Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 33/91 A endorsing the report of the Disarmament Commission, Member States were invited to transmit to the Secretary-General their views on determining the elements of the comprehensive programme of disarmament.

The numerous suggestions put forward during the tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, contribute towards the preparation of this programme, which in resolution 33/71 N we have rightly called the "new philosophy on disarmament".

In the opinion of the Executive Council (Government) of Zaire, the achievement of disarmament requires a set of prerequisites to be fulfilled before the thorny and complex problem of disarmament is tackled.

A. PREREQUISITES

Disarmament can be envisaged only in a world where there is peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for the sovereignty of each State, non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and observance of the principle of non-use of force in international relations.

There must be no exceptions to our full adherence to the ideals of the Charter of the United Nations.
In spite of the differences in the political, economic and social systems of States, co-operation must be our chief concern.

The elimination of all unequal and unjust relationships between affluent countries and developing countries will give rise to a new international order, which is the final prerequisite for achieving the purposes and objectives of our Organization.

The establishment of a climate of mutual trust and, lastly, the political will to start disarmament.

B. ELEMENTS OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND GRADUAL PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT

1. Nuclear and biological disarmament

Stopping all nuclear-weapons tests by means of an international treaty in conjunction with effective monitoring measures binding on all nuclear-weapon States;

Reduction and then elimination of all strategic weapons;

Elimination of all biological and chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction;

Reduction and, subsequently, destruction of stocks of nuclear weapons;

Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones.

2. Conventional disarmament

The removal of all sources of tension will contribute to reducing the manufacture of and trade in conventional weapons;

Conventional arms trade must be regulated by an international convention;

The reduction and the compulsory publication of the military budgets of all States Members of the United Nations;

Limitation, according to a procedure to be determined, of the types of conventional weapons with which each State would be authorized to equip itself for the sole purpose of defending its territorial integrity and maintaining internal order.

CONCLUSION

In future the proliferation of resolutions on disarmament must be avoided. The First Committee must, among other things, assign particular importance to disarmament control measures.
Similarly, all disarmament measures should be embodied in an international treaty or convention to be binding on States.

The 30 years of existence of the United Nations have not made it possible to achieve tangible results with regard to the excessive armament now in existence.

Finally, it is said that "enlightenment springs from the clash of ideas" - a comparison of all the suggestions will undoubtedly enable us to identify the essential elements of a comprehensive programme of disarmament.

Zaire considers that the concept of State security based on weapons must make way for security based on mutual trust.

The elements of a comprehensive programme of disarmament must enable us to outline a working context which will facilitate the implementation of the programme of action set forth in the Final Document of the tenth special session.