DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 23 May 1986, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. WEGENER (Federal Republic of Germany)

- Report of the Disarmament Commission to the General Assembly at its forty-first session
- Reports by chairmen of working groups

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.
The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-FIRST SESSION

REPORTS BY CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS

The CHAIRMAN: Today we are to take action on the various substantive points on our agenda, adopt our report and then hear concluding statements.

I shall call first on Mr. Albornoz of Ecuador to report on the work of the Contact Group of the Committee of the Whole on agenda item 4. He has already given his report to the Committee, which approved it and noted the annex. As Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, I would normally present the report to the Commission, but I have had a generous offer from Mr. Albornoz to inform us directly of the work he has accomplished.

Mr. ALBORNÖZ (Ecuador), Chairman of the Contact Group (interpretation from Spanish): Yesterday the Committee of the Whole adopted the Contact Group's report (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.2) on agenda item 4 (a) and (b), covering various aspects of the arms race, particularly the nuclear-arms race and disarmament.

The annex to that report, a compilation of proposals for recommendations, includes important recommendations adopted in earlier years without parentheses and the recommendations that we have added this year through our modest efforts. Taken together they are interesting, because they represent progress, and there is unanimity on some texts, specifically 12 paragraphs, which include the first two preliminary recommendations and recommendations Nos. 3, 5, 16, 17, 22 and 23 in section I and recommendations Nos. 1, 2 and 6 in section II.

A few other paragraphs remain in parentheses. In certain cases it has been possible to reduce to one or two words the parts in parentheses. All of this represents progress, and may help facilitate future work on this important and delicate material.
(Mr. Albornoz, Chairman, Contact Group)

We thank you for all the guidance you have given us, Mr. Chairman. We also thank the secretariat for its work in helping delegations with their initiatives. It has done its utmost to help representatives find common language in dealing with the substantive problem of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, without disregarding the problem of conventional disarmament.

The CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the Commission, I thank Mr. Albornoz for the work he has accomplished in the Contact Group.

I wish to draw attention to the following amendment to the report (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.2) which formed part of the decision of the Committee of the Whole yesterday. Paragraphs 2 and 3 are to be combined to make a new paragraph 2, the original paragraph 3 being inserted between the first and second sentences of paragraph 2. The remaining paragraphs will be renumbered accordingly. May I take it that the report, as now amended, is acceptable to the Commission?

The report, as amended, was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: May I also take it that the Commission takes note of the annex containing the various recommendations, both those that are acceptable and those that are in part still controversial?

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: I now call on the Chairman of Working Group I, Mr. Tinca of Romania, to tell the Commission about its work and to introduce its report on agenda item 5 (a) and (b) (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.3).

Mr. TINCA (Romania), Chairman of Working Group I: The Working Group's mandate from the General Assembly was to finalize the principles that should govern the actions of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military expenditures on the basis of the working paper annexed to last year's report of the Commission, as well as other proposals and ideas on the subject.
The Working Group had before it the working paper entitled "Principles which should govern further actions of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military budgets" and amendments submitted during the previous session by various delegations.

The Working Group held 10 meetings between 7 May and 21 May. At its first meeting it decided to concentrate on paragraphs 1, 5, 7, 8 and 10 of the working paper, paragraphs on which divergences of view remained.

The Working Group achieved consensus on principles related to verification and the great responsibility of States for freezing and reducing military expenditures, consensus which made possible agreed formulations on the paragraphs on the principles contained in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the working paper, which now appear in paragraphs 5 and 9 of the document embodied in the Working Group's report. That consensus also made it possible to eliminate some parentheses which existed in paragraph 1 of the working paper, which is still paragraph 1 of the document in the report.

While there appeared to be some elements of agreement on the subject-matter of the remaining paragraphs of the working paper - paragraphs 7 and 8 - it was not possible to achieve an acceptable formulation on them. However, the Working Group decided to merge those two paragraphs into one and to renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly. Here I refer to the document that now exists in the report.

The stage reached by the Working Group in finalizing the principles that should govern further actions of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military budgets, which was the Working Group's mandate, is reflected in the document which appears in the Working Group's report. The Working Group reached consensus on all but one of the formulations contained in the document. The exception is paragraph 7, relating to the transmission of data, comparability and transparency.
The report contains the proposals that different countries presented with a view to elaborating an agreed text for paragraph 7, but that was not possible at this session. Those proposals are also annexed to the document contained in the Working Group's report. They were presented by a group of Western countries, the German Democratic Republic, Pakistan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Sweden.

I wish to draw attention to an amendment to Pakistan's proposal. The delegation of Pakistan has asked me to announce that the words "although not sufficient in itself" near the end of its proposal should be deleted. I think that the Commission will agree.

In the light of the progress achieved, the Working Group proposes that the Commission should decide to transmit the document in the Working Group's report to the General Assembly and recommend that, unless another solution is found, the Commission should continue the discussion with a view to reaching an agreed text of paragraph 7, taking into account the proposals of various delegations, which are reflected in the body of the report.

I commend the report - especially its recommendations - for the Commission's acceptance.

I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all delegations that participated actively in the Working Group's deliberations and thank them for their activities and the work they have done at this session. I also thank the Secretary of the Working Group.

The CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the whole Commission, I thank Mr. Tinca for the work he has accomplished as Chairman of Working Group I. I noted from his presentation that the Working Group proposes to report on the majority of the
principles contained in the catalogue of principles. Indeed, only one paragraph would still be with us to discuss until a final consensus emerged at next year's session. I therefore propose that we first adopt the report and then separately adopt those recommendations that are now to be sent to the General Assembly at its forty-first session for consideration.

May I take it that the Commission wishes to adopt the report of Working Group I?

The report was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: I now ask the Commission to approve the principles that should govern further actions of States in the field of freezing and reduction of military budgets, as printed in the report, with the exception of paragraph 7, which still awaits further consideration.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: I now ask the Chairman of Working Group II on agenda item 7, Mr. Engo of Cameroon, to give his report (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.4) and to introduce small changes to it.

Mr. ENGO (Cameroon), Chairman of Working Group II: You spoke of small changes, Mr. Chairman, but my attention has been drawn to changes that I did not see until a few minutes ago. I shall read out what I consider to be the agreement that we reached in the Working Group.

Working Group II adopted the report on 21 May, and the contents of that report are now contained in document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.4 of the same date. That report is a factual account of the Group's work. Yet it must be noted that it can do no more than to present a skeleton. With only two formal meetings, to cater for the formalities of opening of closing, the records can show little more than the methodology employed in tackling the issues. The Working Group prudently chose to
avoid a general debate approach and the atmosphere of formality that further reduces the value of any exchange of views on these issues.

At the informal meetings, speakers were requested to present as far as possible concrete suggestions regarding the type and form of recommendations we are to submit. In many instances, responding to the appeal from the Chair, informal suggestions were made in writing, although no formal status was - in the nature of things - given to them. Some delegations, acting as friends of the Chairman, co-operated in presenting informal drafts, each in an attempt to reconcile existing ideas for purposes of consensus.
Paragraph 4 of the Working Group's report mentions that topics in the programme of work-based on the list of topics for appropriate recommendations contained in document A/CN.10/1985/WG.III/WP.1/Rev.1 - which appear in annex V of the report of the Disarmament Commission for 1985, were considered in three different clusters.

The delegation of Poland reported the formulation to the Chairman on the first cluster - that is, topics I, II and III - Australia reported on the second - that is, topics IV, VI and VII - and Yugoslavia and Argentina were asked to submit a formulation on topic V, which they did.

I should like at this juncture to express my sincere thanks to those delegations for the sacrifices they made in the process of studying existing ideas and proposing texts to me. They must be given credit for setting the ball rolling, as it were.

The Working Group had further informal consultations on these documents, and it is based on them that I venture to propose the comprehensive formulations now contained in the Chairman's paper, document A/CN.10/1986/WG.II/CRP.1. The proposals contained therein could not be considered in full because of lack of time. However, I commend it to the Commission as a package which could eventually lead to consensus.

A perusal of the suggestions made by States and taking into account the fruitful debates in our informal meetings would expose the diversity of opinion the Chairman's recommended text seeks to bridge. Obviously, it remains the right of Governments to take the positions they choose. I have no doubt that further consultations may yet improve the text proposed. We must, however, note that at least we can say that our endeavours have reached a momentous stage at which we have a comprehensive set of ideas in textual form for study by the General Assembly and for our further work.
One last point: the Commission may wish to observe that, apart from the text of the Chairman's proposals there is a further list of 18 working papers submitted by delegations. Some explanation is obviously necessary if we are to avoid misinterpretations and understand the reasons for this after the statutory time allowed for submission of the opinion of States to the Secretary-General.

As mentioned earlier, some delegations informally submitted draft papers on various issues in the process of negotiation, with the encouragement of the Chair. It was felt by some delegations that the value of these proposals ought not be lost while a finally agreed text had not yet been adopted.

It was for that reason that the 18 papers - more than one for some delegations - were formalized after the submission of the Chairman's paper. It is the general understanding that all papers, including those submitted before or after our last meeting, will continue to have equal status in our negotiating effort. No delegation need feel threatened that a paper it has submitted will fizzle out. Even for those who have not formally submitted a paper, the opportunity will always present itself to raise a point in the process of finalizing the content of a document to be adopted in the future on the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament.

For the rest, I can only appeal to delegations to maintain their inspiration for consensus on the brotherly human aspirations for international peace and security that alone can guarantee the survival of man on Earth.

I wish also to draw particular attention to paragraph 7 of the report, which contains the following recommendation:

"The Disarmament Commission recommends to the General Assembly that work to be accomplished under General Assembly resolution 40/94 0 of 12 December 1985 be continued by the Commission as a matter of priority at its next substantive session in 1987, with a view to the elaboration of concrete
recommendations and proposals, as appropriate, regarding the role of the
United Nations in the field of disarmament, taking into account, inter alia,
the views and suggestions of Member States as well as the aforementioned
documents on the subject". (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.4, para. 7)

It is my impression that it was agreed that we should insert the papers which
I have just mentioned together with the rest of the papers submitted, and I propose
that paragraph 5 be amended by adding, after the last two words "of work.", the
following:

"In addition, other papers were submitted by delegations. All these papers
shall be considered on an equal footing and are circulated as follows:"

Then this list of documents will appear: the Chairman's paper on findings,
recommendations and proposals; a working paper presented by Mexico; one by India on
topic IV; two by the United Kingdom; one by Canada; two by the United States; one
by the Federal Republic of Germany; one by Japan; one by Australia; two by the
German Democratic Republic; one by the Soviet Union; two by the Ukrainian Soviet
Socialist Republic; one by Pakistan; one by Norway; one by India and Yugoslavia;
one by Uruguay; and one by Bulgaria.

In closing, permit me to express my deep appreciation for the co-operation of
the delegations that took part with us in Working Group II. I had the occasion
earlier, Mr. Chairman, to speak at length with regard to the deep appreciation we
have for your encouragement and guidance and for the way in which you have
conducted our work in the Commission. We also express our appreciation to the
Under-Secretary-General in charge of the Department for Disarmament Affairs for his
advice and co-operation. Finally, we thank the Secretary-General of the Conference
on Disarmament for his presence and willingness to give guidance on the efforts at
disarmament in the Conference itself.
The CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the members of the Commission I thank Ambassador Engo for his report and for the work he has accomplished as Chairman of Working Group II.

We now come to the report reflected in document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.4. Ambassador Engo read out the amendment at the end of paragraph 5, which I should like to repeat. I should like to have, however, on this very same amendment, the advice of Ambassador Garcia Robles, who professed at our deliberations in the Committee of the Whole a particular interest in the wording of that paragraph. The wording Ambassador Engo has read out - and as I suggest - would make the following amendment to paragraph 5 of the report:

"In addition, other papers were submitted by delegations. All these papers shall be considered on an equal footing and are circulated as follows:".
Then follows the list of 21 working papers.

Ambassador Garcia Robles would have preferred the word "status" instead of "footing". I submit that these words have basically the same meaning, and I would ask him whether he can accept the text containing the word "footing" as I have read it out or wants his preferred wording to be used.

Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico): I recall that yesterday the representative of India suggested the words "equal footing". Inasmuch as English is, I think, almost his mother tongue he must know better than I. So if he is satisfied with the word "footing" I have no difficulty.

Mr. GONSALVES (India): I have no problem with the word "footing". My problem is with the text as read out this morning, which appears to suggest that all other papers submitted by other delegations would have equal status, without that equal status being related to the paper referred to in the previous sentence. We were told we would get suitable language this morning.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that the representative of India's point is completely covered in the text, because we have, first, a sentence that alludes to the paper circulated by the Chairman, which is followed by the sentence "In addition other papers were submitted by delegations". The introductory part of the final sentence states that all these papers have an "equal footing", which means both the papers circulated by the Chairman and those by delegations. The language has been checked very carefully to provide exactly that sense. Would the representative of India agree to that reading?

Mr. GONSALVES (India): I would agree to that reading since in any case this will be reflected in our records.

The PRESIDENT: The interpretation of the representative of India will be fully reflected in our records.
Mr. THOMPSON-FLORES (Brazil): Mr. Chairman, could you please read out paragraph 5 to us again?

The CHAIRMAN: I will now read out paragraph 5 in its entirety. I will, however, dispense with the complete list of documentation, though I will make sufficient reference to them. Paragraph 5 of the report will read as follows:

"In carrying out its work, the Working Group also had before it the replies of Member States to the Secretary-General regarding the review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament".

Then follows the code numbers of the documents. The text goes on:

"The Chairman prepared and circulated a Conference Room Paper containing findings, recommendations and proposals on the various topics in the Group's programme of work. In addition, other papers were submitted by delegations. All these papers shall be considered on an equal footing."

Then follows a list commencing with the Chairman's paper (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.1), and ending with the paper submitted by Bulgaria (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.21).

May I take it that the report in document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.4, as amended, is adopted?

The report of Working Group II, as amended, was adopted.

Mr. CAMPORA (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): The role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament is such an important issue that it has been referred to in many of the proposals of delegations, which prompts my delegation to emphasize the importance of the matter and at the same time to congratulate the delegation of Cameroon, Ambassador Engo, who has made so much progress on this item in the Disarmament Commission. All these documents demonstrate the great interest in this question. At the next session of the General Assembly all these documents will be taken up afresh and reconsidered, so
that at its third special session on disarmament the General Assembly, which we believe to be the most competent forum for a thorough consideration of this question, can deal with them very carefully after painstaking preparations.

I should like to conclude by expressing our unreserved gratitude and reiterating the importance we attach to this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: May I suggest that, in the interest of the speedy adoption of the reports, representatives refrain from making substantive remarks on individual agenda items until they make their concluding statements later in the day.

I call on the ad interim Chairman of Working Group III, on agenda item 6 regarding the question of South Africa's nuclear capability, to introduce a report of that Working Group.

Mr. HEPBURN (Bahamas): I am pleased to present the report of Working Group III contained in document A/C.10/1986/CRP.5 and to say simply that, despite the fact that the Working Group was unable to carry out its mandate or to reach a consensus on South Africa's nuclear capability, it is my feeling that some very serious attempts were made to make the working paper accessible to all States. I feel also that the contribution made by delegations helped us to reach a higher understanding of the problem. I would wish to commend you, Mr. Chairman, for the efforts you made in assisting the work of the Group, in particular in the presentation of your paper, which is now included in the report in paragraph 7. I would also say that paragraph 8 represents the recommendation made by the Group and States that at its fifth meeting, on 21 May 1986, the Working Group decided to recommend to the Disarmament Commission that the Commission should continue to consider the question of South Africa's nuclear capability at its 1987 session on
the basis of the text contained in document A/CN.10/1984/WG.II. I understand that
that conference room paper has now become working paper 1.

I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary of the Working Group, the
Secretariat and all other persons dealing with this matter for their usual
co-operation.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank Ambassador Hepburn for his report, and I am sure I
am speaking for all members when I express gratitude to him for the work he has
accomplished as an interim Chairman of Working Group III, especially since he had
to take over on short notice pending the election of a chairman.

I now direct the attention of members to the report of Working Group III
contained in document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.5, which has been amended as follows.

In the second line of paragraph 7, the word "tentative" should be eliminated,
and after the word "paper" the following reference number should be inserted:
"(A/CN.10/1986/WG.III/WP.1)".
(The Chairman)

In the penultimate line of paragraph 7, the words "approach was" should be deleted and replaced by the words "suggestions were".

The Secretariat has drawn my attention to the fact that it would not be possible in the last line of the report retrospectively to change the reference number of the document submitted in 1984, but, since the representative of Nigeria indicated his wish in the Committee of the Whole to see that paper upgraded and widely circulated, I would remind him that it is already in circulation and available and that there will be an opportunity to reintroduce it next year, unchanged, with a new reference number that would make it a working paper in that sense.

Mr. NANNA (Nigeria): The Group of African States would have wished to see the speedy adoption of this report. I am afraid that some of the amendments that have just been introduced may delay us somewhat.

First, we recall that in the final meeting of the Working Group held on 21 May, the representative of Algeria, based on the consensus position of the Group of African States, offered an amendment to paragraph 7, which was adopted. When that paper was submitted yesterday there was no reference to the deletion of the word "tentative". That was the position of the Group of African States. If that word is to be deleted, it appears we are opening up another debate.

Secondly, in order to speed the adoption of the report we had accepted paragraph 7 as it stood. However, if the words "approach was" are being replaced by the word "suggestions were," I am afraid that we may have to renegotiate that amendment.

Further, the upgrading of A/CN.10/1986/CRP.1 was not requested by a delegation. In fact, the Group of African States had sought clarification, and I have the mandate to seek clarification from the Secretariat and ask that it at least inform us the reason it cannot now be upgraded.
Having said that - and I hope we will receive replies to those points - I should like to make another point. I observe that there are some annexes on item 4, approximately 9 pages of them. On item 5 we have approximately 3 pages of principles and proposals. On item 9 there are some 9 pages of guidelines. That is in line with the procedures followed in prior years, and we have no objection. We should, however, like some explanation, either from the Secretariat or from you, Mr. Chairman.

On agenda item 6, the three-page annex is now being deleted, because there is no reference to annexing document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.1. We would infer that, as with other agenda items, there will be annexes, as there have been in prior years, and that therefore CRP.1 should also have been annexed.

The CHAIRMAN: The comments by the representative of Nigeria on paragraph 7 of the draft report appear to be addressed to me, since that paragraph substantively deals with the paper that I, in my role as Chairman of the Commission, circulated. The change in the penultimate line was given me by colleagues from the Group of African States, so I inferred that it would also carry the approval of the representative of Nigeria. The amendment did not come from me, and, as far as I am concerned, I would gladly withdraw it if other African colleagues agree, so that the former text, as printed - "approach was" - would be retained.

Do I understand that the delegations of the Group of African States that suggested the change to me do not insist up on it?

Mr. ADAM OMER (Sudan): I would like to support what the representative of Nigeria has just said, and I must confess that I have not been able to follow the clarification you, Mr. Chairman, just made. You mentioned that an African representative had approached you and asked you to make these alterations, but, as far as my delegation is concerned, it was not aware of that.
The CHAIRMAN: Since the amendment has been withdrawn with the consent of
the delegation that suggested it to me, let us not belabour that moot point.

In reply to the other point raised by the representative of Nigeria, I have
nothing against preserving the word "tentative" in line 2, nor against omitting the
document number. However, the paper has since been circulated without the word
"tentative" in its title, and I think it would assist the orderly conduct of our
affairs if an asterisk were to be inserted at that point and if in the footnote
attention were drawn to the fact that the paper, with its new title - "Conclusions
and Recommendations on Agenda Item 5: Draft submitted by the Chairman of the
Commission" - is now in circulation. At that point in the footnote the document
reference can be given as a matter of the orderly administration of documents.

Does the representative of Nigeria agree with that suggestion? The text would
remain as printed, but a footnote would be added alluding to the fact that the
document has been circulated under its new title and with the appropriate document
reference.

Mr. Nanna (Nigeria): I thought you were referring to the word
"tentative" and that you had no objection either to its retention or its deletion.
My observation was that, when the subject was discussed in the Working Group on
21 May, that amendment was proposed and adopted. That was therefore the
recommendation of the Working Group to the Commission. Consequently, if the paper
circulated does not contain the word "tentative", I would propose that the word
"tentative" be placed in the appropriate place.
The CHAIRMAN: I do not think that point need be belaboured either, because your requests have been met on each individual count. However for the orderly conduct of business a footnote should allude to the fact that the document has been circulated and has a reference number. It would appear at the bottom of the page, with the other footnotes. The text of the report would stand unchanged. Is that acceptable to the representative of Nigeria?

Mr. NANNA (Nigeria): Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us turn to the very last reference, and, in fact, to the status of the document submitted by the Group of African States two years ago. I am afraid that that document cannot be annexed, and I have sought the advice of the Secretary in the interim, because of the rule of no duplicate publication. The paper in its present form, the form in which it served as the basis of the deliberations of Working Group 3, is already published by the United Nations and cannot therefore be published again, even if the document number is changed.

I do not think that point need be belaboured either, because it is a matter of normal administrative procedure.

May we now proceed to the report submitted for adoption, as printed, with the sole exception that the Secretariat will, in the course of normal administrative procedure, add a footnote with a document reference? May I take it that the report of Working Group III (A/CN.10/1986/CRP.5) is adopted?

The report of Working Group III was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: I should now like to inform representatives about the consultations I have been holding over the past two weeks on agenda item 9, "Elaboration of guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level". On the basis of informal consultations, and with the approval of the Committee of the Whole, those consultations were initiated early in our session, and they comprised
a total of 8 meetings held between 7 and 21 May with a view to finalize the guidelines on confidence-building measures as mandated by the General Assembly in the relevant resolution.

I am happy to report that it has been possible to reach agreement on the draft guidelines. They have been approved by the Committee of the Whole, and I would suggest that the Disarmament Commission now approve them also. The guidelines are contained in the annex to document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7, from page 3 on. An amendment introduced in the Committee of the Whole was withdrawn.

Mr. MARTYNOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (interpretation from Russian): I wonder if the Chairman would clarify whether he is talking about the amendment submitted yesterday by the United States delegation, which, as I now understand it, has been withdrawn. Our delegation objected to that amendment yesterday. The new version of the document makes it appear to have been adopted, and that should be changed.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic for his clarification. That is why I was precise. I was submitting for a decision not document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7/Rev.1, which was mistakenly reproduced and distributed, but the original document, A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7. The decision I am now seeking relates only to the draft guidelines themselves. I shall proceed to the report itself in a moment.

May I take it that the draft guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level, as contained in A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7, from page 3 on, are acceptable?

Mr. GESSEL (France) (interpretation from French): As I had occasion to say at yesterday's meeting, my Government feels that some of the points in this
list of guidelines could be improved. We have received precise instructions to request certain amendments, for example to sub-paragraphs 212, 251, 252 and 253.

Nevertheless, it appears that in the culminating stage of our work amendments were made in the preface preceding the list of guidelines - to paragraph 2, for example - that make it clear that the text of the draft guidelines is accepted as a draft. Furthermore, paragraph 3 of the same preface makes it clear that some members reserve their final assent to the guidelines until such time as they are completed and can be assessed in their entirety.

That being so, we feel that when at a subsequent time we reach the stage of the final drafting of the guidelines, we will be able to submit the amendments we should like to introduce. On that understanding, therefore, I am in a position to join in the consensus on this text of draft guidelines that will, I am sure, emerge.

The CHAIRMAN: As the representative of France has correctly pointed out, the text we are about to adopt comes under the provisos contained in the paper itself, in which it is spelled out that Member States reserve their final assent to the draft guidelines until such time as they have been completed and can be assessed in their entirety. That formula does not stand in the way of the consensus I now seek.

May I take it that the paper is acceptable under those provisos?

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to take up the written portion of the Chairman's report on those consultations in the framework of our overall report, which we come to shortly.

I would now like to inform the Commission about the sustained and substantive consultations I have held on agenda item 8. As members will recall, on 9 May, based on consultations, I stated that the most appropriate way to consider the item at this juncture would be for me to hold, on my own responsibility, substantive and open-ended consultations on the subject.
(The Chairman)

With the agreement of delegations, at that time I delegated the actual conduct of the substantive consultations to a friend of the Chairman in casu, Ambassador Alatas of Indonesia. Pursuant to those consultations, the representative of Indonesia and I, as Chairman, convened seven meetings of the consultative group on the item. The substance of the debate and the findings and recommendations of the consultative group are reflected in the Working Paper by the Chairman that is being circulated.

I would take this opportunity to express to Ambassador Alatas my very warm thanks and my admiration for the way in which he handled those difficult consultations.

The written part of my report as Chairman on the consultations will be taken up when we consider the overall report.
(The Chairman)

I should now like to proceed to the consideration of the report, and I would draw attention to document A/CN.10/1986/CRP.1, dated 21 May 1986. At this juncture, I would ask the Secretary to read out the changes that should be made in the text as printed.

Mr. ALEM (Secretary of the Commission): The changes relate to the number of meetings held by various groups and to the number of plenary meetings.

In chapter II, "Organization and Work of the 1986 Session", the last part of paragraph 5 should read "8 plenary meetings (A/CN.10/PV.102-109)", assuming we hold a meeting this afternoon.

In paragraph 10, the blank should be filled so that the text reads, "The Contact Group held 8 meetings".

In paragraph 11, the blank should be filled so that the text reads, "and held 10 meetings between 7 and 21 May 1986."

In paragraph 12, the blank should be filled so that the text reads, "9 meetings between 7 and 21 May 1986."

The blank in the penultimate line of paragraph 14 should be filled so that the text reads, "in 8 meetings".

The blank in the last line of paragraph 15 should be filled so that the text reads, "and 7 meetings were held for that purpose."

The CHAIRMAN: I should now like to add some amendments that deal with the substance of the report.

The first part of paragraph 7, containing the agenda, should be changed to read as follows:

"At its 102nd meeting, on 5 May, statements were made in connection with the draft agenda (A/CN.10/L.18) by the representative of the United States and by the Chairman. Subsequently, the agenda was adopted as follows:"
(The Chairman)

On page 6 of the draft report, the title of section B, which is now "Documents submitted by Member States", should be changed to read "Other documents, including documents submitted by Member States". Then, without a preceding number, the following leading sentence should be added:

"In the course of the Commission's work the documents listed below, dealing with substantive questions, were submitted."

Then the number 22 will appear at the margin, followed by this text:

"Chairman's paper on agenda item 8: 'Substantive consideration of the question of the naval arms race and disarmament' (A/CN.10/83)".

The new paragraph 22 will be followed by paragraph "22 bis," which would in essence comprise subparagraphs (a) through (d).

A new paragraph, 22 ter, will follow, reading as follows:

"The preceding documents are also before the General Assembly in accordance with United Nations procedures."

With reference to paragraph 24, I should like to note that we have already adopted the report of the Committee of the Whole on agenda item 4. Coming to paragraph 25, we have already adopted the report of Working Group I. The same is true of paragraph 26, concerning the report of Working Group III, and paragraph 27, concerning the report of Working Group II.

In paragraph 28, the first four paragraphs of the report of the Chairman on agenda item 8 (A/CN.10/1986/CPR.6) should be inserted, followed by this text:

"These meetings resulted in a number of substantive findings and recommendations on the subject. These are contained in a Working Paper by the Chairman (A/CN.10/83), which found the approval of all delegations participating in the substantive consultations and which, in their view, could form the basis of further deliberations on the subject."
Under paragraph 29, insert the first two pages - the Chairman's report on his consultations on agenda item 9.

In paragraph 4 of A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7 the following amendments should be noted: in the second line which begins "and 21 of May resulting in ..." delete the words "an agreed" and replace them by "a"; insert a comma after the word "text" and add "agreed as a draft,"; the balance of the text remains as is.

Representatives now have all the amendments to be made to the draft report. I should like before we adjourn for lunch to go through it and adopt it if possible. I think that, apart from the portions to which I have referred, the report being of a formal procedural nature it would not be necessary to begin by recalling every paragraph; instead, where appropriate, I shall refer to the pages. I invite representatives therefore to go through the text with me and signify their approval of the individual parts of the draft report.

We shall begin with paragraphs 1-4 on page 2.

Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): Mr. Chairman, I confess that I am not quick enough to grasp at a glance the thrust of each of these amendments. I did not attend the meeting to which you referred a moment ago and should therefore like to make the following suggestion. We certainly will not be able to finish this morning; it is already 12.45 p.m. The Secretariat can distribute mimeographed copies of a text that includes everything you said a few moments ago; it would not have to be in final form. We could receive the text by, say, 2 p.m. and possibly meet at 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. It is simply not possible to get through this now; nor can a representative assume the responsibility of expressing his opinion one way or another after only hearing what you have said - although you did so with your customary clarity.
The CHAIRMAN: I appreciate the difficulty of the representative of Mexico, but should like to draw his attention to the fact that many delegations have earnestly requested that I make certain we finish our proceedings today. As it is, there are now 20 statements - not counting the concluding statement that I wish to make - to be heard this afternoon, which will use up all the available time.

With his indulgence therefore, I should like to go through the report now. If there are passages in it on which he would like to reserve his position we shall take them up this afternoon - but only if needed; otherwise we shall complete most of the mechanical portions of the report now, before 1 o'clock. I count on his approval of this procedure. Should we proceed too quickly, he may feel free to say so. We shall then take up those passages and the adoption of the report in its entirety after lunch, after his wishes for more clarity have been met.

Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I agree with your suggestion. However, I should like to say here and now that there will be some points on which I shall have to reserve my position until this afternoon.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the right of the representative of Mexico. I welcome suggestions that will enable all of us to have a clearer view of what we decide.

Mr. SHUSTOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to say that our delegation too is not entirely clear on the text that you read out as an addition to section IV, "Conclusions and recommendations". First, it is very difficult to get it all down just from hearing it; secondly, we have to correlate what you said with the remaining sections of the report. For those reasons we need from the Secretariat a written text, the entire...
(Mr. Shustov, USSR)

page, of what you read out so that we can examine it properly to see whether the

text is suitable, in the right place, and so on. Although we have little time, I
do not think we should proceed with such haste as to adopt a lopsided report. We
have no objection to starting a discussion of the paragraphs in the next
15 minutes. They could be adopted _ad referendum_ until we see the written text of
what you read out. "Ad referendum" in this case would mean that we would come back
later to discuss how the recommendations should be reflected under agenda item 8.

The CHAIRMAN: As the representative of the USSR knows, my patience for
procedural debates is very limited. I should therefore like to proceed as I have
suggested and if he has a point on which he is not clear he may be exempted from
the procedure now and take it up after lunch. It is obvious that all delegations
will defer their final approval of the report until it has been thoroughly
checked. That is why the report as a whole is submitted for adoption at the end of
such a procedure.

Are there any observations on page 1 of the draft text? That is not the case.

Are there any observations on paragraphs 5 and 6 of page 2? That is not the
case.
I shall repeat for delegations' benefit the small change in the introductory sentence of paragraph 7. My view is that it is merely a factual reflection of what we all know has occurred. The sentence would read:

"At its 102nd meeting, on 5 May, statements were made in connection with the draft agenda (A/CN.10/L.18) by the representative of the United States of America and the Chairman; subsequently, the agenda was adopted as follows:" Is that acceptable or are there comments?

Mr. Konstantinov (Bulgaria): I should like to know why reference is made to only two statements on the draft agenda whereas many others were made.

The Chairman: The other statements were in the Committee of the Whole; the statements referred to were the only two made in the plenary Commission.

Are there any observations on the remainder of page 4, paragraphs 8-10? That is not the case.

Are there observations on any of the paragraphs on page 5? That is not the case.

Are there observations on page 6 relating to part III A? That is not the case.

I shall now read out again the proposals under B, and representatives should indicate whether that will put them in a position to approve, or to comment on, the paragraphs.

Mr. García Robles (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): As I said before, my delegation needs a written text of that.

The Chairman: The printed text will be ready after lunch and we shall take it up then.

That concludes our preliminary consideration of paragraphs 1-21.

Let us now go on to paragraph 23 on page 7. Are there any comments? That is not the case.
(The Chairman)

Let us now turn to paragraph 29 - A/CN.10/1986/CRP.7 - with the minor amendment, as already adopted by the Committee of the Whole. Are there any comments? That is not the case.

There now remain paragraphs 22 and 28 in their new form. I presume that the English text of those paragraphs will be available after lunch and the texts of the other languages could be quickly amended. I shall go through them and then attempt, as speedily as possible, to adopt the report as a whole.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.