised when I address very special and deeply felt words of gratitude to the officers of this Committee to the eight Vice-Chairmen and to the Rapporteur, Mr. Bensmail of Algeria, whose participation was outstanding, and who, later today, will be submitting to the plenary General Assembly the report of this Committee.
The Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly has, in my opinion, set an example which ought to be followed in the future. Meeting often, it considered all the major problems and gave its support to all proposals which the Chairman of the Committee put to it. It was thus a body that gave invaluable assistance in the discharge of the responsibilities entrusted to me. To each and every one, my most deeply felt gratitude.

I extend this feeling to the Chairmen of the Working Groups, Ambassador Malcolm Templeton of New Zealand and Ambassador Henryk Jaroszek of Poland. I once again express to them my most deeply felt gratitude. It was they who began to give shape to this final document with well organized work, guiding the important deliberations in the groups with competence, skill, objectivity, courtesy and diplomacy.

I also wish to express my most heart-felt gratitude - and I am sure that it is also the heart-felt gratitude of all members of this Committee, of the officers of the Committee and of the Chairmen of the Working Groups, to the five co-ordinators whose assiduous work deserves our full recognition, because ultimately they served as the instruments for channelling the agreements that led to our draft final document.

Ambassador Alfonso Garcia Robles of Mexico has already earned the appreciation of many delegations, as publicly expressed. Today I express my own appreciation. Not only was he the first co-ordinator to produce a clean text without brackets for the Introduction, but also, as of Friday of last week, he was practically in charge of the negotiations which led to the final document we have just adopted. As though that were not enough, he has provided us with texts which have been incorporated in this document and have made it not only more important but also more interesting and more readable for lay persons who are not in the United Nations but will be reading the final document. For all his tireless, devoted efforts and for his dedication to the cause of disarmament, he deserves our fullest appreciation.
Mr. Walter Krutzsch of the German Democratic Republic was entrusted with the Declaration. He too proceeded with skill, tact, competence and the savoir faire which made it possible for us to arrive at the happy conclusion of that important section of the document.

Ambassador Adeniji of Nigeria and Ambassador Hamilton of Sweden were the artisans of the Programme of Action. They performed their duties in a manner that brought to light their highest diplomatic skills and tremendous patience in connexion with this part of the document, in which there were more than a few difficulties.

Finally, in the order in which we have the chapters of the document, I wish to mention Ambassador Charekhan of India, who was entrusted with the chapter on machinery. Those who saw him in action yesterday morning — if they had not observed him in other cases — were impressed at how in a few hours he succeeded in getting most of the brackets in that section eliminated. That was possible because of his thorough knowledge of the item and his recognized negotiating intelligence and skill.
Yesterday, privately, I said that I did not really know why, when these expressions of gratitude are uttered, the Secretariat should come last. Certainly it is not due to any lack of merit, because all of us who have been in contact with Secretariat members throughout the lengthy proceedings of the Preparatory Committee and at the special session know full well how much we are indebted to them. They are tireless in their help, no matter what the hour may be. Whenever weary delegations withdrew, members of the Secretariat went to their offices to continue their labours and were at their posts a few hours later, even before delegations. This speaks for their devotion, but furthermore I wish to stress their positive contribution in every respect. I think that words can barely express the gratitude we all feel towards them.

May I address my gratitude first of all to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Sytenko, who has been such an invaluable assistant since the beginning of the special session; to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Rolf Björnerstedt, the Director of the Disarmament Centre, who all the time, at every opportunity, gave us his help so that this session might be as successful as we wished it to be; and to the Secretary of the Committee, Mr. Alessandro Corradini, whom I have at all times had next to me during open meetings, and constantly by my side when we were not meeting, and who has rendered such invaluable service.

I should like to mention by name every single adviser of the Disarmament Centre and all other members of the United Nations Secretariat, but it would be too long a list. Allow me, then, to place on record the gratitude of this Committee to all of them, and, to use an expression current in the United Nations, to offer my thanks to the visible and invisible United Nations staff, those who are present with us here and those we never see but who also so decisively contribute to the proper and successful progress of our work.

I express these feelings on behalf of all members of the Committee, although I have spoken personally. Therefore I consider that all delegations have expressed their tributes and that we can thus conclude our work.

The meeting rose at 3.15 a.m.