DISARMAMENT COMMISSION
1988 substantive session
Agenda item 10

VERIFICATION IN ALL ITS ASPECTS

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

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1. In our days verification is assuming growing significance in all fields of arms limitation and disarmament. The settlement of related problems is regarded as of paramount importance by all States which consider verification to be an element of guaranteeing their national security.

2. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is deeply convinced that further disarmament agreements cannot be concluded and international security cannot be guaranteed any longer without a thorough and purposeful review of verification-related problems in every concrete case and without their solution by the application of appropriate ways and means, and technical equipments. Moreover, the overall interests of international security call for a continuous review of experience in verification as well as for the facilitation and promotion of its application at future disarmament talks.

3. Therefore, the Hungarian Government is of the position that verification is a means capable of promoting mutual confidence and security as well as a sense of security, hence representing an area of international relations as a whole which requires constant attention and development in the light of accumulated experience.

4. The past few years have seen particularly valuable experience accumulated in the field of verification. In the judgement of the Hungarian Government, the participating countries have experienced a considerable increase in mutual confidence and thereby in mutual security in the course of verification of the implementation of the Stockholm Agreement. Initial experience furnished by new forms of verification shows that the signatory States came to a right decision when they expected the significant extension of such measures to produce additional effects that would go far beyond the immediate military needs involved and would serve to improve the general political atmosphere.

5. For this reason the Hungarian Government wishes to continue devoting great attention to compliance with the Agreement, to implement fully verification measures aimed at strengthening mutual confidence and, by taking a constructive approach to them, to open the way to their further development. The latter is an aspect of particular importance in order to maintain and extend the European disarmament and confidence- and security-building processes started in the wake of the conclusion of the Agreement.

6. Considering that the question of verification has come to be a subject of regular exchanges of views within the framework of the United Nations as well, and that a wealth of experience has also been accumulated in other areas, it is desirable to seek ways and means of enhancing the role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the promotion of this process. The Hungarian Government believes that the exchange of views started on different aspects of verification in the United Nations Disarmament Commission is highly useful in this
respected. It is convinced that persistent efforts by the Commission will result in
the elaboration of guidelines for, and concrete ideas of, enhancing the
effectiveness of the world organization.

7. The Hungarian Government believes it would be practicable to prepare a
preliminary report of the Secretary-General analysing the existing capacities and
means of the United Nations Secretariat to be relied upon for verifying compliance
with arms limitation and disarmament agreements, and with security- and
confidence-building measures as well as for elaborating further agreements of
similar nature.

8. The Hungarian Government is ready to make further efforts at exploring partial
areas where it can make a useful contribution to the efficient realization of these
important principles and to translating the general interests of international
peace and security into concrete terms.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[22 June 1988]

1. The Ukrainian SSR, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 40/1520 and
41/86 Q, has already informed the United Nations of its position on verification
issues. In addition, we feel it essential to note the following.

2. With the international situation being normalized and the move to real
disarmament under way, verification is becoming one of the most important means of
guaranteeing international security. The significant progress achieved recently in
the development and implementation of monitoring and verification procedures cannot
be overlooked. First, mention must be made of the conclusion and entry into force
of the historic Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and
Shorter-Range Missiles, which has ushered in an era of nuclear disarmament. The
unique verification mechanism provided for under the Treaty will undoubtedly
constitute a sound basis for the development of monitoring systems under future
disarmament agreements.

3. The agreements reached in 1986 in Stockholm at the Conference on Confidence
and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, including the one on
monitoring, are being successfully implemented.

4. The Ukrainian SSR favours implementation of the strictest and most effective
verification measures in all areas and at all stages of the limitation, reduction
and elimination of armaments, using national technical means and international
procedures, including on-site inspection. Verification measures must, in the view
of the Ukrainian SSR, also be extended to foreign military bases.

5. The socialist countries have recently put forward a number of specific
proposals on verification problems, that should give an additional impetus to the
negotiations on arms limitation. These proposals are designed to ensure that the prohibition and limitation of nuclear testing, the prohibition of weapons in outer space, the prohibition of chemical weapons and the reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces are subject to adequate verification.

6. Efforts to ensure greater glasnost and predictability in the military sphere, the exchange of essential information and the establishment of a strict and effective system for monitoring and verifying the commitments entered into by the parties would be of great importance for the achievement and successful implementation of agreements on these and other disarmament problems.

7. In building a nuclear-free and non-violent world, enhancing the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament occupies an important place. In 1987 the Ukrainian SSR, together with Czechoslovakia, Mongolia and Poland submitted working paper A/CN.10/94 to the Disarmament Commission and sponsored General Assembly resolution 42/38 0.

8. Enhancement of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and the strengthening of confidence and mutual understanding would be facilitated by the creation under the United Nations auspices of a mechanism for extensive international monitoring of the implementation of agreements on the reduction of international tension and the limitation of armaments, and of the military situation in regions of conflict. This mechanism would operate using various forms and methods of monitoring to collect information and submit it efficiently to the United Nations. This would make it possible to have an objective picture of the course of events, detect preparation for military actions in time, make surprise attacks more difficult and adopt measures to prevent military conflict and its expansion and exacerbation.

9. The Ukrainian SSR favours a thorough international dialogue on all questions relating to the establishment of verification mechanisms and is prepared to participate most actively in it.