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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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and 67 of the provisional agenda*

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE

NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

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DEVELOPMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-first year

Letter dated 14 August 1986 from the Permanent Representatives
of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United
Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

We have the honour to request you to have circulated among Member States the Mexico Declaration adopted by His Excellency Mr. Raúl Alfonsín, President of Argentina, His Excellency Mr. Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece,

* A/41/150,

His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico, His Excellency Mr. Inqvar Carlsson, Prime Minister of Sweden, and His Excellency Mr. Julius Nyerere, First President of the United Republic of Tanzania, on 7 August 1986 at Ixtapa, Mexico, as an official document of the General Assembly (annex I) under items 49, 50, 56, 57, 59, 62, 6.7, 64 and 67 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

With the same purpose, we enclosed copies of the letters addressed on the same date to His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (annex II), and His Excellency Mr. Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America (annex III), by His Excellency Mr. Raúl Alfonsín, President of Argentina, His Excellency Mr. Andreas Papandréou, Prime Minister of Greece, His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico, His Excellency Mr. Inqvar Carlsson, Prime Minister of Sweden, and His Excellency Mr. Julius Nyerere, First President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

(Signed) Marcelo DELPECH
Permanent Representative of
Argentina to the United Nations

(Signed) Dimitrios NEZERITIS
Acting Permanent Representative of
Greece to the United Nations

(Signed) Natarajen KRISHNAN
Permanent Representative of
India to the United Nations

(Signed) Mario Moya PALENCIA
Permanent Representative of
Mexico to the United Nations

(Signed) Sten STRÖMHOLM
Acting Permanent Representative
of Sweden to the United Nations

(Signed) Wilbert K. CHAGULA
Permanent Representative of the
United Republic of Tanzania to
the United Nations

ANNEX I

Mexico Declaration adopted at Ixtspa on 7 August 1986

We are meeting today to proclaim Humanity's Right to Peace, and to reiterate our commitment to the task of protecting this right so that the human race may endure.

Exactly 41 years ago, death and horror descended upon Hiroshima. The most dreadful war in history came to an end, and the world's nuclear nightmare began. Since then we have lived on borrowed time. All that is precious and beautiful, all that human civilization has reached for and achieved, could, in a short time, be reduced to radioactive dust.

For four decades the nuclear-weapon States have had almost sole responsibility to end the nuclear-arms race, while the rest of the world has been forced to stand anxiously on the sidelines. The nuclear-arms race has continued and become more intense. In the face of the consequent danger of common annihilation, the distinction between the powerful and the weak has become meaningless. We are therefore determined that countries such as ours which possess no nuclear arsenals will be actively involved in all aspects of disarmament. The protection of this planet is a matter for all the people who live on it; we cannot accept that a few countries should alone decide the fate of the whole world.

The recent tragic accidents at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and at the launching of the Challenger space shuttle have shown once again how fragile is any security based on complex technology alone. And when an accident at a peaceful nuclear power plant has such great international repercussions, everyone can see very clearly the terrible consequences which would result from the use of even a small fraction of the nuclear armaments which now exist in the world. If a repetition of Hiroshima on a global scale is to be prevented, it is not merely more knowledge or new technologies which are needed, but more wisdom. We call for a binding international agreement which outlaws every use of nuclear weapons.

In January 1985 our Group met in New Delhi to consider the perilous development of the nuclear-arms race. We called for an immediate halt to nuclear testing preparatory to a comprehensive test-ban treaty, for a cessation in the production and development of all nuclear weapons and delivery systems as well as for a prohibition on the testing, production and deployment of space weapons. We also expressed our hope that the United States and the Soviet Union would make rapid progress in their bilateral negotiations towards the abolition of all nuclear weapons. We have since welcomed the declaration of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in November 1985, that "a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought". Now is the time to ensure that such a war does not occur. We are therefore deeply concerned about the lack of evident progress so far in these negotiations.

We are aware, however, that both Powers have recently taken different steps that could help to overcome some obstacles and serve as a new framework for reaching agreements. We are convinced that security is not improved by increasing

the capacity for destruction through the accumulation of weapons; on the contrary, true security is better ensured through the reduction of armaments. Nuclear disarmament, and ultimately the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, is an absolute priority. However, in this context, the problem of a balanced reduction in the conventional weapons must also be given appropriate attention.

We remain convinced that no issue is more urgent and crucial today than bringing to an end all nuclear tests. Both the qualitative and the quantitative development of nuclear weapons exacerbate the arms race, and both would be inhibited by the complete abolition of nuclear weapons testing.

Furthermore, it is clear that continued development of nuclear weapons by those who already possess them is detrimental to the efforts to prevent the acquisition of nuclear weapons by other States which have until now refrained from acquiring them. We must recognize that, just as a drug addict cannot be cured by injecting him with more and more drugs neither can an arms-addicted world be saved from war by an infinite accumulation of weapons. The time to stop is now.

In October 1985 and February 1986, and again in April this year, we have exchanged correspondence with President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. We urged them to undertake a fully verifiable suspension of nuclear testing, at least until their next summit meeting. We also proposed that this suspension should be immediately followed by negotiations for the conclusion of a comprehensive test-ban treaty. We offered our assistance to help ensure adequate verification of such a halt in tests.

We have been encouraged by the consideration which has been given to our approach and by the international attention which the nuclear test issue has been accorded. We continue to urge that what has so far been a unilateral moratorium by one of the two major nuclear States should soon become at least a bilateral moratorium.

To facilitate an immediate cessation of nuclear testing we are presenting in a separate document a concrete offer of assistance to achieve adequate verification arrangements (see attachment 1). We are prepared to participate in co-operative efforts together with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to establish temporary measures. These could greatly enhance confidence in a United States-USSR moratorium and constitute important steps towards the establishment of an adequate verification system for a comprehensive test-ban treaty. Such measures could include the establishment of temporary monitoring stations at existing test sites, arrangements for utilizing existing stations in the United States and the Soviet Union for monitoring their territories outside the test sites, as well as inspections of large chemical explosions. We welcome that the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have started bilateral talks recently on nuclear testing issues. We have decided to propose to the leaders of the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that experts from our six nations meet with Soviet and American experts. The purpose should be to explain in detail our proposals, to discuss how they could be implemented, and to explore other possible ways in which our six countries could facilitate test-ban verification. We are further strengthening our mutual

co-operation with a view to monitoring and announcing ongoing test activities. And our six nations will also consider steps by which the non-nuclear-weapon States may co-operate in international verification arrangements related to future nuclear disarmament agreements.

We reiterate our demand that an arms race in outer space be prevented. Space belongs to humanity, and as participants in this common heritage of mankind, we object to the outer space of our earth being misused for destructive purposes. It is particularly urgent to halt the development of anti-satellite weapons, which would threaten the peaceful space activities of many nations. We urge the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union to agree on a halt to further tests of anti-satellite weapons, in order to facilitate the conclusion of an international treaty on their prohibition. Our New Delhi warning that the development of space weaponry would endanger a number of agreements on arms limitation and disarmament is already proving to be justified. We stress that the existing treaties safeguarding the peaceful uses of outer space, as well as the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-ballistic Missile Systems, be fully honoured, strengthened and extended as necessary in the light of more recent technological advances.

Unfortunately in recent times respect for international law has reached one of its lowest ebbes. Rights of weaker nations are being trampled upon with impunity. Treaties are being violated to suit the convenience of nations, especially the strongest among them. It is imperative, if the efforts to move towards nuclear disarmament are to make progress, that the United Nations must be strengthened and its Charter as well as treaties relating to disarmament be observed in both letter and spirit.

The equandering of the world's limited resources on armaments stands in sombre and dramatic contrast to the permanent malnutrition leading to a life in misery and an early death - to say nothing of the ever-present threat of famine - which is the lot of millions of people on earth. Poverty and economic hopelessness also constitute a threat to international peace and security. This threat is aggravated in many developing countries in which the external debt problem reduces still further their ability to allocate sufficient resources for dealing with the urgent and fundamental needs among their people. The transfer of resources from military expenditure to economic and social development is therefore a fundamental necessity of our times.

Our message from Mexico is to urge the leaders of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to continue and to reinvigorate the dialogue which they started last year; to set a firm date for a new meeting between them; and by an approach of mutual compromise and conciliation to ensure that such dialogue leads to practical results in the field of disarmament. Each side has the capacity to destroy the world many times over. There can be no suggestion that either would be showing weakness by a willingness to be conciliatory. The spirit of Geneva must be revived and strengthened. And we stress again our determination to try to facilitate agreement between the nuclear-weapon States, and to work with them, as well as with all other nations, for the common security of humankind and for peace.

Once again, we urge people, Parliaments and Governments the world over to give active support to our appeal. Every individual has a right to peace and a responsibility to strive for it. Neither together nor separately can the peoples of the world remove the horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki from human memory, but together we can and we must remove this looming horror from our future.

(Signed) Raúl ALFONSIN
President of Argentina

(Signed) Miguel de la MADRID HURTADO
President of Mexico

(Signed) Andreas PAPANDEOU
Prime Minister of Greece

(Signed) Ingvar CARLSSON
Prime Minister of Sweden

(Signed) Rajiv GANDHI
Prime Minister of India

(Signed) Julius NYERERE
First President of the United
Republic of Tanzania

ATTACHMENT

Document on Verification Measures issued at the Mexico Summit
on 7 August 1986

1. It is the responsibility of the nuclear Powers to halt nuclear testing as a significant step to curb the nuclear-arms race. The United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, being the TWO major nuclear Powers, have a special responsibility to initiate the process of nuclear disarmament by immediately halting their nuclear testing. To facilitate such an immediate step the six nations of the Five Continent Initiative are prepared to assist in the monitoring of a mutual moratorium or a test ban.

2. We are prepared to participate in co-operative efforts together with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and also to take certain steps on our own to facilitate the achievement of adequate verification arrangements.

Verification of a moratorium in co-operation with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

3. In our view, sane temporary measures could greatly enhance confidence in a United States of America-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics moratorium and would constitute important steps towards the establishment of an adequate verification system for a comprehensive test-ban treaty.

Possible monitoring of test sites

4. To provide assurance that the test sites, which are well equipped for nuclear testing and where the effects of nuclear explosions are well known, are not used for clandestine testing, we consider the establishment of temporary monitoring facilities at existing test sites to be an important measure.

5. The three test sites recently used, Nevada in the United States and Semipalatinsk and Novaya Zemlya in the Soviet Union, are quite small geographically and could be monitored by a limited number of seismic stations placed in these two countries at or close to each test area.

6. Rapidly to establish temporary stations at the test sites, available portable seismic equipment would have to be used. Five to eight interconnected stations placed around each test area would be adequate. Some of the stations at the test sites could also be equipped with instruments interchanged between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to enhance mutual confidence.

7. In connection with a mutual halt in nuclear testing, our six nations are prepared to establish promptly and in co-operation with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, temporary monitoring stations at existing test sites and to operate them for an initial period of one year. All

data should be available to the six nations, the United States and the Soviet Union. Data analysis could be a joint undertaking and preliminary analysis would be done at the sites. Monitoring of test sites by instruments installed on-site would provide an extremely high sensitivity down to small fractions of kiloton and even tons of explosives.

8. It is expected that a number of earthquakes would be detected at the test sites. The numbers and sizes will vary between the three sites. To reduce the risk of misinterpreting such shallow earthquakes as being nuclear explosions, a scheme of on-site inspection at the test sites could be envisioned. This would be most important during the initial period while experience is gained at the actual sites. Our six nations are prepared to participate in such inspections conducted in co-operation with the host country.

Possible monitoring of the territories of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics outside the test sites

9. To provide assurance that nuclear explosions are not conducted and that natural earthquakes are not misinterpreted as clandestine nuclear test explosions, events all over the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics would have to be monitored.

10. There are areas of the two countries, in addition to the test sites, that might be considered to be more important to monitor than others. The possibilities of conducting unnoticed tests are for example increased by the availability of large cavities or unconsolidated rock which reduce the strength of the seismic signals. Other possible areas of importance are regions of shallow seismicity. It might be desirable to establish specific verification arrangements in some of these areas) and our six nations are prepared to co-operate with the United States and the Soviet Union on this issue.

11. There is today a large number of seismological stations, established to record local earthquakes, both within the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Some of these stations might not be equipped at present with the most modern or high sensitivity instruments and they might not be sited in an optimal way to monitor a moratorium or a comprehensive test ban. They are however operational today and could initially be of great value in rapidly improving the present monitoring capability. A major question is to assure the authenticity of the measurements obtained at these stations.

12. This could be achieved by "internationalizing" a number of selected stations, tentatively 20 to 30, in each of the two countries by placing observers from our six nations at these stations. Their task would be to verify that the instruments are properly operated and that all information obtained is reported without omission. We are prepared to work out the necessary arrangements, which could be made with little delay and to contribute observers for an initial period of one year.

13. To replace these temporary measures with permanent arrangements, our experts are ready to co-operate with experts of the United States and the Soviet Union in

the development of permanent verification facilities at test sites, and also in the development of an optimal network of internal stations in the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Possible inspection of large chemical explosions

14. To ensure that large chemical explosions conducted during a moratorium are not misinterpreted as nuclear tests, we are prepared to establish, together with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, procedures for on-site inspections of large chemical explosions and to take part in such inspections.

Activities by our six countries independently of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

15. In order to pave the way for the establishment of efficient Verification measures, our six countries will take a number of technical actions independently of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. We shall be strengthening our mutual co-operation with a view to monitoring and announcing ongoing test activities. This will involve rapid exchange of data related to presumed explosions as well as informal technical consultations about the nature of observed events. Our countries will jointly publish yearly statistics on test activities in the nuclear-weapon States. To this end, efforts are also being made further to improve our national verification facilities to achieve an even higher and balanced monitoring capability with regard to existing test sites.

16. We will also support the establishment of an international verification system by actively participating in the ongoing work on such a system by the Group of Scientific Experts at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. Our six nations will also consider steps by which the non-nuclear-weapon States may co-operate in international verification arrangements related to future nuclear disarmament.

Expert discussions with the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

17. We have proposed to the leaders of the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that experts from our six nations meet with Soviet and American experts. The purpose should be to explain in detail the proposals put forward in this document, to discuss how they could be implemented, and to explore other possible ways in which our six countries could facilitate test-ban verification.

ANNEX IT

Letter dated 7 August 1986 from the President of Argentina, the Prime Minister of Greece, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Mexico, the Prime Minister of Sweden, and the First President of the United Republic of Tanzania addressed to the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

In our letters to you of 24 October 1985, 28 February and 10 April 1986, we expressed our fervent hope for the successful outcome of the current negotiations between your country and the United States.

YOU will recall that we called upon both yourself and President Ronald Reagan to undertake a mutual suspension on nuclear testing, at least until your next summit meeting. We wish to express to you our sincere appreciation for having unilaterally extended your suspension of all nuclear tests.

As you know we have been meeting in Ixtapa, Mexico, over the past two days to discuss ways in which we might be able to help facilitate progress in arms control and disarmament. We have adopted today the Mexico Declaration, the text of which will be duly transmitted to you.

We believe that we are in a position to make a contribution in the field of verification. We have outlined in a separate document some concrete ideas with respect to how we could assist in such verification.

We welcome the fact that the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have started bilateral talks recently on nuclear testing issues. We wish to propose to you that experts from our six nations meet with you and the American experts. The details of time and place could be arranged through mutual consultation. The purpose should be to explain in detail the proposals which we have presented, to discuss how they could be implemented, and to explore other possible ways in which our six countries could facilitate test-ban verification. We suggest a very open agenda covering any verification issue that your experts may consider important. We hope that by making this invitation to both you and President Reagan we might be able to assist in this crucial field.

(Signed) Raúl ALFONSÍN
President of Argentina

(Signed) Miguel de la MADRID HURTADO
President of Mexico

(Signed) Andreas PAPANDEOU
Prime Minister of Greece

(Signed) Ingvar CARLSSON
Prime Minister of Sweden

(Signed) Rajiv GANDHI
Prime Minister of India

(Signed) Julius NYERERE
First President of the United
Republic of Tanzania

ANNEX III

Letter dated 7 August 1986 from the President of Argentina, the Prime Minister of Greece, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Mexico, the Prime Minister of Sweden, and the First President of the United Republic of Tanzania addressed to the "resident of the United States of America"

In our letters to you of 24 October 1985, 28 February and 10 April 1986, we expressed, among other concerns, our fervent hope for the successful outcome of the current negotiations between your country and the Soviet Union.

We are encouraged by your replies, and we thank you for the detailed and concrete ideas which you outlined on the question of nuclear testing.

As you know, we have been meeting in Ixtapa, Mexico, over the past two days to discuss ways in which we might be able to help facilitate progress in arms control and disarmament. We have today adopted the Mexico Declaration, the text of which will be duly transmitted to you.

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(Signed) Raúl ALFONCIN
President of Argentina

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Prime Minister of Greece

(Signed) Ingvar CARLSSON
Prime Minister of Sweden

(Signed) Rajiv GANDHI
Prime Minister of India

(Julius) N Y E R E R E
First President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
