AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE WORLD
DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE
New York, 27 April 1988

DRAFT REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE WORLD DISARMAMENT
CONFERENCE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRD SPECIAL
SESSION DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

Under paragraph 6, add to the list of chairmen "Mr. Wahalatantrige Perera
(Sri Lanka) [1988- ]

In paragraph 8, at the beginning of the second sentence, after the word "the"
and before "1988" delete "second part of the"

Under "F. Conclusions and recommendations made in 1988", add the following
paragraphs:

36. The Ad Hoc Committee recognizes the continuing validity of the initiative
for the convening of a World Disarmament Conference.

37. The Ad Hoc Committee is fully aware of the important achievements in the
field of disarmament since the convening of the second special session of
the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1982. However, taking
into consideration the divergence of views as to the immediate convening
of the World Disarmament Conference, the Ad Hoc Committee has decided to
recommend to the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to
disarmament that the work of the Committee be suspended until such time
as the United Nations General Assembly deems it appropriate to reactivate
it.

At the end of paragraph 26, delete the period after the word "conference" and
insert "and obtained the following updated positions:"
"China

China has always stood for the convening of an international conference to discuss disarmament. As early as 1963, China proposed to hold a world summit conference to discuss the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. The two super Powers that possess the largest arsenals of both nuclear and conventional weapons are still continuing their arms race, posing a grave threat to world peace and security. It is therefore a matter of utmost urgency to urge them by various means to reduce their armaments. If the majority of the member States are in favour of a world conference to discuss how the two super Powers should take the lead in drastically cutting their armaments, China will be ready to support the idea.

"Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The USSR is in favour of the idea of a World Disarmament Conference which, through the collective endeavours of all States, could arrive at effective means of curbing and reversing the arms race. Accordingly, we have called repeatedly on the other nuclear Powers to adopt a constructive attitude to this question so that the opportunities afforded by the Conference should be exploited to the full. Nevertheless, the divergence of views on this matter has not yet been overcome.

In view, therefore, of the persistent differences between the nuclear Powers regarding the objectives, agenda and dates for the World Disarmament Conference, we would consider it advisable to return to the idea of holding the Conference and reactivating the Ad Hoc Committee at a later time, when the entire world community is ready for it.

"United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland does not believe that any useful purpose would be served by the convening of a World Disarmament Conference. The United Kingdom therefore continues to doubt the usefulness of further meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee. As a consequence of this view the United Kingdom suggests that the General Assembly at its Special Session be asked to discontinue meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee."