PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Fourth session
New York, 21 April-1 May 1987

DRAFT REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO THE
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirty-ninth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 39/160 of 17 December 1984, the operative part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Decides to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, which should be preceded by thorough preparation and should take decisions by consensus,

"2. Also decides that the purposes of the Conference should be:

"(a) To review the relationship between disarmament and development in all its aspects and dimensions with a view to reaching appropriate conclusions;

"(b) To undertake an examination of the implications of the level of magnitude of the continuing military expenditures, in particular those of nuclear-weapon States and other militarily important States, for the world economy and international economic and social situation, particularly for the developing countries, and to make recommendations for remedial measures;

"(c) To consider ways and means of releasing additional resources, through disarmament measures, for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries;

"3. Further decides to set up a Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development composed of fifty-four members, which should formulate and submit, by consensus, to the General Assembly, at its fortieth session, recommendations as to the provisional agenda, procedure, place, date and duration of the Conference."

II. FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

2. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the above resolution, the first session of the Preparatory Committee to the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development was held at United Nations Headquarters from 29 July to 9 August 1985.

3. The Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Muchkund Dubey (India);
Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Dietmar Hucke (German Democratic Republic);
Mr. Martin Huslid (Norway);
Mr. Oscar Oramas Oliva (Cuba);
Rapporteur: Mr. Bernards A. N. Mudho (Kenya).
In accordance with paragraph 3 of the resolution, the President of the General Assembly, after consultations with the Chairmen of the regional groups, appointed the following countries to be members of the Preparatory Committee: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

4. In connection with the representation of the countries of the Eastern European Group in the Preparatory Committee, the President of the General Assembly pointed out that, in the course of his consultations, the Eastern European Group had emphasized that its nomination of the six countries listed above did not imply its recognition of the so-called Economic and Social Council formula for the distribution of seats in the Preparatory Committee and that the present case should not create a precedent for future decisions on the composition of such disarmament bodies.

5. Representatives from the following States members of the Preparatory Committee participated: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia. The membership for the two seats allotted to the North African subgroup within the Group of African States was not decided upon until the end of the session.

6. The Preparatory Committee submitted by consensus its recommendations in its report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. 1/

7. By its resolution 40/155 of 16 December 1985, the General Assembly approved the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee. 2/ By paragraph 4 of the same resolution, the General Assembly decided that the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development should be held in Paris from 15 July to 2 August 1986.

8. In pursuance of paragraph 8 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General appointed Mr. Jan Martenson, Under-Secretary-General, Department for Disarmament Affairs, as the Secretary-General of the Conference.
III. SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

9. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 40/155, the second session of the Preparatory Committee was held at United Nations Headquarters from 1 to 11 April 1986. The officers elected by the Committee at its first session continued to act in that capacity (see para. 3 above).

10. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the same resolution, the second session of the Preparatory Committee was open to all States.

11. At its 1st meeting, on 1 April 1986, the Committee adopted the following agenda for the session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organization of work.
5. Amendment to rule 36 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference.
6. Invitation to non-governmental organizations.
7. Preliminary consideration of the three substantive items (8, 9, 10) included in the agenda of the Conference.
8. Exchange of views on the content and format of the final document of the Conference.
9. Decision to convene a third session of the Preparatory Committee.
10. Any other business.

12. The Preparatory Committee had before it the following background papers prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its first session: 1/

(a) Relationship between disarmament and development: a compilation of agreed formulations (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/3);

(b) Relationship between disarmament and development: a bibliographical survey of recent literature (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/4 and Corr.1);

(c) Relationship between disarmament and development: an overview of United Nations involvement (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/5);
(d) Review of the relationship between disarmament and development in all its aspects and dimensions with a view to reaching appropriate conclusions (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/6 and Corr.1 and 2);

(e) Examination of the implications of the level and magnitude of the continuing military expenditures, in particular those of the nuclear-weapon States and other militarily important States, for the world economy and the international economic and social situation, particularly for developing countries, and elaboration of appropriate recommendations for remedial measures (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/7);

(f) Consideration of ways and means of releasing additional resources through disarmament measures, for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/8 and Corr.1);

(g) Overview of events in the disarmament/development relationship field since 1981 (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/9).

13. In addition, the Preparatory Committee had before it a letter dated 31 March 1986, from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/CONF.130/PC/1), containing proposals for the Preparatory Committee.

14. Also at its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted its programme of work for the second session (A/CONF.130/PC/1986/CRP.2).

15. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 April, the Preparatory Committee took note of the activities undertaken and planned as contained in the report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the status of the preparation of the Conference (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/10 and Corr.1), including the annex listing other participants and observers attending the Conference.

16. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to delete the reference to verbatim records from rule 36 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, in view of the fact that General Assembly resolution 40/155 did not make an explicit reference to the provision of verbatim records. No summary records will be provided, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982.

17. Also at the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee took note of the document prepared by the Secretariat regarding the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Conference (A/CONF.130/PC/1986/CRP.1*), in particular the list of NGOs to be invited on the understanding that should there be further requests from NGOs, the Secretariat would proceed with the matter in consultation with the members of the bureau.

18. In accordance with its programme of work, the Preparatory Committee devoted five meetings to a general exchange of views on the three substantive items on the provisional agenda for the Conference (items 8, 9 and 10). 3/
19. On the basis of the views expressed during this general exchange of views on the three substantive items, the Chairman prepared for the consideration of the Preparatory Committee a preliminary paper containing possible elements which would be included in a final document of the Conference (A/CONF.130/PC/1986/CRP.3).

20. The Preparatory Committee devoted three meetings to an exchange of views on the content and format of a final document of the Conference on the basis of the Chairman’s paper as well as other proposals made by delegations.

21. At its 11th meeting, on 11 April, the Preparatory Committee took note of the interest expressed by NGOs and the research institutes to receive the background papers prepared for the Committee and agreed to make them available.

22. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to hold its third session from 2 to 13 June 1986 at United Nations Headquarters and recommended that regional groups should use the intervening period for consultations with a view to finalizing the composition of the Bureau of the Conference. At the same meeting, the Committee took note of document A/CONF.130/PC/2, containing a summary account of its second session.

IV. THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

23. In accordance with the decision taken at its second session, the Preparatory Committee held its third session in New York from 2 to 13 June 1986. The officers elected by the Committee at its first session continued to act in that capacity (see para. 3 above).

24. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 40/155, participation in the third session of the Preparatory Committee was open to all States.

25. At its third session, the Preparatory Committee had before it the following additional background papers submitted by the Secretary-General of the Conference:

(a) Military spending and economic structure, with reference to centrally planned economies (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/12);

(b) Military spending and the development process (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/13 and Corr.1);

(c) Military spending and economic structures, with special reference to market economies (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/14);

(d) Disarmament and employment (International Labour Organisation) (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/15);

(e) Cross-sectoral analyses of military expenditures and capital formation, productivity, economic growth and competitiveness (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/16);


/...
26. In addition, the Preparatory Committee also had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 22 May 1986 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/CONF.130/PC/3);

(b) Elements for inclusion in the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development: working paper submitted by Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CONF.130/PC/4).

27. At the 1st meeting of its third session, on 2 June 1986, the Preparatory Committee heard a statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference informing it of the completion of all the assignments entrusted to the Secretariat in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/155 and the decisions taken during the second session of the Committee. The Committee was also informed that 300 non-governmental organizations from all over the world had so far expressed their wish to be invited to the Conference. Moreover, in accordance with paragraph 23 of the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its first session, 1/ almost 200 national and international research institutes all over the world had received background papers prepared by the Secretariat. The Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat had also issued Fact Sheet No. 45 regarding the Conference. A special issue of the periodical Disarmament in spring 1986 was entirely devoted to the subject of the relationship between disarmament and development.

28. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 June, the Committee adopted the following agenda for its third session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organization of work.
4. Continuation of exchange of views on the format and content of a draft for a final document of the Conference.
5. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.
6. Any other business.

29. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to carry out its work on item 4 of the agenda in an open-ended consultative group of the Chairman. The consultative group of the Chairman held nine meetings from 4 to 11 June. The outcome of these discussions was reflected in the elements for inclusion in the final document of the Conference. These elements were adopted by the Committee, by consensus, at its 3rd meeting, on 13 June and are contained in the annex to the report of the Preparatory Committee to the forty-first session of the General
It was agreed that the elements would serve as the basis for the elaboration of the final document of the Conference. Specific proposals submitted by delegations on ways and means of releasing additional resources through disarmament measures, for development purposes, in particular in favour of developing countries, would be the subject of further consideration.

30. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 June, the Preparatory Committee recalled that in its resolution 39/160, the General Assembly had decided to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. Further, in paragraph 3 of its resolution 40/155, the Assembly had decided that the Conference should be held in Paris from 15 July to 2 August 1986.

31. The Preparatory Committee took note of the letter dated 22 May 1986, from the Permanent Mission of France addressed to the Secretary-General (A/CONF.130/PC/3).

32. In view of the fact that the Conference could not be held in Paris as scheduled, and considering that in any event it was too late to make alternative arrangements for the Conference to be held at another venue on the scheduled dates, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly to decide at its resumed fortieth session to postpone the Conference to 1987, and, at its forty-first session, to fix the specific dates in 1987 and the venue for the Conference (see A/40/1131).

33. The Preparatory Committee further recommended that the General Assembly, at its forty-first session, decide to convene one more session of the Committee before the Conference.

34. It was understood that in fixing the dates for the International Conference, the General Assembly would, in accordance with established practice, take into account the schedule of other activities in the field of disarmament and development within the framework of the United Nations in 1987.

35. At the 133rd plenary meeting of its fortieth session, on 20 June 1986, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee, decided to postpone the Conference until 1987 (General Assembly decision 40/473).

V. FOURTH SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

36. At its forty-first session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee, and in conformity with General Assembly decision 40/473 of 20 June 1986:

    "(a) To hold the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 24 August to 11 September 1987;

    "(b) To convene the Preparatory Committee for one more session from 21 April to 1 May 1987;
"(c) To request the Member States and the Secretary-General of the Conference, based on the information in the report of the Preparatory Committee concerning the results so far achieved in the substantial and organizational preparation for the Conference, to continue and intensify their participation in the final stage of the preparatory process, especially in making available their views and proposals on substantive issues, in order to ensure the best possible success of the Conference." (General Assembly decision 41/422).

37. In accordance with the above-mentioned decision, the Preparatory Committee held its fourth session in New York from 21 April to 1 May 1987. The officers elected by the Committee at its first session continued to act in that capacity (see para. 3 above).

38. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 40/155, participation in the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee remained open to all States.

39. At its fourth session, the Preparatory Committee had before it the following additional background papers submitted by the Secretary-General of the Conference:

(a) Relationship between disarmament and development, a bibliographical survey of recent literature (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/4/Add.1);

(b) Overview of events in the disarmament-development relationship field since 1985 (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/9/Add.1);

(c) Additional background information provided by the international atomic energy agency (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/30);

(d) Background information provided by the World Health Organization (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/21).

40. In addition, the Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Views and comments of the twelve States members of the European Community presented in accordance with General Assembly decision 41/422 of 4 December 1986; working paper submitted by the Belgian delegation on behalf of the twelve States members of the European Community (A/CONF.130/PC/5);

(b) Elements for Inclusion in the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development; working paper submitted by the Chinese delegation (A/CONF.130/PC/6).

41. At the 1st meeting of its fourth session, on 21 April 1987, the Preparatory Committee heard a statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference on the activities undertaken in pursue of General Assembly decision 41/422. The Committee was also informed that the Department for Disarmament Affairs in co-operation with the Department of Public Information, had continued to give the widest possible dissemination of information on the Conference and its preparatory work, and to incorporate the theme of "disarmament and development" in the meetings...
of experts and regional seminars held within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign. Similarly, the relationship between disarmament and development figured prominently as a theme in the activities carried out for the observance of the International Year of Peace.

42. Also at its 1st meeting, on 21 April 1987, the Committee adopted the following agenda for the session:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Continuation of the work for preparing the draft final document of the Conference.
4. Consideration and adoption of the report to the Conference.
5. Other business.

43. The Committee carried out its work on item 3 of its agenda in ... open-ended informal meetings. A draft final document (.........) emerged on the basis of the views expressed on the agreed elements contained in the annex to the report of the Preparatory Committee to the forty-first session of the General Assembly. 4/ The Committee decided to transmit this draft for the consideration of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. This draft is contained in annex III to this report.

44. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the report of the Preparatory Committee to the forty-first session of the General Assembly, 4/ the Committee recommends that NGOs invited to participate in the Conference be given the opportunity to make oral statements in accordance with rule 44 of the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference. Bearing in mind the practice with some United Nations conferences similar in nature to the International Conference, the Committee further recommends that some fixed time at the end of some of the meetings of the Committee of the Whole of the Conference be assigned for statements by non-governmental organizations.

45. The Preparatory Committee recommends that the moderator of the Panel of Eminent Personalities be invited to present their Joint Declaration at the Conference.

46. The Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference, in co-operation with the Department of Public Information, to intensify the activities designed for publicizing the Conference as a major global political undertaking. In this connection, it suggested that the message of the Conference should be brought home to public opinion all over the world, and for this purpose all available means, including the international and national public media should be utilized. Governments of the countries participating in this Conference were urged to extend their full co-operation in this regard.
Notes


2/ Ibid., sect. III.

3/ Ibid., para. 11.