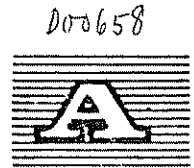


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DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

Note verbale dated 28 May 1980 from the Permanent Mission of the
German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith, on behalf of the delegations of: the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic to the Disarmament Commission a working paper on item 4 (a) entitled

"Consideration of various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, in order to expedite negotiations aimed at effective elimination of the danger of nuclear war"

and on agenda item 4 (b) entitled

"Consideration of the agenda items contained in section II of resolution 33/71 H, with the aim of elaborating, within the framework and in accordance with priorities established at the tenth special session, a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament".

The Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic kindly requests to have this paper published as a document of the Disarmament Commission.

Annex

Working paper on agenda item 4 (a) and (b) of the meeting
of the Disarmament Commission

- Consideration of various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, in order to expedite negotiations aimed at effective elimination of the danger of nuclear war;
- Consideration of the agenda items contained in section II of resolution 33/71 H, with the aim of elaborating, within the framework and in accordance with the priorities established at the tenth special session, a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament

The United Nations Disarmament Commission has considered various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, including its consequences for international peace and security.

The Disarmament Commission has stressed the urgent need to hold up the arms race and to achieve progress in the field of nuclear and conventional disarmament.

To this aim it has reaffirmed the request expressed in resolution 34/83 C to conclude ongoing negotiations on disarmament successfully and to resume or undertake as soon as possible negotiations on relevant proposals.

I.

The Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament states in point 11:

"Mankind today is confronted with an unprecedented threat of self-extinction arising from the massive and competitive accumulation of the most destructive weapons ever produced. Existing arsenals of nuclear weapons alone are more than sufficient to destroy life on earth".

The cessation of the nuclear arms race and bringing about nuclear disarmament are therefore tasks of particular urgency and importance. Irrespective of many concrete proposals made for its cessation, the nuclear arms race, however, is continued. This gives rise to threatening world peace and undermines the process of détente, the mutual confidence and the peoples' security.

In this situation, it is urgent to favour effective measures to bring about a change in the solution of questions concerning limitation and termination of the arms race, realization of concrete disarmament measures, particularly for nuclear disarmament.

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In order to bring about nuclear disarmament, it becomes necessary to simultaneously proceed on several levels, to tackle comprehensive solutions as well as partial steps.

II.

Practical measures, being particularly urgent and as soon as possible to be realized are:

- the ratification of SALT II;
- the conclusion of an agreement on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests;
- the conclusion of an agreement on the prohibition of radiological weapons;
- the conclusion of a convention on the non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States which do not have such weapons in their territory, and on the non-deployment of nuclear weapons in the territory of States where there are no such weapons at present;
- the further limitation and reduction of stockpiles of strategic weapons, and the further qualitative limitation of such weapons, with due regard for all factors affecting the strategic situation throughout the world, including that in Europe.

The decision on the production and deployment of any new types of nuclear missiles in Western Europe should be revoked or at least its implementation suspended in order to open the road to negotiations on medium-range missiles.

Likewise important is the adoption of further measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and to this aim the attainment of the universal accession of States to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones and zones of peace in various regions of the world including Europe.

Finally, serious negotiations should be commenced on the cessation of the production of all kinds of nuclear weapons and the gradual reduction of the stockpiles of such weapons up to their entire liquidation.

Nuclear disarmament is a problem which concerns all States. The nuclear Powers bears special responsibility for its realization.

III.

Steps towards nuclear disarmament might be substantially supported and facilitated by the parallel conclusions of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations and by other suitable measures aimed at strengthening mutual confidence, consolidating international security and continuing the process of détente.

Effective steps to achieve a ban on other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, particularly chemical weapons, on the development of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction as well as a reduction of conventional arms have to go along with efforts for complete nuclear disarmament.

IV.

Mindful that the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament notes that together with negotiations on nuclear disarmament measures, the limitation and gradual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons should be resolutely pursued within the framework of progress towards general and complete disarmament, the United Nations Disarmament Commission with the aim of elaborating a general approach to negotiations on nuclear and conventional disarmament recommends, in the field of disarmament measures relating to the conventional means of armament, to concentrate efforts of States on the achievement of the following measures:

- cessation of the development of new conventional weapons of great destructive capacity;
- the achievement of agreement among the Powers which are permanent members of the Security Council and the countries linked with them under military agreements, to refrain from increasing the size of their armies and the numbers of their conventional weapons;
- limitation of trade and transfer of conventional weapons;
- the elaboration of an international agreement prohibiting or restricting the use of conventional weapons which are excessively injurious or have indiscriminate effects;
- the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe;
- restricting and lowering the level of military presence and military activity in appropriate regions, whether in the Atlantic, the Indian or the Pacific Ocean, in the Mediterranean or in the Persian Gulf in the interests of peace and the stabilization of the international situation, as well as in the interests of ensuring the safe and unimpeded use of major international maritime communications;

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- the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activities in the Indian Ocean, and the establishment of a zone of peace in that region;
- the elimination of foreign military bases and the withdrawal of troops from the territory of other countries.
