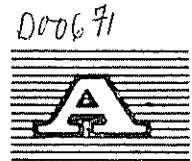


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DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES, RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AND STUDIES UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONCERNING  
THE QUESTION OF REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat

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## INTRODUCTION

1. By resolution 34/83 F of 11 December 1979, the General Assembly requested the Disarmament Commission to undertake during its session in 1980 to examine and identify ways and means of achieving agreements to freeze, reduce, or otherwise restrain, in a balanced manner, military expenditures, including adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned.
2. Pursuant to that request, the Disarmament Commission considered the question and recommended that the General Assembly, at its thirty-fifth session, after examining the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", request the Disarmament Commission to continue at its next session its consideration of its agenda item relating to the freezing and reduction of military expenditures, taking into account the provisions of resolution 34/83 F mentioned above and in particular to identify and elaborate the principles which should govern further action of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military expenditures, keeping in mind the possibility of embodying such principles into a suitable document at an appropriate stage.

The Disarmament Commission also requested the Secretariat to prepare a background paper listing all proposals made by Member States, resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and studies undertaken within the United Nations framework concerning the question of reduction of military budgets.
3. By its resolution 35/152 F adopted on 12 December 1980, the General Assembly endorsed the report of the Disarmament Commission, and the recommendations contained therein, including the above recommendation. Furthermore, by its resolution 35/142 A on the reduction of military budgets, the General Assembly also requested the Disarmament Commission to continue at its session to be held in 1981 the consideration of the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/83 F as well as those of the current resolution.
4. In a response to the request of the Disarmament Commission, the Secretariat has prepared this background paper which is presented in three parts:  
(a) proposals made by Member States, (b) resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, and (c) studies undertaken by the United Nations concerning the question of military budgets.
5. Although the question of military expenditures has been considered by the General Assembly from the early years of the Organization, the subject of reduction of military budgets was addressed specifically from the mid-1950s on. Proposals for freezing or reducing military budgets were put forth by several States Members of the United Nations at different times.

6. Those proposals, listed in a chronological order are presented sometimes in a brief style owing to the fact that they constituted parts of broader proposals relating to disarmament. Similarly, in the early resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on disarmament, only few paragraphs were devoted to the reduction of military expenditures. It was in the early 1970s that the General Assembly began adopting resolutions dealing separately with the reduction of military budgets. Studies undertaken by the United Nations on the subject were partly in relation to wider economic and social considerations, while from 1974 a series of studies were prepared specifically in connexion with the reduction of military budgets.

## I. PROPOSALS MADE BY MEMBER STATES

### 1. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Memorandum submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission regarding a disarmament convention (DC/53, annex 3, 21 May 1954)

The memorandum suggests that the Sub-Committee should consider whether the disarmament convention should place a limit on the military expenditures of the participating Powers. As the disarmament programme proceeds, it may well be found that budgetary control provides one of the most effective safeguards. The Sub-Committee should also consider the suggestion that among the first steps towards world disarmament there should be a freeze or a standstill agreement on military expenditures, which would bind the signatories not to increase their expenditures for military purposes in any way.

### 2. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Proposal submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission containing basic provisions of a draft international convention for the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, for a substantial reduction in armaments and armed forces and for the establishment of international control over the observance of the convention (DC/53, annex 8, 11 June 1954)

Under the provision related to the reduction of armaments and armed forces, the States parties to the convention are under obligation to reduce their military expenditures within one year by no less than one third of the 1953-1954 level of expenditure.

### 3. France and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Memorandum submitted by the two Powers in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/53, annex 9, 11 June 1954)

In paragraph 5 (b) the memorandum proposes, inter alia, that over-all military expenditures, both atomic and non-atomic, shall be limited to amounts spent in the year ending 31 December 1953.

4. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Draft resolution entitled "Conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction", submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/71, annex 8, 18 March 1955)

The draft resolution contains provisions related to the reduction of budgetary appropriations for military requirements. Under the terms of the proposed Convention, the following measures should be taken:

(a) In the course of six months (or one year), States shall reduce their armaments, armed forces and budgetary appropriations for military requirements to the extent of 50 per cent of the agreed norms. Armaments and armed forces shall be reduced from the level of armaments and armed forces existing on 1 January 1955, and appropriations shall be reduced from the level of appropriations for military requirements for 1955.

States parties to the convention (treaty) shall pledge themselves, as a first step towards the reduction of armaments and armed forces, not to increase their armaments and armed forces above the level of 1 January 1955 and not to increase their appropriations for military requirements above the level of the appropriations for those proposed for 1955.

(b) For the purpose of supervising the fulfilment by States of the obligations in connexion with the reduction of armaments and armed forces provided for under subparagraph (a) above, a temporary international control commission shall be established under the Security Council with the right to require States to provide the necessary information on the measures taken by them to reduce armaments and armed forces. The commission shall take the necessary steps to supervise the fulfilment by States of the obligations assumed by them in connexion with the reduction of armaments, armed forces and appropriations for military requirements. States shall periodically, at established intervals, supply the commission with information concerning the implementation of the measures provided for in the convention (treaty).

5. On completion of the measures referred to in paragraph 4 (a) above, the following measures shall be taken simultaneously: in the course of six months (or one year), States shall reduce their armaments, armed forces and budgetary appropriations for military requirements by the remaining 50 per cent of the agreed norms from the level of armaments and armed forces existing on 1 January 1955 and shall reduce their appropriations from the level of appropriations for military requirements for 1955.

6. France

Draft Agreement on the financial supervision of disarmament and the allocation for peaceful purposes of the funds made available (DC/71, annex 16, 29 August 1955)

The draft Agreement proposes to establish financial supervision of military expenditure, together with a system of penalties, for the purpose of encouraging

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disarmament. It provides for the allocation of the funds thus made available, for the improvement of standard of living and the development of under-developed areas.

Under the proposal, States will agree to reduce their total military expenditure by a percentage that will increase from year to year. The amounts resulting from that reduction will be transferred to an international fund which will ensure that they are used in accordance with the criteria laid down by the agreement. The percentage reduction should correspond to the reduction in ~~conventional armaments and armed forces and the abolition of weapons of mass~~ destruction.

The international fund, which will be entrusted with the collection and allocation of resources released by each State, shall consist of an executive board, a standing executive committee and an international secretariat. The standing executive committee will have the functions of computing the amounts to be allocated to the Fund and shall ensure that the common definition of military expenditure is interpreted by all States in the same spirit. It will also determine the criteria of rendering the defence expenditures of States comparable either among themselves or in relation to the total expenditure of each State. For this purpose, it shall establish a common nomenclature including a list of categories of expenditure of a military nature.

The proposal lays down the criteria for the allocation of resources released by the reduction of military expenditures which include leaving to Governments the matter to make internal transfers as they consider appropriate; another would propose leaving one part of the resources for the economic and financial development of the States or territories with which it is linked constitutionally. Remaining amounts will be made available to the Fund to be allocated for the development of underdeveloped areas.

Two appendices are attached to the document. Appendix 1 is an extract of the statement made by the Prime Minister of France at the Meeting, on 18 July 1955, of the Conference of Heads of Governments of the Four Great Powers, and appendix 2 is a memorandum submitted on 21 July 1955 by the delegation of France to that Conference. Both statements and memorandum explain the draft Agreement and elaborate on some of the proposed procedures for reduction of military expenditures and allocations of resources thus released to development and mutual assistance.

7. France and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Proposed synthesis submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/83, annex 2, 19 March 1956)

The document dealing with various stages of disarmament, proposes, inter alia, the submission of military blueprints and relevant budgetary and accounting documents, as well as an undertaking not to increase beyond declared levels or to exceed total declared expenditures with a provision for verification of expenditure.

8. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Proposal for an agreement on the reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces, submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/83, annex 5, 27 March 1956)

The proposed agreement provides, inter alia, for a reduction of the military budgets of States by up to 15 per cent as against their military budgets for the previous year.

9. India

Note verbale addressed to the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission (DC/98, 31 July 1956)

The document proposes, inter alia, that the military budgets of all countries should be reduced and that there should be voluntary submission to the United Nations of details of armament expenditures so that such information could be made available to the international community.

10. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Proposals on the implementation of partial disarmament measures, submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/112, annex 7, 30 April 1957)

The memorandum proposes, inter alia, reduction of military budgets by 15 per cent.

11. Canada, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

Working paper containing a proposal for partial measures of disarmament submitted in the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission (DC/113, annex 5, 29 August 1957)

The working paper proposes that in order to verify compliance with reduction of armaments and armed forces, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States should make available to an international control organization information about their military budgets and expenditures.

12. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Measures to ease international tension, strengthen confidence among States and contribute to general and complete disarmament. Memorandum submitted to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session (A/4980, 26 September 1961)

The memorandum proposes that, without awaiting the solution of the problem of general and complete disarmament, a ceiling should be established for military expenditures in the budgets of States at a level not to exceed their military appropriations as of 1 January 1961.

13. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Draft Treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict international control, submitted in the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament (DC/203, annex 1, 15 March 1962)

The question of reduction of military budgets is referred to in paragraphs 13, 26 and 35.

Paragraph 13 states that among other actions undertaken in the first stage of general and complete disarmament, the States parties to the Treaty shall reduce their military budgets and appropriations for military purposes in proportion to the destruction of the means of delivering nuclear weapons and the discontinuance of their production, to the dismantling of foreign military bases and the withdrawal of foreign troops from alien territories as well as to the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments and to the reduction of the production of such armaments.

Paragraph 26 specifies that in the second stage of general and complete disarmament, the States parties to the Treaty shall further reduce their military budgets and appropriations for military purposes in proportion to the destruction of nuclear, chemical, biological and radiological weapons.

Paragraph 35 states that in the third stage, the appropriation of funds for military purposes in any form, whether by government bodies or private individuals and social organizations, should be discontinued, and the funds released through the implementation of general and complete disarmament shall be used for peaceful purposes, including the utilization of a part of the funds thus released to provide assistance to developing countries.

14. United States of America

Outline of basic provisions of a treaty on general and complete disarmament in a peaceful world, submitted in the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, Geneva, (DC/203, annex 1, 18 April 1962)

The outline proposes that the parties to the Treaty would submit to the international disarmament organization at the end of each step of each stage a report on their military expenditures and would agree to examine questions related to the verifiable reduction of military expenditures.

15. Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Draft Declaration concerning the conversion to peaceful uses of the resources released by disarmament; proposal submitted in the Second Committee of the General Assembly on 1 October 1962 (A/C.2/L.646)

By the draft Declaration, the General Assembly would draw attention to the economic aspects of disarmament and, in that light, the Secretary-General would hold consultations with pertinent Governments concerning an international programme of assistance which would utilize part of the resources released through disarmament to assist economic development.

The proposal was reflected in resolution 1837 (XVII), adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 1962.

16. Brazil

Working paper for an agreement on the application of savings on military expenditures, submitted in the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC/126, 13 February 1964)

The working paper proposes that all Governments carry out a reduction in their military budgets and apply the resources thus released towards an economy of peace and social and economic development projects. At least 20 per cent of the funds released would be credited to a fund to be established for such projects.

17. United States of America

Working paper on the problems of setting international standards of comparison for military expenditures, submitted at the 1975 session of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD) (CCD/460)

The working paper suggests that the CCD should examine the question of standards of comparison as a first step towards treating conditions in which an agreement could be achieved, and suggested also to take a step-by-step approach on that question.

18. Romania

Working paper entitled "Programme of measures and action", submitted on 31 August 1977 in the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (A/AC.187/78)

The working paper proposes, inter alia, a freeze on and gradual reduction of military budgets in accordance with a definite programme. To start with, the military budgets of all States should be reduced by at least 10 per cent and half of the resources thus saved should be transferred, unconditionally, to a United Nations development fund to be set up to support development efforts, particularly in countries with a national income of less than \$200 per capita. By the end of a decade, that reduction should be in the order of 25 to 30 per cent of the original level of military budgets, and armed forces and armaments should have been reduced by the same proportion.

19. Sri Lanka (on behalf of the non-aligned countries)

Preliminary ideas concerning preparations for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

In its introduction the document declares that expenditure, particularly on the development of new and more sophisticated weapons is spiralling. The continuation of the arms race poses a direct threat to international peace and security and slows down economic and social development. The document proposes

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also the elaboration of a system of reporting to the United Nations on the resources released through the reduction of military expenditures as a result of disarmament measures, and of a set of principles for channelling of such resources for development purposes taking particularly into account the needs of developing countries.

20. Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Working paper entitled "Basic provisions of the programme of action on disarmament" submitted in the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (A/AC.187/82, 7 September 1977)

The working paper contains a paragraph on the reduction of military budgets which reads as follows:

"This measure is one of the most effective means to curb the arms race. The resources released by this measure would be used to promote the economic and social progress of people and for assistance to developing countries. The question of reducing military appropriations should be made the subject of concrete, businesslike negotiations among States, and a start should be made on their systematic reduction."

21. Japan

Working paper entitled "Proposal concerning the conventional arms race including, in particular, the international transfer of conventional arms and mutual limitation of conventional armaments and armed forces on the regional level", submitted in the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (A/AC.187/86, 13 December 1977)

The working paper recommends that the following principle should figure among those to be recognized in a declaration on disarmament:

"Most of the world's military expenditures are being devoted to the acquisition and maintenance of conventional military power. This absorbs essential material and human resources. All States should make all possible efforts, parallel to those in the field of nuclear disarmament, to halt this diversion of resources and to bring about concrete measures for their reallocation from military to civilian purposes."

22. Australia, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Working document containing a draft Declaration on Disarmament, submitted in the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session (A/AC.187/87, 13 December 1977)

The document states that reduction of military budgets in all countries on an assured basis could provide undiminished security at a lower level of armaments, help to reduce international tensions and also lead eventually to the release of resources both nationally and internationally for economic and social development.

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23. Canada

Working paper submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session containing, inter alia, provisions regarding the question of reduction of military budgets and expenditures (A/S-10/AC.1/L.6, 9 June 1978)

Canada suggested adding the following paragraph to section 11 of the proposed programme of action of the Final Document:

"Limiting and then progressively reducing, on an agreed and verifiable basis, spending on new strategic nuclear-weapons systems, including their research and development, by the major nuclear Powers, would be a further means of curbing the qualitative dimension of the nuclear arms race. Such agreements on restraint or reduction will require full openness in reporting and full effectiveness in authenticating military budgets."

24. Costa Rica

Proposal entitled "Economic and social incentives to halt the arms race", submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session (A/S-10/AC.1/L.40, 29 June 1978)

Costa Rica proposes an immediate reduction of military budgets by 10 per cent and the use of the funds thus released to the development assistance of developing countries. It also proposes that a portion of those funds could be used to compensate countries which reduce their military expenditures to less than 1.5 per cent of their public budget and less than 0.5 per cent of their national product as an incentive to encourage disarmament.

25. Ireland

"Proposal for a study of the possibility of establishing a system of incentives to promote arms control and disarmament", submitted at the tenth special session (A/S-10/AC.1/L.21, 9 June 1978)

Ireland proposes the inclusion of a paragraph in the section relating to studies in the draft Programme of Action of the Final Document, which reads:

"The possibility of establishing a system of targets and incentives to promote and encourage progress in arms control and disarmament and, in particular, the possibility of proposing for general adoption a voluntary ceiling (or ceilings) on national defence expenditures, expressed as a proportion of gross national or domestic product, which States would be encouraged to observe."

26. Romania

(a) Working paper entitled "Programme of measures and action" submitted at the tenth special session (A/AC.187/78, 31 August 1977)

In paragraph "D" relating to the adoption of collateral measures, the following is proposed:

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"A freeze on, and gradual reduction of military budgets in accordance with a definite programme. To start with, the military budgets of all States should be reduced by at least 10 per cent and half of the resources thus saved should be transferred, unconditionally, to a United Nations development fund to be set up to support development efforts, particularly in countries with a national income of less than \$200 per capita. By the end of a decade, that reduction should be in the order of 25-30 per cent of the original level of military budgets, and armed forces and armaments should have been reduced by the same proportion."

(b) Statement made at the tenth special session by the Prime Minister of Romania (A/S-10/PV.22, p. 16)

"As an initial step, all participating States should agree to freeze military expenditures, military forces and armaments at the 1978 level while undertaking subsequently, beginning perhaps as early as 1979, to move on to gradual reductions; in the first stage, up to 1985, the reduction should be between 10 and 15 per cent of the current levels and should cover all components of the armed forces - land, sea and air - and all categories of weapons, both conventional and nuclear." 1/

27. Senegal

Statement made at the tenth special session

At the 17th plenary meeting of the General Assembly at its tenth special session devoted to disarmament, the representative of Senegal proposed the establishment of a tax on armaments, which would amount to 5 per cent of the military budget and would be paid to the United Nations for assistance to developing countries (A/S-10/PV.17, p. 13).

28. France

Memorandum concerning the establishment of an International Disarmament Fund for Development

A proposal submitted by France to the special session regarding the establishment of the Fund and listed under paragraph 125 of the Final Document (A/S-10/2, para. 125 (P)).

29. The Secretary-General, in a statement at the opening of the tenth special session on 23 May 1978, proposed that 1 million out of every billion dollars spent on armaments be given for national and international disarmament efforts (A/S-10/PV.1, pp. 23-25).

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1/ A similar proposal was included in the letter dated 22 May 1978 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the decision of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party concerning Romania's position on disarmament (A/S-10/14, p. 5, sect. III, para. 1).

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## II. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Resolution 808 (IX): Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments; conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 4 November 1954

In paragraph 2 the General Assembly, having considered the fourth report of the Disarmament Commission and the documents annexed thereto (DC/53 and DC/44 and Corr.1) requested the Commission to seek an acceptable solution of the disarmament problem taking into account the various proposals referred to in the preamble of the present resolution and any other proposal within the Commission's terms of reference (see part I, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 above).

2. Resolution 914 (X): Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments; conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 16 December 1955

In paragraphs 2 and 3 of the resolution, the Assembly suggested that account should be taken of the proposals of the Prime Minister of France for exchanging and publishing information regarding military expenditures and budgets; of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for seeking practical experience in the problems of inspection and control, and of the Government of India regarding the suspension of experimental explosions of nuclear weapons and an "armaments truce".

It also called upon the States concerned, and especially those on the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission, to study the proposal of the Prime Minister of France for the allocation of funds resulting from disarmament for improving the standards of living throughout the world and, in particular, in the less developed countries.

3. Resolution 1011 (XI): Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments; conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 14 February 1957

In paragraph 2, the General Assembly recommended that the Disarmament Commission in its Sub-Committee give prompt attention to the various proposals that have been submitted to the United Nations including proposals submitted by France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (DC/83, annex 2), by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (DC/83, annex 5) and by India (DC/98) (see part I, Nos. 7, 8 and 9 above).

4. Resolution 1148 (XII): Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments; conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 14 November 1957

In paragraph 5, the Assembly invited the States concerned and particularly those which are members of the Sub-Committee of the Disarmament Commission to

consider the possibility of devoting out of the funds made available as a result of disarmament, as and when sufficient progress is made, additional resources to the improvement of living conditions throughout the world and especially in the less developed countries.

5. Resolution 1252 (XIII): Question of disarmament; the discontinuance of atomic and hydrogen weapons tests; the reduction of military budgets of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France by 10 to 15 per cent and the use of part of the savings so effected for assistance to the under-developed countries, adopted on 4 November 1958

In paragraph 8, the Assembly reiterated to the States concerned the invitation made in General Assembly resolution 1148 (XII) (see para. 4 above).

6. Resolution 2526 (XXIV): A day of peace, adopted on 5 December 1969

In paragraph 1, the Assembly invited Member States to designate each year a "peace day" devoted to the study of the effects that any disarmament measure might have on economic and social development.

In paragraph 2, it requested Member States to consider on that occasion in the event that effective disarmament measures did release additional resources, the possibility of using those resources in the light of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

7. Resolution 3093 (XXVIII): Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries, adopted on 7 December 1973

In part A of the resolution, the Assembly, inter alia, recommended that all States permanent members of the Security Council should reduce their military budgets by 10 per cent from the 1973 level during the next year; appealed to those States to allot 10 per cent of the funds thus released for the assistance to developing countries; and encouraged other States with major military and economic potential to take similar action and to establish a special committee to distribute the funds released.

In part B of the same resolution, the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of qualified consultant-experts appointed by him, a report on the reduction of the military budgets of the States permanent members of the Security Council, which should also cover other States with a major economic and military potential, and the utilization of a part of the funds thus saved to provide international assistance to developing countries.

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8. Resolution 3254 (XXIX): Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries, adopted on 9 December 1974

The Assembly after having examined the report of the group of consultant experts on the reduction of military budgets (A/9770), inter alia, expressed its appreciation to the group of consultant experts, as well as to the Governments and international organizations which rendered assistance in the preparation of the report requested by General Assembly resolution 3093 B (XXVIII); invited all States to communicate to the Secretary-General, before 30 June 1975, their views and suggestions on all those points they deemed pertinent with regard to the matters covered in the report, including the following:

- (a) Meaning and scope of a definition of "military budgets" which had the greatest probability of receiving general acceptance;
- (b) Feasible and adequate procedures so that the United Nations might establish a system of standardized military budgets of the States envisaged in resolution 3093 B (XXVIII);
- (c) Per cent reduction advisable for the States permanent members of the Security Council, bearing in mind that a 10 per cent reduction had been proposed;
- (d) Definition of what should be understood by "other States with a major economic and military potential";
- (e) Per cent reduction advisable for those States;
- (f) Part of the resources released through the reduction of military budgets which should be allotted to international assistance for developing countries;
- (g) International system or mechanism, within the framework of the United Nations, which should be employed in order to achieve the best distribution and utilization of the additional assistance allotted to the developing countries, taking into account the goals set for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

It also requested the Secretary-General to distribute as a document of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly, not later than 1 August 1975, a report containing a compilation, by countries, of the views and suggestions requested in the present resolution and a tabulation of the same according to the matters covered therein, particularly regarding the seven points specified in paragraph 3 above.

9. Resolution 3463 (XXX): Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3254 (XXIX), adopted on 11 December 1975

The General Assembly, after recalling its resolution 3254 (XXIX) and having examined the report of the Secretary-General (A/10165 and Add.1 and 2) containing

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the views and suggestions of States regarding the matters covered in the report mentioned above, and after considering that the report of the Group of Consultant Experts, as well as the views and suggestions reflected in the report of the Secretary-General, indicated the need for further studies of many of the complex questions identified therein, inter alia, appealed to all States, in particular the States permanent members of the Security Council, as well as any other State with comparable military expenditures, to strive to reach agreed reductions in their military budgets; urged the two States with the highest levels of military expenditure in absolute terms, pending such agreement, to carry out reductions in their military budgets; requested the Secretary-General, assisted by a group of qualified experts, to prepare a report containing an in-depth analysis and examination in concrete terms of the various matters specified below:

(a) The definition and scope of the military sector and of military expenditures, as well as the classification and structuring of expenditures within the military budgets, with the over-all aim of achieving generally acceptable and universally applicable delimitations and definitions and a standardized accounting system, so as to permit effective comparisons of the military budgets;

(b) The valuation of resources in the military sector, considering different economic systems and different structures of production within the military sector, with the purpose of examining methods concerning the relationships between resources and military output;

(c) The deflation for price change in military production in different countries, with the aim of examining methods of measuring real expenditure trends over a period of time, taking into account differences between countries in the rate of price change;

(d) The international value comparison and exchange rates relevant to military production, with the purpose of examining methods for accurate currency comparison of military expenditures.

10. Resolution 31/87: Reduction of military budgets, adopted on 14 December 1976

The General Assembly, having noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General requested by resolution 3463 (XXX), (A/31/222 and Corr.1), inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the report to be issued as a United Nations publication, invited all States to communicate to the Secretary-General their comments with regard to matters covered in the report and in particular:

(a) Their reviews and suggestions on the proposed standardized reporting instruments contained in the report;

(b) Any information they might wish to convey on their military expenditures, accounting practices, including a description of methods currently in use;

(c) Suggestions and recommendations concerning possible practical approaches for the further development and operation of a standardized reporting system;

and requested the Secretary-General to prepare with the assistance of an intergovernmental group of budgetary experts, a report containing an analysis of the comments provided by States as well as their conclusions and recommendations.

11. Resolution 32/85: Reduction of military budgets, adopted on 12 December 1977

The General Assembly, having noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General (A/32/194 and Add.1), inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to ascertain those States which would be prepared to participate in a pilot test of the reporting instrument and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament. It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare and transmit to all Member States a background report for the special session compiling the proposals and recommendations put forward by the group of experts established under resolutions 3463 (XXX) and 31/87.

12. Resolution A/S-10/4: Resolutions and decisions adopted during the tenth special session on 30 June 1978 (Final Document)

Paragraph 89 of the Final Document regarding the reduction of military budgets reads as follows:

"Gradual reduction of military budgets on a mutually agreed basis, for example, in absolute figures or in terms of percentage points, particularly by nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, would be a measure that would contribute to the curbing of the arms race and would increase the possibilities of reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries. The basis for implementing this measure will have to be agreed by all participating States and will require ways and means of its implementation acceptable to all of them, taking account of the problems involved in assessing the relative significance of reductions as among different States and with due regard to the proposals of States on all the aspects of reduction of military budgets."

Paragraph 90 of the Final Document reads as follows:

"The General Assembly should continue to consider what concrete steps should be taken to facilitate the reduction of military budgets, bearing in mind the relevant proposals and documents of the United Nations on this question."

13. Resolution 33/67: Reduction of military budgets, adopted on 14 December 1978

The General Assembly, after noting paragraph 90 of the Final Document, and after reaffirming its conviction that there was an urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States to carry out reductions in their military budgets which would increase the possibilities of reallocation of resources to the economic and social development for the benefit of the developing



countries; and after having expressed the conviction that the systematic measurement and reporting of military expenditure was an important first objective in the move towards agreed and balanced reductions in military expenditure, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of an ad hoc panel of experienced practitioners in the field of military budgeting:

(a) To carry out a practical test of the proposed reporting instrument with the voluntary co-operation of States from different regions and representing different budgeting and accounting systems;

(b) To assess the results of the practical test;

(c) To develop recommendations for further refinement and implementation of the reporting instrument.

The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this resolution.

14. Resolution 33/71: Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Resolution 33/71 H: Disarmament negotiations and machinery adopted on 14 December 1978

In section II, paragraph 2 (b), the General Assembly recommended the inclusion in the agenda of the Disarmament Commission at its 1979 session an item entitled "Harmonization of views on concrete steps to be undertaken by States regarding a gradual, agreed reduction of military budgets and reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries, noting the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly".

15. Resolution 34/83: Review and implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Resolution 34/83 F: Freezing and reduction of military budgets, adopted on 11 December 1979

The Assembly, after having recalled paragraph 89 of the Final Document, inter alia, considered that a new impetus should be given to endeavour to achieve agreements to freeze, reduce or, otherwise, restrain, in a balanced manner, military expenditures, including adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned, and to this end, requested the Disarmament Commission to undertake during 1980 to examine and identify effective ways and means of achieving such agreements; appealed to all States, in particular the most heavily armed States, pending the conclusion of agreements on the reduction of military expenditures, to exercise self-restraint in their military expenditures with a view to reallocating the funds thus saved to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of developing countries and decided to consider, at its thirty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets"

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to be included in the agenda in pursuance of its resolution 33/67 of 14 December 1978, the most effective ways and means of adopting practical measures in this field.

16. Resolution 35/142 A: Reduction of military budgets, adopted on 12 December 1980

The Assembly, after recalling its resolution 34/83 F, and having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission (Supplement No. 42 (A/35/42)) on the work accomplished during its session of 1980 in pursuance of resolution 34/83 F, and bearing in mind the various proposals submitted by States and of the activities carried out so far within the framework of the United Nations in the field of the reduction of military budgets, inter alia, requested the Disarmament Commission to continue at its session to be held in 1981 the consideration of the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 34/83 F as well as those of the present resolution and, in particular, to identify and elaborate on the principles which should govern further actions of States in the field of the freezing and reduction of military expenditures, keeping in mind the possibility of embodying such principles into a suitable document at an appropriate stage; requested the Secretary-General to invite Member States to express their views and suggestions on the principles which should govern their actions in the field of the freezing and reduction of military expenditures and to prepare on this basis a report to be submitted to the Disarmament Commission at its session in 1981; considered that this action to be carried out by the Disarmament Commission should be regarded as complementary to any other ongoing activity within the framework of the United Nations related to the question of reduction of military budgets, as well as to any possible unilateral initiative which may be undertaken by States in this field.

17. Resolution 35/142 B: Reduction of military budgets, adopted on 12 December 1980

The General Assembly, having recalled its resolution 33/67 and having noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General (A/35/479), inter alia, requested the Secretary-General with the assistance of an ad hoc group of qualified experts in the field of military budgets: (a) to refine further the reporting instrument on the basis of future comments and suggestions received from States during the general and regular implementation of the reporting instrument; and (b) to examine and suggest solutions to the question of comparing military expenditures among different States and between different years as well as to the problem of verification that would arise in connexion with agreements on reduction of military expenditures. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the second special session devoted to disarmament.

18. Resolution 35/152 F: Report of the Disarmament Commission, adopted on 12 December 1980

The General Assembly, inter alia, endorsed the report of the Disarmament Commission (Supplement No. 42 (A/35/42)) and the recommendations contained therein. The recommendations contained in paragraph 21 (8 and 9) related to items 5 (a) and (b) of the agenda of the Disarmament Commission reads as follows:

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"8. In the light of its consideration of agenda items 5 (a) and (b) reflected in the present report, the Disarmament Commission recommends that the General Assembly, at its thirty-fifth session after examining the item entitled 'Reduction of military budgets' to be included in its provisional agenda in pursuance of resolutions 33/67 and 34/83 F, request the Disarmament Commission to continue at its next substantive session its consideration of these agenda items, taking into account the provisions of resolution 34/83 F and, in particular, to identify and elaborate the principles which should govern further actions of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military expenditures, keeping in mind the possibility of embodying such principles into a suitable document at an appropriate stage.

"9. The Disarmament Commission also requested the Secretariat to prepare a background paper listing all proposals made by Member States, resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and studies undertaken within the United Nations framework concerning the question of reduction of military budgets."

### III. STUDIES UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK

#### 1. Economic and social consequences of the arms race and of military expenditures

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a Group of Consultant Experts on the Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and Military Expenditures (A/8469/Rev.1, March 1972).

#### 2. Disarmament and development

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of experts on the Economic and Social Consequences of Disarmament (ST/ECA/174, August 1972).

#### 3. Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of experts on the reduction of military budgets (A/9770/Rev.1, September 1974).

#### 4. Reduction of military budgets

##### Measurement and international reporting of military expenditures

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of qualified experts containing an in-depth analysis and examination of various matters related to military expenditures (A/31/222/Rev.1, August 1976).

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5. Reduction of military budgets

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of qualified experts (A/32/194 and Add.1, April 1977).

6. A comparative study of global military expenditures and development assistance since 1945 as stated in available and unofficial sources (A/AC.187/73, 3 August 1977)

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat for the Preparatory Committee for the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament.

The paper is a compilation of data from official and unofficial sources that provide information on the subject.

7. Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of consultant experts (A/32/88/Add.1, 12 September 1977).

8. Reduction of military budgets

Report prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of qualified experts concerning the pilot test of the reporting instrument of military expenditures as well as a compilation of the proposals and recommendations put forward by the group of experts (A/S-10/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 1978).

9. Reduction of military budgets

Report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of a group of qualified experts containing recommended steps leading to the early implementation of the revised instruments in a general and regular system for the international reporting of military expenditures (A/35/479, 21 October 1980).

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