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REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Regional disarmament

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/39/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 15 December 1983, the General Assembly adopted resolution 38/73 J on regional disarmament, the operative part of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. Takes note also of the fact that, at the request of the States having participated in the Madrid meeting of representatives of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, held from 11 November 1980 to 9 September 1983, on the basis of the provisions of the Final Act relating to the follow-up to the Conference, the Government of Spain has transmitted the Concluding Document of this meeting to the Secretary-General;

"3. Expresses its satisfaction, in this connection, at the convening at Stockholm of the Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe commencing on 17 January 1984, as a substantial and integral part of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe;

"4. Takes note also of the proposals made in the context of regional disarmament since the adoption of its resolution 37/100 F;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly regularly informed of the implementation of resolution 37/100 F, as well as of the activities carried out by the Secretariat, in particular the Department for Disarmament Affairs, and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in the field of the regional approach to disarmament;

"6. Decides to include in the agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled 'Regional Disarmament: report of the Secretary-General'."

2. The activities of the Secretariat and of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research are contained in sections II and III of the present report.

II. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE SECRETARIAT

3. On 6 July, the Secretary-General addressed the Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, held at Stockholm.

4. During the period covered by the present report, the activities of the Secretariat relevant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/73 on the regional approach to disarmament included the following:

(a) The Department for Disarmament Affairs, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), organized a regional seminar on Disarmament Education for the Americas, at Caracas from 4 to 7 October 1983. The seminar considered, among other things, various means of promoting disarmament education in the region.

(b) The Department for Disarmament Affairs also organized a regional Conference within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign at Leningrad, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, from 11 to 15 June 1984, with participants from Europe, the United States of America and Canada. The subjects discussed included the prevention of nuclear war and confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe.

(c) Responding to an invitation from the Government of Togo, the Department for Disarmament Affairs participated in the National Seminar for Peace and Disarmament held at Lomé from 6 to 9 August 1984. The Seminar, among other issues, considered subjects relating to regional and sub-regional peace and security.

(d) Within its programme of information activities and also as a contribution to the World Disarmament Campaign, the Department of Public Information organized, from 26 to 28 March 1984 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, an Inter-Regional World Mass Media Leaders' Round Table. In addition to disarmament, the topics discussed covered issues of particular interest to the African region as well as of general interest for the maintenance of international peace and security.

(e) Preparations are proceeding with a view to the convening, at Cairo, of a regional seminar for Africa on disarmament issues. The Seminar, to be organized by the Department for Disarmament Affairs under the World Disarmament Campaign programme, is expected to take place in February 1985.

(f) At the invitation of some Member States, representatives of the Department for Disarmament Affairs visited a number of countries in various regions and carried out consultations on disarmament-related issues, including matters of specific regional relevance.

III. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH

5. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research undertook the following activities relevant to the provisions of resolution 38/73 of 15 December 1983 on the regional approach to disarmament:

(a) Establishment of an International Disarmament Fund for Development

In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 37/84 of 9 December 1982, UNIDIR has carried out a study on the modalities of an international disarmament fund for development, which is before the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (A/39/229). Additionally, UNIDIR has prepared a technical paper on the regional approach to the establishment of an

international disarmament fund for development. This paper was deposited in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library at United Nations Headquarters in New York and in the Library of the Palais des Nations at Geneva.

(b) Study on South Africa's nuclear capability

In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 38/181 A of 20 December 1983, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, prepared a report providing data on the continued development of South Africa's nuclear capability (see A/39/470).

(c) Security of States and the lowering of the levels of armaments

This is a continuous project, the objective of which is to analyse prevailing security concepts and doctrines in different countries and different regions. Three new studies have been prepared within this project: (i) the security policy of Austria; (ii) the denuclearization of the Balkans - a Romanian perspective; (iii) Conceptual issues related to European security arms control and confidence-building measures.

(d) Disarmament and security in Europe

Preparations are continuing for convening of a regional conference on disarmament and security in Europe.

(e) Africa: Disarmament-Development-Security

Preparations are also in progress for convening a regional conference on "Africa: Disarmament-Development-Security".

(f) Participation in conferences

The staff of the Institute participated in conferences dealing with regional disarmament issues, some within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign.
