I have the honour to transmit herewith a working paper from my Government, and to request you to have it circulated as an official document of the International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development.

(Signed) Mario MOYA PALENCIO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations
Annex

WORKING PAPER SUBMITTED BY MEXICO

The draft final document submitted by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole (A/CONF.130/CW/2) constitutes a constructive effort to facilitate the future work of the Committee of the Whole on the preparation of a compromise text for consideration by the Conference. Nevertheless, it does not adequately reflect the minimum positions of the developing countries. It contains no suggestion regarding the possible establishment of a fund to channel the resources released as a result of disarmament measures to development projects in the developing countries. Likewise, it fails to include many of the positions with respect to disarmament and development which have been endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Accordingly, the text might constitute a step backwards in comparison with the compromise texts of 1974 and 1978, on the new international economic order and disarmament respectively.

Excessive importance is attached to security and to questions relating to security which are out of place in United Nations documents, and even inconsistent with the provisions of the Charter. The word "security" appears some 40 times in the text, generally unqualified by "international", thus indicating a preference for the concept of security put forward by the major military alliances to the detriment of the system of collective security envisaged in the Charter. What is more, the implication is that any future discussion of the disarmament/development relationship should include security as a constant partner.

While the historic importance of the Conference is recognized, almost nothing is suggested in the way of follow-up and implementation of the Action Programme.

The text reflects the reluctance in some quarters to accept the inclusion of figures. For example, the figure of one billion dollars a year spent on armaments is not even mentioned, although it has appeared a number of times in previous texts.

One of the Conference's objectives was to strengthen multilateralism and to consolidate 40 years of effort by the United Nations in relation to disarmament and development. The proposed text leaves much to be desired in this respect.