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Report of the
Disarmament Commission

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Report of the Disarmament Commission

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NOTE

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I. INTRODUCTION


"Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission, 1/

"Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth special session,

"Noting the support for the proposal to include a new item in the agenda of the 1993 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission, entitled 'General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction',

"Also noting the support for consideration of the inclusion of a new item in the agenda of the 1994 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission, entitled 'International arms transfer, with particular reference to resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991',

"Recognizing the need to improve further the effective functioning of the Disarmament Commission, and bearing in mind the experience of the 1992 substantive session, when the agenda item on objective information on military matters was successfully concluded,

"Recalling its resolution 46/38 A of 6 December 1991,

"1. Takes note of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission;

"2. Commends the Disarmament Commission for its adoption by consensus of a set of guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, 2/ which were recommended to the General Assembly for consideration, pursuant to the adopted 'Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission'; 3/

"3. Notes with satisfaction that the Disarmament Commission has successfully implemented its reform programme and has made considerable progress on other substantive items on its agenda;

"4. Recalls the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

"5. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 4/ and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted 'Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission';
"6. Stresses the importance for the Disarmament Commission to work on the basis of a relevant agenda of disarmament topics, thereby enabling the Commission to concentrate its efforts and thus optimize its progress on specific subjects in accordance with resolution 37/78 H;

"7. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1992 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1993 substantive session:

"(1) Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;

"(2) Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security;

"(3) The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields;

"8. Also requests that the Disarmament Commission, at the aforementioned organizational meeting, consider the following matters:

"(a) The objective of moving the agenda of the Disarmament Commission to a three-item phased approach with one item in the first year of consideration, one item in its middle year and one item in its concluding year, with the result that, in principle, one item is added and one item is concluded, respectively, at each substantive session;

"(b) That, in furtherance of the foregoing, the 1993 substantive session should be considered as a transitional year and therefore should consider whether:

"(i) Two items on the current agenda, namely, those items referred to in paragraph 7 (2) and (3) above, respectively, should be concluded;

"(ii) One item, namely, that referred to in paragraph 7 (1) above, should be held over for conclusion at the next substantive session in 1994;

"(iii) One new item should be included in the substantive agenda;

"9. Further requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1993 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, 5/ together with all the official records of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

"11. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services to that end;

"12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled ‘Report of the Disarmament Commission’."
2. The Disarmament Commission met at United Nations Headquarters and held three meetings (A/CN.10/PV.171-173) on 8 December 1992, 23 March and 14 April 1993, for its organizational session. During that session, the Commission considered questions related to the organization of work for its 1993 substantive session in accordance with the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission" (A/CN.10/137), and in the light of General Assembly resolution 47/54 A of 9 December 1992. The Commission took up the question of the election of its officers, taking into account the principle of rotation of the chairmanship among the geographic regions, and elected its Chairman and eight Vice-Chairmen as well as its Rapporteur. The Commission considered and agreed on the provisional agenda for the 1993 substantive session (see para. 8 below). The Commission decided to establish a Committee of the Whole and three working groups to deal with the three substantive items on the agenda and appointed the Chairmen of the Working Groups. The Commission further decided that its next substantive session be held from 19 April to 10 May 1993.

3. During the organizational session, the Commission decided to adopt the three items which were recommended in paragraph 7 of resolution 47/54 A for consideration at its 1993 substantive session. With regard to the request contained in operative paragraph 8 (a) of that resolution, the Commission decided to adopt the three-item phased approach.

4. In accordance with paragraph 8 (b) (i) of resolution 47/54 A, the Commission decided to conclude at its 1993 substantive session the items entitled "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security" and "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields". In accordance with paragraph 8 (b) (ii), it also decided to hold over for conclusion at the next substantive session in 1994 the item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons".

5. With reference to operative paragraph 8 (b) (iii) of the resolution, the Commission did not reach agreement on the inclusion of one new item in the substantive agenda for 1993. At its meeting held on 14 April 1993 (A/CN.10/PV.173), the Commission decided that, at the organizational session to be held late in 1993 in preparation for the 1994 substantive session of the Commission, it would consider, along with other proposals that may be made, the proposal to include in the substantive agenda for 1994 the two items mentioned in the third and fourth preambular paragraphs of resolution 47/54 A, namely, the items entitled "General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction" and "International arms transfer, with particular reference to resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991".
II. ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE 1993 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION

6. The Disarmament Commission met at United Nations Headquarters from 19 April to 10 May 1993. In the course of its session, the Commission held eight plenary meetings (A/CN.10/PV.174-181) under the chairmanship of Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro (Brazil). Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung, Senior Political Affairs Officer of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, Department of Political Affairs, served as Secretary of the Disarmament Commission.

7. During the 1993 session, the Bureau of the Commission was constituted as follows:

   Chairman: Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro (Brazil).

   Vice-Chairmen: Representatives from the following States:

      Benin    Ireland
      Bulgaria Mauritius
      Canada   Mongolia
      Ecuador  Republic of Korea

   Rapporteur: Mr. Stefan Füle (Czech Republic)

8. At its 174th plenary meeting, on 19 April 1993, the Commission adopted its agenda (A/CN.10/L.32), as follows:

   1. Opening of the session.
   2. Adoption of the agenda.
   3. Organization of work.
   4. Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons.
   5. Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security.
   6. The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields.
   8. Other business.

9. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its general programme of work for the session (A/CN.10/1993/CRP.1) and decided to allocate four meetings to a general exchange of views.

10. On 19 and 20 April, the Disarmament Commission held a general exchange of views on all agenda items (A/CN.10/PV.174-177).

11. In accordance with the decision taken at its 1992 organizational session, the Disarmament Commission entrusted Working Group I with the mandate of dealing with agenda item 4, entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of
12. The Commission entrusted Working Group II with the mandate of dealing with agenda item 5, entitled "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security". Working Group II met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Wolfgang Hoffmann (Germany) and held 19 meetings between 21 April and 7 May.

13. The Commission entrusted Working Group III with the mandate of dealing with agenda item 6, entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields". Working Group III met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Luvsangiin Erdenechuluun (Mongolia) and held six meetings between 21 April and 7 May. The Working Group decided to establish a drafting group under the chairmanship of Ambassador Peggy Mason (Canada), which held 13 meetings.

14. At its 180th plenary meeting, on 10 May, the Disarmament Commission considered the reports of Working Groups I, II, and III on agenda items 4, 5, and 6 respectively. The reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein are included in section IV of the present report.

15. In accordance with past practice of the Disarmament Commission, some non-governmental organizations attended the plenary meetings as well as meetings of the Committee of the Whole.
III. DOCUMENTATION

A. Documents submitted by the Secretary-General

16. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 47/54 A, the Secretary-General, by a note dated 8 April 1993, transmitted to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, together with all the official records of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters (A/CN.10/174).

B. Other documents, including documents submitted by Member States

17. In the course of the Commission’s work, the documents listed below, dealing with substantive questions, were submitted.

18. A working paper entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields" was submitted by Cuba (A/CN.10/175).

19. A working paper entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields: The transfer of high technology with military applications" was submitted by Brazil and Canada (A/CN.10/176).

20. A working paper entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields: Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security" was submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/177).

21. A working paper entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" was submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/178).

22. A letter was submitted by the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission, on the subjects of "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" and "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security" (A/CN.10/179).

23. A working paper entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" was submitted by the Russian Federation (A/CN.10/180).

24. A letter was submitted by the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission, on the subjects of "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons" and "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security" (A/CN.10/181).

25. A letter was submitted by the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Disarmament Commission, on the subjects of "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of
nuclear weapons" and "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security" (A/CN.10/182).

26. A number of other working papers dealing with substantive questions were also submitted by Member States to the Working Groups, which are referred to in the reports.
27. At its 180th plenary meeting, on 10 May, the Disarmament Commission adopted by consensus the reports of its subsidiary bodies and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein regarding agenda items 4, 5, and 6. The Commission agreed to submit the texts of those reports, reproduced below, to the General Assembly.

28. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted, as a whole, its report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

29. The report of Working Group I on agenda item 4 reads as follows:

"Report of Working Group I on agenda item 4

1. The Disarmament Commission, at its 171st meeting, on 8 December 1992, decided to establish Working Group I to deal with agenda item 4 regarding 'Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons', pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/54 A.

2. In connection with its work, Working Group I had before it the following documents:

(a) Working paper submitted by Argentina (A/CN.10/148);
(b) Working paper submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/157);
(c) Working paper submitted by Pakistan (A/CN.10/158);
(d) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/166);
(e) Letter dated 16 April 1992 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary of the Disarmament Commission (A/CN.10/167);
(f) Working paper submitted by Portugal on behalf of the European Community and its member States (A/CN.10/172);
(g) Working paper submitted by Ireland (A/CN.10/173);
(h) Working paper submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/178);
(i) Working paper submitted by South Africa (A/CN.10/179);
(j) Working paper submitted by Russian Federation (A/CN.10/180);
(k) Working paper submitted by Cuba (A/CN.10/1992/WG.II/WP.1);
(l) Working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/1992/WG.II/WP.2);
(m) Working paper submitted by Egypt (A/CN.10/1992/WG.II/WP.3);
(n) Working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/1992/WG.II/WP.4);
(o) Working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/1992/WG.II/WP.5);
3. The Working Group met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Victor Batiouk (Ukraine) and held five meetings between 22 April and 6 May 1993. Mr. Timur Alasaniya of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, Department of Political Affairs, served as Secretary of the Working Group. The Chairman also conducted informal consultations during this period.

4. At the beginning of the first meeting, on 22 April, the Chairman made an introductory statement.

5. At the same meeting, the Working Group decided to base its work on the working papers and other relevant documents presented by the Member States at the 1991, 1992 and 1993 sessions of the Disarmament Commission.

6. The Chairman compiled these working papers and other relevant documents and statements into the Chairman’s suggestions for the ‘Guidelines and Recommendations for Nuclear Disarmament’ (as contained in A/CN.10/1993/WG.I/CRP.4) and ‘Compilation of statements by the Delegations during the General Debate concerning nuclear disarmament issues’ (A/CN.10/1993/WG.I/CRP.3).

7. Based on four subjects agreed at the 1992 session of the Disarmament Commission and the discussions at the present session, the Chairman proposed the following general outline for ‘Guidelines and recommendations for the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security with the objective of elimination of nuclear weapons’ (A/CN.10/1993/WG.I/CRP.5):

   I. General Overview

   (a) The relationship between the process of nuclear disarmament and international peace and security;

   (b) Review and assessment of recent developments in the process of nuclear disarmament.

   II. Mechanisms for nuclear disarmament.

   III. The role of the United Nations system in the process of nuclear disarmament.

   IV. Principles and Recommendations
Conditions and measures required for strengthening the process of nuclear disarmament.

"8. The debate on the general outline was constructive and forward-looking. During the deliberations of the Working Group the vital importance and urgency of disarmament, in general, and nuclear disarmament, in particular, were reaffirmed in the new political and security environment, with a view to achieving the ultimate goal of elimination of nuclear weapons. Even though there was a continuing divergence of views on major substantive issues, the focus on specific issues has provided a useful springboard for the work of the Group in its final year.

"9. As a result of the discussion of the general outline, the Chairman proposed to the Group the following programme of action: having in mind the time constraint at the present session and the requirement to conclude the consideration of this item at the 1994 session, the Chairman, based on all working papers and other relevant documents, will prepare a draft text of the Chairman’s paper and circulate it by the beginning of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly. That paper will be on his responsibility and will serve solely as a basis for beginning the substantive work of the 1994 session of the Disarmament Commission. This approach enjoyed the wide support of the Group.

"10. It was agreed that the Chairman would hold informal consultations during the intersessional period and convene a meeting of the Group for that purpose in October/November 1993.

"11. At its 5th meeting on 6 May, the Group agreed to annex the following document to the present report (annex I):

"Conference room paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.I/CRP.5);


"12. The Group also made reference to the following documents which could contribute to the work in 1994:


"(b) Conference room paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.I/CRP.4): Chairman’s suggestions for the ‘Guidelines and Recommendations for Nuclear Disarmament’ (compilation of working papers, other relevant documents and statements);


"13. At its 5th meeting, on 6 May, the Working Group adopted by consensus the present report to the Disarmament Commission."

30. The report of Working Group II on agenda item 5 reads as follows:
"Report of Working Group II on agenda item 5

1. The Disarmament Commission, at its 171st meeting, on 8 December 1992, decided to establish Working Group II to deal with agenda item 5 entitled 'Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security' pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/54 A.

2. In connection with its work, Working Group II had before it the following documents:

(a) Working paper on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/CN.10/149);

(b) Working paper on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by Austria (A/CN.10/151);

(c) Working paper on China’s basic position on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by China (A/CN.10/152);

(d) Working paper on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by Ecuador (A/CN.10/153);

(e) Working paper on regional disarmament and global security: elements for a regional approach to arms control and disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by the Netherlands on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community (A/CN.10/154);

(f) Working paper on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by Pakistan (A/CN.10/158);

(g) Working paper on the relationship between disarmament and global security, and principles and guidelines for regional disarmament and arms control initiatives, submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/162);

(h) Working paper on the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons, and regional disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by South Africa (A/CN.10/167);

(i) Working paper on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by Cuba (A/CN.10/168);

(j) Document on the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons and on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by South Africa (A/CN.10/179);

(k) Document on the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons and on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by South Africa (A/CN.10/181);

(l) Document on the process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons and on a regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security, submitted by South Africa (A/CN.10/182);
(m) Consolidated paper reflecting the Chairman’s papers of previous sessions as contained in annex III of document A/46/42 and annexes III and IV of document A/47/42 (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/CRP.1);

(n) Chairman’s working paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.1 and Rev.1 and 2);

(o) Chairman’s working paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.2) and Rev.1 and 2);


3. Working Group II met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Wolfgang Hoffmann (Germany) and held 19 meetings between 21 April and 7 May 1993. Mr. Lin Kuo-Chung of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, Department of Political Affairs, served as Secretary of the Working Group and Ms. Carolyn Cooper from the same Office acted as Deputy Secretary. The Chairman of the Working Group also conducted a number of informal consultations during this period.

4. At its first meeting, on 21 April, the Working Group decided to take the consolidated paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/CRP.1), reflecting the Chairman’s papers of the Working Group on the subject in previous years, as the basis for further deliberations, taking into consideration new proposals to be submitted.

5. At the same meeting, the Working Group agreed to proceed with its consideration of the subject in a structured manner under the following five topics: (a) relationship between regional disarmament and global security and arms limitation and disarmament; (b) principles and guidelines; (c) ways and means; (d) machineries and modalities; and (e) role of the United Nations.

6. The Working Group first focused on the last three topics (para. 5). As a result of the deliberations, a Chairman’s working paper was issued for further consideration (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.2). Thereafter, the Working Group proceeded to consider the first two topics of the subject before it on the basis of a working paper that had been submitted by the Chairman (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.1). The Working Group then further reviewed the last three topics on the basis of the Chairman’s second working paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.2). On 6 May, the Working Group proceeded to a final consideration of the subject as a whole, on the basis of the Chairman’s third working paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.II/WP.3).

7. At its 19th meeting, on 7 May, the Working Group adopted by consensus its report to the Disarmament Commission on agenda item 5. The Working Group also adopted by consensus the text on the subject entitled "Guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security" (see annex II).

31. The report of Working Group III on agenda item 6 reads as follows:

"Report of Working Group III on agenda item 6"

1. The Disarmament Commission, at its 171st meeting, on 8 December 1992, decided to establish Working Group III to deal with agenda item 6, entitled 'The role of science and technology in the context of international
security, disarmament and other related fields’, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/54 A.

"2. In connection with its work, Working Group III had before it the following documents:

"(a) Working paper submitted by Argentina and Brazil (A/CN.10/145);

"(b) Working paper submitted by India (A/CN.10/147);

"(c) Working paper submitted by China (A/CN.10/150);

"(d) Working paper submitted by the Netherlands on behalf of the European Community and its member States (A/CN.10/155);

"(e) Working paper submitted by Colombia (A/CN.10/156);

"(f) Working paper submitted by Austria (A/CN.10/159);

"(g) Working paper submitted by Canada (A/CN.10/163);

"(h) Working paper submitted by Portugal on behalf of the European Community and its member States (A/CN.10/165);

"(i) Working paper submitted by Colombia (A/CN.10/169);

"(j) Working paper submitted by Canada (A/CN.10/170);

"(k) Working paper submitted by Brazil (A/CN.10/171);

"(l) Working paper submitted by Cuba (A/CN.10/175);

"(m) Working paper submitted by Brazil and Canada (A/CN.10/176);

"(n) Working paper submitted by Australia (A/CN.10/177);

"(o) Clustered compilation of working papers provided to Working Group IV in 1991 and 1992 (A/CN.10/1992/WG.IV/CRP.1);

"(p) Working paper submitted by the Chairman of Working Group III as a basis for discussion (A/CN.10/1993/WG.III/CRP.1/Rev.5);

"(q) Discussion paper submitted by Canada (A/CN.10/1992/WG.IV/INF.1).

"3. The Working Group met under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Luvsangiin Erdenechuluun (Mongolia) and held six meetings between 21 April and 8 May 1993. Mr. Mohammad K. Sattar of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, Department of Political Affairs, served as Secretary of the Working Group. Ms. Lucy Webster from the same Office acted as Deputy Secretary. The Chairman of the Working Group also conducted a number of informal consultations. At its 4th meeting, on 27 April, the Working Group decided to establish a Drafting Group, which held 13 meetings, under the chairmanship of Ambassador Peggy Mason (Canada), with the task of drafting a text on the subject for adoption.

"4. At its 1st meeting, on 21 April 1993, the Working Group decided to base its deliberations on a working paper presented by the Chairman, which was prepared on the basis of the text contained in the report of the Working Group on the subject during the 1992 session of the Disarmament
Commission, as well as on the working papers tabled by Member States during the 1993 session of Working Group III.

"5. During extensive deliberations on proposed guidelines and recommendations on 'The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields', considerable progress was made in reconciling differences of view on a large number of issues. However, differences of opinion remained on a number of issues and, accordingly, at its 6th meeting on 8 May 1993, the Working Group decided to recommend that the item entitled 'The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields' be included in the agenda of the Disarmament Commission for conclusion at its 1994 session. That recommendation was made on the understanding that the working paper (A/CN.10/1993/WG.III/CPR.1/Rev.5) presented under the responsibility of the Chairman and containing draft guidelines and recommendations on 'The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields' (see annex III), could serve as a basis for further work, without prejudice to the position of any delegation.

"6. At its 6th meeting on 8 May, the Working Group adopted by consensus the present report to the Disarmament Commission."

Notes

2/ Ibid., annex I.
4/ General Assembly resolution S-10/2.
6/ Ibid.
ANNEX I

General outline for Guidelines and Recommendations for the Process of Nuclear Disarmament in the Framework of International Peace and Security with the Objective of the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

1. General overview:
   (a) The relationship between the process of nuclear disarmament and international peace and security;
   (b) Review and assessment of recent developments in the process of nuclear disarmament.


3. The role of the United Nations system in the process of nuclear disarmament.

4. Principles and recommendations: conditions and measures required for strengthening the process of nuclear disarmament.
ANNEX II

Guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security

I. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN REGIONAL DISARMAMENT, ARMS LIMITATION AND GLOBAL SECURITY

1. Regional and global approaches to disarmament and arms limitation complement each other and both should be pursued simultaneously in order to promote regional and international peace and security.

2. The regional approach to disarmament and arms limitation is one of the essential elements in global efforts to strengthen international peace and security.

3. Effective measures for disarmament and arms limitation at the global level, particularly in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, as well as in the field of conventional weapons, have a positive impact on regional disarmament and arms limitation efforts.

4. Regional measures on disarmament and arms limitation may take into account the relationship between security in the region and international security as a whole, bearing in mind that the scope and extent of such measures could be affected by extraregional factors.

5. Regional measures on disarmament and arms limitation should lead to the relaxation of tension in the region concerned, and may have a positive bearing outside the region.

6. Regional and interregional agreements on disarmament and arms limitation should enhance global security.

7. Global agreements on disarmament and arms limitation should enhance regional security.

8. Regional measures on disarmament and arms limitation contribute to the achievement of goals and principles for disarmament at the global level.

II. PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

9. Any regional arrangement for disarmament and arms limitation should be in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

10. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should be consistent, inter alia, with the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, which includes not only armed intervention, but also other forms of interference, as such arrangements have to be freely agreed upon by the States concerned.

11. Regional disarmament efforts should be pursued in a fair, reasonable, comprehensive and balanced manner.

12. The States participating in regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should define, as appropriate, the region to which the arrangements among them apply.
13. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should be open to the participation of all the States concerned and agreed freely among them on the basis of the principle of the sovereign equality of all States.

14. Any regional approach to disarmament and arms limitation has to take into account the specific conditions and characteristics of the region.

15. Regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation should take into account the necessity to address broader, non-military factors which may affect security.

16. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation may also free resources of participating States for peaceful purposes, *inter alia*, the promotion of economic and social development of States.

17. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should have no harmful effects on the security of other States.

18. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should give priority to the elimination of the most destabilizing military capabilities and imbalances, including, where appropriate, in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

19. Regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation can interact positively with other initiatives of a region to enhance its security.

20. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should contribute to increasing security and stability in the region at the lowest possible level of armaments and armed forces and on the basis of undiminished security for all the participating States.

21. With regard to nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, the establishment of regional arrangements to prevent proliferation in all its aspects contributes to regional and international peace and security.

22. Where appropriate, regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation with a view to eliminating nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction would contribute to regional and international peace and security.

23. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should, taking into account the specific conditions and characteristics of the region, address in all its aspects the question of the accumulation of conventional weapons beyond the legitimate self-defence requirements of States.

24. Regional approaches and arrangements should seek to address all aspects of disarmament and arms limitation considered to be necessary by all of the participating States in the region and relevant to the specific security situation of the region concerned, and should use step-by-step approaches whenever appropriate.

25. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should be pursued with particular urgency in regions where tensions and the accumulation of armaments are such as to pose serious threats and thus endanger regional and international peace and security.

26. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation can produce a favourable atmosphere conducive to political settlement of regional disputes or conflicts.
27. The peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and other concrete actions to ease regional tensions and build confidence among the States of the region can create a political environment conducive to promoting agreements on disarmament and arms limitation.

28. Regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation should promote transparency and openness in military matters in order to build confidence among the States of the region concerned.

29. Regional arrangements for disarmament and arms limitation should include appropriate verification measures, as agreed upon by the parties concerned, to ensure compliance.

30. Extraregional States should respect regional agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and, where appropriate, consider entering into binding undertakings to complement such regional agreements.

31. Regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation should take into account the need to give due priority to eradicating the illicit trade in all kinds of weapons and military equipment, a most disturbing and dangerous phenomenon often associated with terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, mercenary and other destabilizing activities.

III. WAYS AND MEANS

A. Confidence- and security-building measures

32. Appropriate confidence- and security-building measures which foster mutual trust and understanding, as well as transparency and openness, can defuse tensions and promote friendly relations among States. Furthermore, such measures can facilitate the disarmament and arms limitation process and can improve the prospects for the peaceful settlement of disputes, thus contributing to maintaining and enhancing regional and international peace and security.

33. For confidence- and security-building measures at the regional level, attention is drawn to the "Guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level", as adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 43/78 H of 7 December 1988). a/ Account could also be taken, as appropriate, of the experiences gained through the implementation of measures and guidelines designed for the global level, as adopted by the General Assembly, as well as of measures developed in some regions. An illustrative list of measures and guidelines is attached in the annex.

34. Bearing in mind the need to maintain and develop an integrated approach to international peace and security, regional arrangements aimed at building security and confidence need not be confined to the military field, but could, as appropriate, also extend to the political, economic, social, environmental and cultural fields.

35. If felt necessary, verification of confidence- and security-building measures could be considered, devised and adopted by the participating States.

36. In addition to regional confidence- and security-building measures, interregional ones could be adopted.
B. Disarmament and arms limitation agreements

37. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements should come from within the region, take into account the specific conditions and characteristics of the region, and be open to all States of the region.

38. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements should seek to ensure security and stability at the lowest level of armaments and armed forces on the basis of undiminished security of States and eliminate the capability for large-scale offensive action and surprise attacks. States should not seek an armament and military spending level that exceeds their legitimate self-defence requirements.

39. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements may include those aimed at facilitating the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons in the context of global efforts to this end, and at eliminating other weapons of mass destruction and, inter alia, their delivery systems, and should, as appropriate, complement such agreements at the global level.

40. States are encouraged to conclude regional agreements to regulate the acquisition of arms in order to prevent the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, without undermining the legitimate self-defence capability of the States concerned.

41. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements should aim to reduce armaments and military forces to the lowest possible level on the basis of undiminished security of States. Forces thus reduced should be demobilized and weapons, equipment and facilities above permitted levels within a region should be disposed of by means of destruction, or, where appropriate, conversion. Those weapons and facilities should neither be adapted to other weapons systems nor redeployed in other regions, nor lead to increased arms transfers to other regions.

42. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements should seek to include all types of armed forces, their installations and armaments present in the region, including those from States inside and outside the region, without prejudice to the inherent right of States to individual and collective self-defence.

43. In support of efforts for disarmament and arms limitation, States within and outside the region should exercise effective control over their weapons and military equipment, their arms imports and exports, to prevent them from getting into the hands of individuals or groups engaged in the illicit arms trade.

44. The consensus text of recommendations on conventional disarmament which was adopted by the General Assembly in 1990 should serve as a general guideline for all States in their regional approach to arms limitation and disarmament.

45. Regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements should include appropriate verification measures devised by the parties to such agreements. The 16 principles of verification adopted by the General Assembly in 1988 should be observed by all States in their efforts in implementing regional disarmament and arms limitation agreements.
C. Zones of peace

46. The establishment of zones of peace and cooperation in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in conformity with international law, can, if appropriately defined and agreed upon by interested States, contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole.

D. Zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction

47. The establishment of zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure. The process of establishing such zones, in appropriate parts of the world, should be encouraged to promote non-proliferation and to contribute to the attainment of the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. In the process of establishing such zones, the characteristics of each region should be taken into account. The States participating in such zones should undertake to comply fully with all the objectives, purposes and principles of the agreements or arrangements establishing the zones, thus ensuring that they are genuinely free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

48. In order to contribute to the effectiveness of zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, extraregional States should respect the status of such zones. Extraregional States that may have undertaken commitments to such zones should fully comply with them and, in the case of nuclear-weapon States, refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against the States in these zones.

E. Consultative and cooperative arrangements

49. The establishment of regional consultative fora on peace, security, cooperation and development may facilitate regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation.

50. Regional and interregional arrangements for cooperation and exchange of information could be considered. In this context, the knowledge and understanding on the regional level about the most destabilizing weapons and military capabilities could assist in the conclusion of regional agreements on disarmament and arms limitation.

IV. ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

51. In carrying out its role in the field of disarmament, the United Nations should seek to promote complementarity between regional and global processes of disarmament by establishing effective liaison and cooperation with relevant regional bodies. The United Nations can contribute to the regional disarmament and arms limitation process, inter alia, by:
(a) Facilitating regional disarmament efforts in cooperation with other appropriate United Nations bodies and international organizations;

(b) Collecting and disseminating information on disarmament and arms limitation, including the experience of the United Nations in carrying out activities related to the maintenance of international peace and security;

(c) Promoting greater openness in military matters through the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations standardized system of reporting on military expenditures;

(d) Facilitating the functions of the existing United Nations Regional Centres;

(e) Serving as a source of expertise in disarmament and arms limitation;

(f) Organizing and, where appropriate, coordinating conferences on regional disarmament issues, including confidence- and security-building measures;

(g) Assisting, where regional arrangements so provide, in verifying compliance.

52. The recommendations on the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament which were adopted by the General Assembly in 1990 should serve as useful guidelines for enhancing the role of the United Nations with respect to regional approaches to disarmament and arms limitation.

APPENDIX

Illustrative list of confidence- and security-building measures

1. Measures and guidelines as adopted by the General Assembly

(a) United Nations standardized system of reporting on military expenditures (1980);

(b) United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (1991);

(c) Guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters (1992).

2. Measures developed and implemented in some regions

(a) Confidence- and security-building measures in the political, economic, social, environmental and cultural fields;

(b) Exchange of information on armed forces and military activities;

(c) Dissemination of militarily relevant information, for example, on arms transfers and military budgets;

(d) Inspections, observations and visits to military facilities and activities, including overflight regimes;
(e) Regional seminars on security-related issues, such as military doctrines, confidence- and security-building measures, illegal arms traffic, transfers of conventional arms;

(f) Establishment of effective communications between military and political authorities of different States;

(g) Establishment of regional security institutions charged with a variety of tasks affecting the security of States in a region, such as conflict prevention, arms control, elimination of illegal arms traffic.

Notes

ANNEX III

Chairman’s working paper on draft guidelines and recommendations on "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields"

Introduction

a. The fruits of human endeavours in scientific and technological achievements should be used for the benefit of all mankind, promote sustainable economic and social development of States and safeguard international security. States should, therefore, help promote international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes.

b. While scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications, science and technology per se are deemed to be neutral. Their application for peaceful purposes should be promoted.

c. Qualitative improvements in science and technology with military applications have implications for international security; in this regard, States should assess carefully the impact of the use of science and technology on international security.

d. States are entitled to apply science and technology in the exercise of individual or collective self-defence which is recognized by the United Nations Charter.

e. (The world expenditure in armaments including for the cold war arms race, as well as for the application of high technology for military purposes has engulfed large amounts of human, material and financial resources. In the new atmosphere of international relations, effort should be made to use such resources (primarily) for peaceful purposes.)

f. The excessive accumulation by States of armaments, including high-technology weapons, is a destabilizing factor that can contribute to, or aggravate, conflict situations.

g. Science and technology can enhance international security by, inter alia, contributing substantially to the implementation of disarmament agreements.

h. International transfers of high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes are important for the economic and social development of States.

i. Member States have been invited by the General Assembly under resolution A/47/44 to widen multilateral dialogue, bearing in mind the proposal for seeking universally acceptable international norms and guidelines that would regulate international transfers of high technology with military applications.

j. (The international community should seek to maximize the positive impact and minimize the negative impact of the use of science and technology on international security.)

k. (Applications of science and technology relevant to weapons of mass destruction, as well as conventional weapons leading to a quantitative build-up or qualitative improvement of arms which threaten international
security are a matter of great concern (and should be addressed in an appropriate manner). (Accordingly, concrete measures at the national and international levels are required to address them.)

1. (Negotiations on disarmament and arms limitation and disarmament agreements, including on weapons of mass destruction, should when necessary include the consideration of specific provisions on their qualitative aspects.)

Consistent with its universal nature, and its fundamental purposes in promoting international peace and security, as well as in achieving international cooperation in scientific, technological, economic and social development and its role in the field of disarmament, the United Nations is an appropriate forum for consideration of issues on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields. Accordingly, the United Nations Disarmament Commission recommends for consideration the following guidelines and recommendations:

I. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

1. States should be encouraged to take appropriate measures to promote the process of transparency and greater openness in relation to research which may have dual-use application in order to facilitate the peaceful use of the results, while at the same time safeguarding national security information.

2. The application of science and technology relevant to weapons of mass destruction, as well as conventional weapons, should not lead to a quantitative build-up or qualitative improvements of arms which threaten international security.

3. Measures taken by States to apply science and technology in the exercise of their right to individual and collective self-defence, which is recognized by the United Nations Charter, should have the purpose of strengthening the necessary capability of such self-defence.

4. States could encourage the adoption and implementation of universally acceptable and non-discriminatory measures with respect to greater openness and transparency related to high technology with military applications.

5. In order to assess and seek to forecast the impact of science and technology on international security, States should have in place appropriate structures and are encouraged to exchange experience and information in this field.

II. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DISARMAMENT

6. The application of science and technology for disarmament purposes should be promoted. The positive potential of science and technology for disarmament can be applied, _inter alia_:

- To contribute to confidence-building by providing the means to achieve greater transparency in military matters, based upon agreements reached by States concerned;
- By providing arms disposal techniques for weapons of mass destruction, as well as conventional weapons, that are safe, secure, cost-effective and environmentally sound;
- By enhancing the possibilities for verification of compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements as provided for therein;
- By facilitating the process of conversion of military capacity to civilian use.

7. Concrete examples of such applications in the implementation of agreed provisions of existing or future disarmament and arms limitation agreements could include the possibility of establishing a global seismological network as an important means to support verification of any future comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty; the use of analytical equipment for detecting the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons; (adequate forms) of satellite and aerial monitoring of relevant equipment or forces under (bilateral, regional or multilateral agreements) (including, as appropriate, under the auspices of the United Nations).

8. International cooperation in the application of science and technology for disarmament purposes should be strengthened and, in this regard, access to disarmament-related technologies should be encouraged, bearing in mind the need to prevent proliferation in all its aspects as well as the objective of conversion of military capacity to civilian use.

9. International cooperation should be encouraged with respect to the production of disarmament-related technical equipment with the purpose, inter alia, of reducing the costs of implementing arms limitation and disarmament agreements.

III. THE TRANSFER OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY WITH MILITARY APPLICATIONS

10. States should be encouraged to promote international transfers of high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes, which are important for the economic and social development of all States.

11. Commitment to, and fulfilment of, comprehensive and balanced objectives of non-proliferation in all its aspects pertaining to the acquisition or transfer of high technology relevant to weapons of mass destruction are essential for the maintenance of international security and for the promotion of transfers of such technologies for peaceful purposes.

12. (With a view to enhancing international security and promoting cooperation in the transfer of high technology for peaceful purposes, relevant legal instruments negotiated by the international community pertaining to the acquisition of high technology with military applications should be adhered to by the parties to such instruments (and wider participation should be promoted).)

13. States should adopt and implement national measures, consistent with international law, regulating the transfer of high technology with military applications in order to seek to ensure that such transfers do not undermine international security, and that access is not denied to high technology, products, services, and know-how for peaceful purposes.

14. In this context, measures taken in the field of transfer of high technology with military applications should aim to contribute to the implementation
of commitments undertaken by the States concerned under international legal
instruments not to acquire or transfer weapons of mass destruction, and
should seek to ensure that transfers of related equipment and technologies
are for peaceful purposes.

15. (All States should support (such) (existing) arrangements and increased
participation should be welcomed and encouraged.)

16. (Export control) Measures taken by suppliers in the field of the transfer
of high technology with military applications should be in accordance with
the universally accepted and multilaterally negotiated non-discriminatory
(export control regimes) (legal instruments).

17. Norms and guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military
applications should take into account legitimate requirements for the
maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that they
do not deny access to high-technology products, services and know-how for
peaceful purposes.

18. (States are invited (in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/44)
to widen multilateral dialogue bearing in mind the proposal for seeking
universally acceptable international norms and guidelines that would
regulate international transfers of high technology with military
applications.)

19. The effectiveness of legal instruments pertaining to transfers of high
technology with military applications, could be strengthened through
multilateral dialogue. Such dialogue should aim, inter alia, at
strengthening confidence among States and contributing to widening support
for international cooperation at this field.

20. Cooperation in this field among supplier and recipient States should be
enhanced by a firm common commitment to prevent transfers of high
technology with military applications for exclusively peaceful purposes
from being diverted to non-peaceful uses. Such cooperation should be based
on clearly defined and balanced rights and obligations, appropriate
measures of transparency and verification, equity and fairness and
predictability of incentives and benefits.

IV. THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN OTHER RELATED FIELDS

21. Bearing in mind the role of science and technology in the context of
international security, disarmament and the transfer of high technology
with military applications, every effort should be made to apply scientific
and technological resources currently dedicated to military ends to related
activities in other fields such as economic and social development,
conversion, the protection of the environment and other peaceful purposes.

22. States should seek opportunities to convert military resources and
production facilities to civilian use when decisions are taken to reduce
military equipment and armaments, thereby strengthening international
security.

23. As conversion offers to many economies the prospect of significant
long-term benefits, States should be encouraged to engage in international
dialogue on the application of science and technology for conversion with a
view to facilitating the formulation and successful implementation of
national policies.
24. (Bearing in mind the legitimate security needs of all States, they should make every effort to (redirect) (utilize) (apply) resources from related high technology with military application to economic and social development, the protection of the environment and other peaceful purposes.)

25. States should be encouraged to engage in international cooperation concerning the potential civilian uses of, and access to, high technology with military applications for the protection of the environment such as environmentally sound weapons disposal and dismantlement of military facilities.

26. Appropriate measures should be adopted to ensure that scientific and technological advances with military applications are environmentally sound.

V. ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

27. The United Nations can contribute within existing mandates to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes, inter alia, by:

(a) Encouraging exchanges of views and cooperation among Member States, inter alia, on:

(i) National measures undertaken to forecast the impact of science and technology on international security;

(ii) Advances in disarmament-related applications of science and technology;

(iii) Applications of science and technology for conversion of military resources and production facilities to civilian uses;

(b) Disseminating information relating to the above-mentioned fields;

(c) Promoting international dialogue through conferences, symposiums and seminars, where appropriate, and other related activities on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields;

(d) Promoting and disseminating the above guidelines and recommendations;

(e) Bringing these guidelines and recommendations to the attention of relevant United Nations and other bodies in the field of disarmament.
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