

**REPORT
OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FIRST SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 51 (A/41/51)



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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 and 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** 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 Hücke (German Democratic Republic)
Mr. Martin Hvalid (Norway)
Mr. Oscar Oramas Oliva (Cuba)

Rapporteur : Mr. Bernard A. N. Mudho (Kenya)

4. The Preparatory Committee submitted by consensus its recommendations to the Central Assembly at its fortieth session. 1/

5. At its fortieth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 40/155 of 16 December 1985, by which it approved the recommendations contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee. 2/ By paragraph 4 of the same resolution, the General Assembly decided that the Conference should be held in Paris from 15 July to 2 August 1986.

6. 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

7. 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**, held in New York from 29 July to 9 August 1985, continued to act in that capacity.

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

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

1. **Opening of the session.**
2. **Adoption of the agenda.**
3. **Organization of work.**
4. **Status of the preparation of the Conference:** report of the Secretary-General of the Conference.
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 a final document of the Conference.**
9. **Decision to convene a third session of the Preparatory Committee.**
10. **Any other business.**

10. 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).

11. 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.

12. At the 1st meeting of its second session, on 1 April, the Preparatory Committee adopted its programme of work for that session (A/CONF.130/PC/1986/CRP.2).

13. 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.

14. 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 the verbatim records. No summary records will be provided, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982.

15. 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.

16. 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/

17. 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).

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. 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

21. 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.

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

23. 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);

(f) Prospects for developing countries, 1986-1995 (World Bank) (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/18).

24. In addition, the Preparatory Committee had before it the text of the joint declaration by the panel of eminent personalities in the field of disarmament and development (A/CONF.130/PC/INF/17 and Corr.1) unanimously adopted by the panel on 18 April 1986. The Panel was convened by the Secretary-General of the Conference in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 40/155.

25. 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).

26. At the 1st meeting of its third session, on 2 June, 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 decision 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.

27. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 June, the Committee adopted the following agenda for the 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.

28. 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 with the Chairman. The consultative group of the Chairman held nine meetings between 4 to 11 June. The outcome of these discussions is reflected in the elements for inclusion in the final document of the Conference listed in the annex to the present report. These elements were adopted by the Committee, by consensus, at its 3rd meeting, on 13 June. 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.

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

30. 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).

31. 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).

32. 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.

33. It is 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.

Notes

No. 51 1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement
(A/40/51).

2/ Ibid., sect. III.

3/ Ibid., para. 11.

Elements for inclusion in the final document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development

1. Disarmament and **development**; two of the most urgent **challenges** facing the world **today**; both interrelated **through** security.
2. Central role of the United Nations for the promotion of both disarmament and **development**; long history of the consideration **of** their interrelationship **by** the United **Nations**; the International Conference, a **landmark** in this **process**; succinct summary of the purpose of the **Conference**.
3. Brief description of the present situation with **regard** to both disarmament and **development**; reference to the **obligations** of the Charter of the United Nations and consensus on the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (resolution **S-10/2**), **as** reaffirmed by the Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, and International Development Strategy for the **1980s**, **including** that on priorities, principles and objectives in these two areas.
4. Disarmament and development are distinct processes; both strengthen peace and security and promote prosperity. Each to be pursued vigorously regardless of the pace of **progress** in the other; one should not be made a hostage to the other.
5. Disarmament and development are **closely** interrelated. Description of rationale and the nature of this **interrelationship**; the rationale that (a) each of them could have an impact on the regional and global situation in such a way as to create an environment conducive to the promotion of the **other**; (b) **continuing** arms race and development compete for the **same** finite resources both at the national and international level.
6. Global and regional framework within which the relationship between disarmament and development should be **considered**; (a) interdependence of **nations** and **issues**; (b) mutuality of **interests**; and (c) collective security.
7. Relationship between disarmament and development through **security**; description of the way this relationship works.
8. Reference to the collective security provisions of the Charter, pursuit of security by **nations** on their **own**; its implications for the security of others and for the general security environment.
9. Arms race and international **security**; military threats to **security**; their enumeration.
10. Development and international **security**; non-military threats to **security**; their enumeration.
11. Broad framework within which the **relationship** between disarmament, **development** and security should be **shaped**; collective, interrelated and multilateral approach.
12. Levels, **magnitude**, trends and projections of global military expenditure.

13. State of the world economy, the position of the developing countries in it, and high levels of military expenditures.
14. Implications of military expenditure⁸ for national economies - both developed and developing; opportunity costs; impact on macro-economic variables.
15. Implications of military expenditures for the world economy) impact on global macro-economic variables mainly through interrelationship between issues and interdependence among States.
16. Release of additional resources through disarmament measures, for socio-economic purposes, as a way of giving practical expression to the relationship between disarmament and development. Need for a conscious political decision by all States, particularly the major military spenders, to ensure that a Part of the resources released through disarmament measures are devoted to economic and social development, with a view to bridging the economic gap between developed and developing countries.
17. Possibility of redeploying human and other resources from military to civilian purposes. Consideration of preparations for adjustment to change in patterns of demand.
18. Responsibility of all States to promote disarmament and development. Primary responsibility of major military Powers, particularly those with the largest arsenals, in the field of disarmament; need for international support for the developmental efforts of developing countries.
19. Reiteration of commitment to international co-operation and multilateralism as a means of promoting disarmament and development.

Action programme

1. A reaffirmation of the commitment of States to the objectives of disarmament and development, need for specific measures towards this end.
2. Need to ensure an effective and mutually reinforcing relationship between disarmament and development and to give practical expression to this through specific measures at the global and regional levels in these and related fields with a view to strengthening international peace and security.
3. Reaffirmation of the international commitment to allocate a portion of the resources released through disarmament, for purposes of socio-economic development, with a view to bridging the economic gap between developed and developing countries.
4. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in promoting disarmament and development and on interrelated perspective on these issues within the overall objective of promoting international peace and security.
5. Support by all Member States of efforts by the United Nations to undertake global analysis, on a regular basis, of the impact of military expenditure⁸ on the world economy and the international economic system.

6. **Assessments** by the Governments concerned of the **political and security requirements and of the economic and social consequences** of the level of their **military spending so as to keep public opinion informed on this subject** and on the **problems of reducing these expenditures.**

7. **Efforts** by Governmante concerned to **assess** the nature and volume of **resources** which may be released through arms **limitation and diaarmament measures.**

8. **Undertaking studies and planning for conversion, identifying and publiciaing benefits of conversion; international exchange of experience in this fields role of the United Nations.**

9. **Role of informed public opinion in helping promote the objectives of disarmament, development and security throughout the world.**

10. **Provieione on follow-up and the monitoring of the implementation of the decisions of the Conference.**

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