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DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

REVIEW OF THE DECLARATION OF THE 1980s AS THE SECOND DISARMAMENT DECADE

Addendum

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[30 April 1985]

1. The German Democratic Republic has supported the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade and has submitted concrete proposals towards the achievement of its goals. In the view of the German Democratic Republic, the primordial objective of this Second Disarmament Decade is to maintain and consolidate the results that had been achieved during the 1970s in the way of arms limitation efforts and in this pursuit to add concrete and substantive measures towards arresting and, finally, reversing the arms race.

In tandem with the other States parties to the Warsaw Treaty, the German Democratic Republic during the first half of the Disarmament Decade has persistently pursued the implementation of the goals enunciated in resolution 35/46 and submitted a comprehensive set of proposals aimed to remove the danger of nuclear war and to scale down military confrontation both in Europe and the world at large.

At the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, the German Democratic Republic has launched initiatives mainly concerning the non-first-use of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament and the prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon as well as chemical weapons. At the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, the Stockholm Conference and the Vienna Talks, it has - alone or together with other socialist countries - submitted a number of concrete proposals designed to bring about effective measures towards arms limitation and disarmament. Along these lines, it has also supported the Swedish proposal to establish a zone free of battlefield-nuclear weapons in Central Europe. Thus, the German Democratic Republic fully delivers on its pledge to do all it can to ensure that never again is war unleashed from German soil.

2. Notwithstanding all efforts of both socialist and non-aligned States, progress has been elusive in the early 1980s due to the drive for military superiority by imperialist circles, notably of the United States, a policy that is destabilizing the international situation and aggravating nuclear confrontation. This policy of force and diktat is attended by unprecedented massive arms build-ups, particularly in the nuclear field, and by efforts to spread the arms race into outer space. At the same time, doctrines are upheld which proclaim the admissibility of nuclear war and which, specifically, make the first use of nuclear weapons part of the reckoning.

Plans for the militarization of outer space entail serious dangers to mankind. Their realization would lead to an accelerated armaments competition in all fields and make impossible limitations on and reductions of strategic offensive weapons. The danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war would grown considerably.

The German Democratic Republic, by the same token, wishes to express its concern over the fact that some Western States, in sharp contrast to their approval of resolution 39/59 on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, have declared their readiness to participate in research programmes for the creation of space-based offensive weapons.

The deployment of United States-American first-strike weapons in Western Europe has dramatically worsened the situation in the European continent, has strained relations between European States and put up formidable obstacles in the way of the continued pursuit of the all-European process.

3. While the danger of nuclear war has grown, the forces opposing that danger and capable of overcoming it have also gained in strength. This is reflected, e.g., in the growth of the world-wide peace movement in which the German Democratic Republic and its people are playing an active part.

At the Berlin Meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers in December 1984, the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty expressed their firm conviction that "there are possibilities of achieving a turn for the better. What it takes is the initiation of a policy of realism and businesslike co-operation in the effort to meet the challenges facing the peoples of Europe and the world at large".

To eliminate the danger of a nuclear inferno it is most imperative to prevent a militarization of outer space, to put an end to the arms race on the Earth and to limit and reduce nuclear weapon arsenals until their final elimination. This is, in the view of the German Democratic Republic, the aim and object of the Soviet-American negotiations begun at Geneva in March this year. The German Democratic Republic fully supports the constructive approach of the USSR, which is ready for the most radical steps.

The German Democratic Republic is firmly convinced that, given the political will on both sides to fully adhere to the agreement reached on the subject and objectives of the negotiations as well as to the principle of equality and equal security, concrete results can be achieved.

It would, no doubt, be of great importance if the United States responded constructively to the proposals made by the USSR on 7 April 1985 concerning a moratorium on the creation of space weapons, including research and development activities as well as testing and stationing, a freeze on strategic offensive weapons at their present levels as well as the discontinuance of the deployment of United States medium-range missiles in Western Europe and of the Soviet countermeasures.

By introducing a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and suspending other countermeasures in Europe until November 1985, the USSR has demonstrated its willingness to achieve real progress.

4. The complicated international situation calls for efforts, parallel with the Soviet-American negotiations, mainly along the following lines:

- Immediate measures for the prevention of nuclear war, notably the freezing of nuclear arsenals as well as the renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons by all nuclear-weapon States which have not yet done so;
- Proceeding to negotiations within the framework of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament on the prevention of an arms race in outer space;
- Conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests and, as a first step in that direction, a moratorium on all nuclear explosions by all nuclear-weapon States;
- Strengthening the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, notably extending non-proliferation Treaty membership and strengthening the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- Conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament.

The implementation of these measures would not only contribute to a healthier political climate in Europe and the world at large but would also have a positive impact on the atmosphere of the Soviet-American negotiations.

The German Democratic Republic takes a resolute stand for progress at the Stockholm Conference. The proposals of the Warsaw Treaty States, including the basic provisions for a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of force and the maintenance of peaceful relations submitted by the USSR, offer a suitable basis for agreements on confidence- and security-building measures of a political-legal and military-technical nature. What is essential now is to proceed as soon as possible to concrete negotiations. The German Democratic Republic is anxious to help make the Vienna Talks on the Mutual Reduction of Armed Forces and Armaments in Central Europe bear fruit and achieve concrete results. That is the purpose of the proposal submitted by the socialist States on 14 February 1985. The German Democratic Republic expects the NATO States to respond fittingly to this and other initiatives launched by the socialist States on matters of security and arms limitation in Europe.

5. For progress to be achieved during the second half of the Disarmament Decade serious negotiations are necessary. What is needed is the will to conduct them in a constructive spirit and to seek compromise solutions that meet the legitimate security interests of all sides. They must not be misused as a cloak for an intensified arms build-up. The Final Document of the first special session of the United Nations devoted to disarmament continues to be the guideline for the activities of States in disarmament negotiations. The attitude towards this unanimously agreed document is the yardstick against which to measure the readiness to pursue the objectives of the Second Disarmament Decade by taking concrete steps at the bilateral, multilateral and regional levels.

The fortieth anniversary of the peoples' victory over Hitlerite racism shows what great possibilities there are for States with different social systems to take

concerted action in the interest of peace. That anniversary as well as the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations should be an occasion for making increased efforts during the remaining years of the Second Disarmament Decade to avert the danger of nuclear war and achieve effective disarmament measures.

The German Democratic Republic is prepared to work together with all forces concerned for the strengthening of peace. In this endeavour it welcomed the Delhi Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania as a commendable step in favour of a world-wide coalition of common sense and realism for peace.

JAPAN

[Original: English]

[26 April 1985]

Now, at the mid-point of the Second Disarmament Decade, it is both timely and meaningful for the further promotion of disarmament to review what the disarmament efforts of the past five years have attained.

It must be admitted, if one is quite frank, that the progress in arms control and disarmament during the first half of the Decade cannot really be said to have been satisfactory, in that no considerable concrete measures were attained during the period. However, international efforts for arms control and disarmament have been under way at the United Nations and such other forums as the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the United States-Soviet Bilateral Negotiations, the Mutual and Balanced Forces Reduction Talks and the Conference on Disarmament in Europe.

Japan believes it essential that all countries should make unflagging efforts to move forward, step by step, with concrete measures that are really workable in today's real-world international relations. In this connection, Japan welcomes most warmly the fact that new arms control and disarmament negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union started in Geneva on 12 March of this year, and hopes most ardently that these new negotiations will make substantive progress.

Japan, committed to the fundamental position that it will never become a military power that might appear to pose a threat to other nations, maintains as one of the central fundamental objectives of its foreign diplomacy that it will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world, and has participated positively in the debates on disarmament issues at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and the General Assembly of the United Nations, expressing its views on the various issues. The Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is scheduled for September of this year in Geneva. Japan, believing that this Conference is a very important forum for the maintenance and strengthening of the non-proliferation régime, is resolved to work very positively for the success of the Third Review Conference.

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The second special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament was held in 1982, following the first special session of 1978. Japan considers it encouraging that heads of State, prime ministers and other highest-level Government leaders from so many countries, including the Prime Minister of Japan, participated in the second special session and stated clearly their respective countries' positions on disarmament. It is, of course, to be regretted that the second special session failed to reach agreement on the drafting and adoption of documents on a comprehensive programme of disarmament and on the review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the first special session. Nevertheless, it is considered invaluable that the validity of the Final Document adopted at the first special session was unanimously reaffirmed at that second session.

The thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted by consensus a draft resolution to the effect that at its fortieth session the General Assembly will set the date for the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and establish the preparatory committee for that third special session. Japan hopes that at the third special session there will be concrete and constructive deliberations which may lead to clear and substantive progress in disarmament.

NIGERIA

[Original: English]

[30 April 1985]

The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria notes with grave concern and profound disappointment that despite the concerted concern of the entire international community over the dangers posed to the survival of humanity and of civilization by the massive build-up of highly sophisticated arms, especially nuclear weapons, the decade of the 1980s is already half-way through without recording any progress towards the attainment of the goals for which it was declared the Second Disarmament Decade.

Nothing substantial has been done to halt and reverse the ongoing arms race, in particular, the nuclear-arms race; the conclusion and implementation of effective agreements on disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, has remained elusive to date, thus obstructing the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control. The limited results obtained in the field of disarmament in the 1970s have been sacrificed on the altar of super-Power rivalry and mistrust; international peace and security continues to be threatened; and much-needed resources for socio-economic development continue to be diverted to military purposes. The decade of the 1980s is witnessing an unprecedented arms race, especially a nuclear-arms race, which has been extended to outer space. The world today is faced with a grave exacerbation of international tension and a virtual stalemate in disarmament negotiations, culminating in ominous deterioration in the international situation. These are ominous combinations which if not meaningfully contained could spell doom for mankind.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in conformity with the United Nations resolution 39/148 Q and in response to the United Nations Secretary-General's request for views and suggestions of all Governments on the review of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, wishes to state in the context of the foregoing that the international community in general, and the nuclear-weapon States in particular, should exert their best endeavours towards the realization of the goals for which the Second Disarmament Decade was declared. The Government of Nigeria therefore wishes to call on all Governments and the United Nations to intensify their efforts towards the realization of the following measures:

- (i) A comprehensive programme of disarmament is an important element in an international disarmament strategy. The elaboration of the programme should receive priority attention and should be treated with utmost urgency. The Conference on Disarmament is therefore called upon to intensify its work on the elaboration of the comprehensive programme in order to submit a complete draft of such a programme to the General Assembly not later than at its forty-first session. In this connection, all Governments are requested to exert maximum efforts to create the proper atmosphere that would facilitate the work on the elaboration of the programme and its successful conclusion by the Ad Hoc Committee set up by the Conference on Disarmament for this purpose.
- (ii) The Conference on Disarmament should also work assiduously in concert to negotiate with a view to reaching early agreements on the following specific measures of disarmament which were identified in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, as worthy of priority negotiation:
 - (a) A comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty

Negotiation of a comprehensive test-ban treaty should be given the highest priority as its accomplishment would constitute a contribution of the utmost importance to the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and an indispensable element for the success of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The Nigerian Government therefore urges the Conference on Disarmament to expedite action on the establishment of an ad hoc committee with full mandate to negotiate a comprehensive test-ban treaty. The ad hoc committee should also be empowered to determine, in the context of its negotiations on such a treaty, the institutional and administrative arrangements necessary for establishing, testing and operating an international seismic monitoring network as part of an effective verification system and to initiate investigation of international measures to improve verification arrangements under such a treaty, including an international network for monitoring atmospheric radioactivity.

- (b) A treaty on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction

The Government of Nigeria notes with great satisfaction that for the first time since the inception of the multilateral negotiating body, the actual negotiation on the text of a convention has begun. A successful conclusion of this

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convention would certainly have a positive influence on the countenance of the Conference on Disarmament. The Conference should therefore intensify the negotiations in the ad hoc working group on chemical weapons to facilitate early accord on the convention. All members of the Conference should show solidarity and should refrain from any action that could impede negotiation.

(c) A treaty on the prohibition of the development, production and use of radiological weapons

Members of the Conference on Disarmament should resolve their differences over the linkage between the prohibition of radiological weapons and questions relating to prohibitions of attacks against nuclear facilities and should undertake urgent negotiations with a view to a prompt conclusion of the elaboration of a convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons.

(d) Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The nuclear-weapon States have an obligation to guarantee, in clear and categorical terms which should be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character, that non-nuclear-weapon States will not be subject to attacks or threat of attacks with nuclear weapons. In this connection the Nigerian Government wishes to urge the Conference on Disarmament to establish as a matter of urgency an ad hoc committee with full mandate to negotiate such an agreement. Nuclear-weapon States should refrain from any actions which could adversely affect the work of the ad hoc committee.

The accomplishment of these specific measures of disarmament would certainly create a very favourable international climate for the realization of the goals for which the 1980s was declared the Second Disarmament Decade. The Government of Nigeria wishes therefore to urge Member States in general and the nuclear-weapon States in particular to eschew national and sectional interests and to demonstrate genuine political will to enable the United Nations Conference on Disarmament to have a breakthrough in these specific measures of disarmament.

- (iii) In view of the special responsibilities of the super-Powers in the field of disarmament, and in realization of the fact that relaxation of tension between them could provide a positive climate for global disarmament negotiations, the Government of Nigeria urges all Member States and the United Nations to give all positive encouragement to the two super-Powers to enable them to reach agreements in their current round of negotiations which started on Tuesday, 12 March 1985 in Geneva. The two super-Powers should approach the negotiations with an open mind and constructive determination to eliminate nuclear weapons. The two negotiating parties should bear constantly in mind that not only their national interests but also vital interests of all peoples of the world are at stake. In this connection, the super-Powers should avoid a further complication of the arms race by the introduction of new destabilizing systems. Research along the "star wars" line is likely to lead to such destabilization.

- (iv) The Government of Nigeria believes that public awareness is an essential tool in the mobilization of public opinion on behalf of peace and disarmament. It is in this connection that Nigeria sponsored a resolution at the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly calling for expansion of United Nations disarmament fellowship programme to cover non-civil servants. The Government of Nigeria therefore urges all Governments to undertake an intensive programme of information through their print and electronic media to alert public opinion to the danger of war in general and nuclear war in particular. The United Nations should also, through its Centre for Disarmament, intensify and co-ordinate with non-governmental organizations and relations with the media to generate more public awareness and to mobilize public opinion in the interest of world peace and disarmament.

Finally, the Government of Nigeria wishes to enjoin all Member States to maintain strict observance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other States. By the same token, peoples still under colonial or alien domination should be accorded the right to self-determination.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[2 May 1985]

The principled approach of the Soviet Union towards the Second Disarmament Decade declared by the United Nations was set forth in the letter dated 11 April 1980 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Soviet Union continues to believe that the main goal of the Second Disarmament Decade should be to preserve, strengthen and develop the positive achievements made in limiting the arms race during the 1970s and to implement new practical measures in that area.

The Soviet Union shares the serious concern expressed by many States, the broadest sections of the population world-wide and the massive anti-nuclear and anti-missile movements regarding the dangerous world situation and the fact that the first half of the Second Disarmament Decade has not been marked by progress towards stopping the arms race, and indeed has shown a regression in several important areas. International tension has heightened and the threat of nuclear war has increased.

The goals of the Second Decade are not being accomplished because of the position of certain States which have adopted a course of seeking military superiority and pursuing a policy of strength. As a result of the deployment of new American medium-range missiles there has been a sharp deterioration of the situation in Europe, too, where military confrontation has always been particularly acute. New land, sea and air-based strategic weapons systems continue to be created and deployed. New non-nuclear weapons systems are being developed with a destructive power approaching that of mass-destruction weapons.

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The increasing danger of a nuclear catastrophe is attended by more acute confrontation and a reduction of confidence among States. The normal process of negotiations on the various issues of disarmament has essentially been disorganized. Important Soviet-American agreements on the limitation and reduction of strategic weapons and on the limitation of nuclear tests have thus not been brought into effect.

Moreover, an attempt has recently been made to undermine the whole concept of guaranteeing security through disarmament, an idea approved in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. It is being countered by the notion of so-called strategic defence, which basically contends that by developing new weapons, particularly space-based offensive weapons, it is supposedly possible to achieve the liquidation of nuclear weapons. In reality, however, plans for the militarization of outer space and the development of large-scale missile defence systems with space-based components are aggressive rather than defensive. Their implementation would lead to an uncontrolled arms race in all areas. It would effectively signify an end to the process of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons, and would sharply increase the threat of nuclear war. It would also overturn many existing international agreements.

Never before has mankind faced such a formidable threat as today. The only sensible way out of the present situation is through the immediate cessation of the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, on earth and its prevention in outer space. Measures of both a material and a moral or political character aimed at removing the threat of nuclear war are essential. The solution of all other problems facing mankind and its very existence depend upon the accomplishment of that goal.

In this regard, the USSR attaches great importance to the Soviet-American negotiations which began at its initiative recently in Geneva. Their purpose, as jointly stated by the sides, must be to draft effective agreements aimed at preventing the arms race in outer space and stopping it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear weapons and at strengthening strategic stability. Ultimately these negotiations must, together with other efforts, lead to the complete and universal liquidation of nuclear weapons.

Progress at the Geneva negotiations will depend upon absolute compliance with the agreement concerning their subject and purposes in all its parts. The USSR is resolutely against the Soviet-American negotiations being turned into some kind of screen for a further escalation of the arms race.

Seeking to justify the hopes of the peoples, achieve initial concrete results at this early stage in the Geneva negotiations and facilitate their further successful conduct, the USSR has proposed a logical and sensible course: first of all, to halt the further build-up of nuclear arsenals on earth, stop preparations for the development of weapons to be deployed in outer space and, on that basis, under the resulting conditions of strengthened mutual confidence, proceed immediately to the drafting of agreements on the reduction of arms stockpiles. And

in order to demonstrate more clearly its sincerity and good will, the USSR has announced that until November of this year it is unilaterally halting further deployment of its medium-range missiles and suspending implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe.

The Soviet Union is convinced that the present situation is not irreversible. Substantial progress on arms limitation and disarmament is possible. United Nations approval in recent years for a number of far-reaching constructive proposals by the socialist countries and non-aligned States is evidence of the fact that the desire to achieve progress in the area of curbing the arms race is constantly growing. The positive decisions embodied in United Nations resolutions must be translated into practical action. It is imperative to implement United Nations resolutions on the freezing of nuclear arsenals, on the complete and universal prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests - and prior to concluding an appropriate treaty - the establishment of a moratorium on all nuclear explosions, and on the renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons.

The question of prohibiting by treaty such weapons of mass destruction as chemical weapons has long been a priority. The proposals submitted by the USSR in this respect to the Conference on Disarmament provide an opportunity for the speediest conclusion of a convention. The development and production of all new types and systems of mass-destruction weapons must also be banned.

The USSR attaches great importance to measures for arms limitation at the regional level. The Soviet Union and its Warsaw Treaty allies have put forward constructive proposals at the Vienna talks concerning the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, and have made constructive proposals to the NATO countries on making Europe free from chemical weapons and on freezing and reducing military expenditures. The USSR and the other socialist countries have put forward a realistic programme for confidence-building and security on the continent, including the conclusion of a treaty on the non-use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations.

The Soviet Union has advocated holding negotiations on the limitation of naval activities and naval armaments. The proposal to convene a conference on transforming the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, which is resolutely supported by the USSR, represents another step in this direction.

The implementation of all these measures would make it possible not only to avert the threat of war, but also to relieve the heavy strain - in material and intellectual terms - of the arms race, which places an undue burden on the peoples of the world. The possibility of allocating substantial funds for economic assistance to the developing countries depends primarily on diverting the resources absorbed by the arms race towards peaceful purposes.

It is essential to ensure that the year commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the establishment of the United Nations should be marked by greater intensification and unification of efforts by all States with a view to ensuring definite progress in the direction of arms limitation and disarmament.

For its part, the Soviet Union will continue persistently to work for the earliest achievement of specific agreements on all questions of halting and reversing the arms race. The USSR is prepared to go as far as other States in the field of disarmament. This applies to both nuclear and non-nuclear armaments. It remains willing to limit or prohibit any type of weapon on a reciprocal basis.

Considering the latest advances in military technology, if the arms race is not curbed now it may shift to a qualitatively new and dangerous stage in which disarmament measures are not verifiable. In this sense, the second half of the 1980s may be decisive in respect of whether the arms build-up can be stopped and reversed.

The USSR is convinced that the time has come for determined action. Implementation of the measures outlined above will make it possible to accomplish the noble goals of the Second Disarmament Decade declared by the United Nations. The Soviet Union will do everything possible to promote that objective.
