ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DISARMAMENT

(Reply of the Government of the Polish People's Republic)

The Government of the Polish People's Republic learned with satisfaction of the unanimous vote on General Assembly resolution 1873 (XVII) of 18 December 1962, entitled "Declaration on the Conversion to Peaceful Needs of the Resources Released by Disarmament", which constitutes a new important step in the field of research, within the framework of the United Nations, of the economic and social consequences of disarmament.

The Polish Government has repeatedly expressed its view that the realization of general and complete disarmament is the urgent and paramount task of our day, for it is linked not only with the question of securing peace but is also of a vital economic interest for all nations. The Polish Government fully shares and endorses the opinion contained in the report of the ten outstanding economic experts, representing countries of different political and social systems (document E/3593/Rev.1), ascertaining unequivocally that "the achievement of general and complete disarmament would be an unqualified blessing to all mankind".

In answer to resolution 1516 (XV), the Polish Government has already presented a study concerning expected economic and social consequences of disarmament for Poland (document E/3593/Rev.1/Add.1, pages 142-156).

Furthermore, general as well as specialistic research work is being initiated and conducted in Poland, based on the report of the group of experts of the United Nations. The purpose of this work is the analysis of different aspects of economic and social consequences of disarmament with due account for the conditions of Polish economy and its development, as well as for increasingly specific needs of the developing countries.

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At the same time a wide action of popularization of the idea of disarmament, as humanity's great hope and source of world prosperity, is being conducted.

The Polish Government initiates and follows closely the development in Poland of scientific and popularization work in the field of studies on economic consequences of disarmament, work undertaken by Polish scientific centres and diffused by public media of information. In the future, the Polish Government will not fail to inform additionally, in a more detailed form, of the essential Polish achievements in that field.

In giving the above information, the Polish Government expresses its conviction that in implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, other countries will also contribute all their efforts, as Poland does, to bring disarmament to the stage of concrete implementation and thus to achieve beneficial consequences for peaceful development, well-being and progress of humanity.