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MEASURES TO MOBILIZE WORLD PUBLIC OPINION IN FAVOUR OF DISARMAMENT

World-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures  
to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament

Report of the Secretary-General

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\* A/S-12/10.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", resolution 36/92 J, the operative part of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

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"1. Invites Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions concerning world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the most appropriate format and methods of carrying out such world-wide action under the auspices of the United Nations, taking into account the views and suggestions of Member States, and to submit it for consideration to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament."

2. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of the resolution, the Secretary-General submits herewith the replies received from Member States concerning their views and suggestions. He observes that in view of the fact that relatively few States submitted replies in connexion with the above-mentioned resolution, it would be perhaps too early to formulate a specific position concerning the questions involved. At the same time, the Secretary-General notes the possibility raised in the replies received of relating resolution 36/92 J to the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign which will be actively considered by the General Assembly at its Second Special Session devoted to disarmament as a subitem of agenda item 13 entitled "Measures to mobilize world public opinion in favour of disarmament".

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BULGARIA

[Original: Russian]

[9 April 1982]

1. At its tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, the General Assembly recognized the important positive role which broad international public opinion could play in support of efforts to limit the arms race and achieve disarmament. The Final Document of the session 1/ laid particular emphasis on the need to take specific measures to mobilize world public opinion on behalf of disarmament. This task is extremely important in the light of the current international situation, when there is a sharply increased threat of nuclear war.
2. At its thirty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted two resolutions aimed at putting into practice the recommendations of the Final Document on this subject: resolution 36/92 C on the conduct of the World Disarmament Campaign and resolution 36/92 J on organizing world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament.
3. The People's Republic of Bulgaria supported the initiative of Mexico on carrying out the World Disarmament Campaign, considering it to be an important way of acquainting broad sectors of public opinion throughout the world with the dangers inherent in the arms race and with the efforts being made to avert those dangers. Bulgaria will be active in promoting the success of the Campaign, which will undoubtedly mobilize world public opinion in favour of practical measures for arms limitation and disarmament.
4. The same aspiration underlay the initiative concerning world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, put forward jointly by the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Mongolian People's Republic at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly. Putting this idea into practice would serve as a powerful stimulus for timely and effective efforts to solve the most important problem now confronting mankind - that of eliminating the impending threat of a nuclear catastrophe. It would help in creating the most favourable conditions possible to stimulate talks and to achieve progress on the most relevant and urgent problems of disarmament, by making broad sectors of the public participate in efforts to that end. Therefore Bulgaria hopes that further practical progress on this issue will be unanimously supported by the States Members of the United Nations.
5. In the opinion of Bulgaria, the following basic ideas could be taken into account when deciding on the format and methods of carrying out such action:

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1/ Resolution S-10/2.2.

(a) It would be more appropriate if the world-wide action were carried out as part of the World Disarmament Campaign. That would best promote the successful achievement of the basic tasks of both initiatives - the mobilization of world public opinion behind efforts for peace and disarmament. As one of the measures in the World Campaign, the collection of signatures would also be a suitable means for providing on a large scale information on disarmament issues (for example, concerning the document or documents which will be adopted by the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament);

(b) It would also be appropriate if such action were carried out separately in each country, so that specific local conditions could be taken into account;

(c) The results of the world-wide action should be universalized by a single central agency. The most suitable solution would be to entrust the task to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(d) In order to make it possible to universalize the results of the world-wide action, it should be carried out under the same appeal in all countries. That appeal should call for immediate practical action to achieve the disarmament goals recognized by all States Members of the United Nations;

(e) In order to universalize the results of the world-wide action, it would be desirable to carry it out during the same period for all countries and provide sufficient time for its preparation and execution on a global scale;

(f) The world-wide action should not replace or interfere with the execution of other similar measures which are already being carried out or are planned in specific countries to be carried out on a local basis;

(g) The world-wide action ought to be carried out under the auspices of the United Nations with the active participation of non-governmental and other social organizations. Governments, if they so desire, could participate, where possible, in the organization and conduct of the action, but in any event, the very least they can do is to promote its implementation.

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[12 April 1982]

1. Increasingly broad sections of the population in different countries of the world understand how complex and critical the present international situation is and are worried about how events will develop. The mass anti-war movement is the natural reaction of right-thinking people to the adoption by certain States of a policy aimed at disrupting the existing balance of power in the world and achieving military supremacy, a policy which is the root cause of the dangerous escalation of the arms race. The inhuman doctrines put forward by these States concerning the acceptability of nuclear war, and of a "limited" nuclear war, are likely to further undermine international stability and to increase the danger of war, since it is

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only a small step from the idea that nuclear war is possible or, even more so, that it is inevitable to the concepts of "preventive war" and "preventive attack". In these circumstances, the United Nations made an important and timely move by adopting the Declaration on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe, in which the General Assembly proclaimed that States and statesmen that resorted first to the use of nuclear weapons would be committing the gravest crime against humanity.

2. Mindful of the bitter lessons of previous world wars and aware of the terrible dangers of a thermo-nuclear conflict, the people of the world are increasingly determined not to allow a new tragedy to occur. It is the conscience of mankind, concerned about its future, that is behind the present anti-war movement. That is how the Byelorussian SSR sees the essence and purpose of the movement.

3. The experience of history shows that a broad popular movement in favour of eliminating the threat of war and promoting disarmament contributes enormously towards creating the conditions and climate necessary for States to take practical steps in that direction; it also advances slogans and initiatives which are relevant to the world community. The movement to safeguard peace has become a significant element in international and domestic politics.

4. Given the growing threat of war, it is important that people know the truth about how disastrous for mankind the consequences of a nuclear war would be. In this connexion, the proposal of the Soviet Union for the establishment of a competent international committee of prominent scientists representing different countries which would show how vital it is to avert nuclear catastrophe, is extremely relevant.

5. The voice of world opinion must be heard, and the United Nations cannot stand idly by, especially as the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament called directly for the mobilization of world public opinion on behalf of disarmament.

6. In the view of the Byelorussian SSR, General Assembly resolutions 36/92 J on the collecting of signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, and 36/92 C on a World Disarmament Campaign, both of which it supported, are a natural development of the corresponding provisions of the Final Document.

7. The growing threat of nuclear war and the continuation and escalation of the arms race mean that the entire world community is confronted with the task of taking urgent measures to avert a nuclear catastrophe, which might result in the destruction of mankind. In the view of the Byelorussian SSR the efforts to accomplish that task should be made at all possible levels - at the highest political level, at the level of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and at the level of each conscious and right-thinking individual. Given the scale and importance of the task before the world, these efforts must be combined. The idea of a world campaign for collecting signatures is extremely timely in present circumstances. The desire of peoples to influence their own fate is entirely legitimate. The collection of signatures for an appropriate appeal on behalf of disarmament will give world public opinion important leverage to influence the corresponding efforts of States and will enable it to take direct part in the struggle for a peaceful future for mankind.

8. The United Nations already has experience of proclaiming and carrying out campaigns which provide for the widest participation of public opinion, such as Disarmament Week, the days of solidarity with the struggle against apartheid, International Women's Year, International Year of the Child, International Year of Disabled Persons, etc. Taking this experience into account, it would appear that the world-wide campaign for collecting signatures should be organized at the national level with the help of non-governmental organizations whose purpose is to participate in the struggle for peace and disarmament. There is no doubt that Governments should promote this action and should in no case take measures to counteract it.
9. Given the general aims and complementarity of the measures provided for in resolutions 36/92 J and 36/92 C, the collection of signatures could become a major part of the World Disarmament Campaign.
10. The conclusions and recommendations of the study on the organization and financing of a World Disarmament Campaign (A/36/458) are on the whole in keeping with the task of using the potential of the United Nations and its specialized agencies to mobilize public opinion on behalf of peace and disarmament. In particular, the Byelorussian SSR supports the conclusion that every effort should be made to carry out the measures planned for the campaign within the existing resources of the United Nations regular budget in order to minimize the need for a trust fund consisting of voluntary contributions. This would make for stability in the financing of campaign activities.
11. The collection of signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, together with a World Disarmament Campaign, would help to strengthen the role of the United Nations in mobilizing world-wide public opinion behind the struggle for peace and disarmament and would give further impetus to efforts in that direction. The Byelorussian SSR supports the aims of the suggested campaigns and will promote their implementation.

CYPRUS

[Original: English]

[20 April 1982]

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus supports the immediate adoption of measures to halt the nuclear arms race and believes that it is necessary for all States to conduct and build their relations in such a manner so as to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war anywhere in the world. The world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament will be the minimum contribution of the United Nations in order to protect humanity from catastrophe.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

[Original: English]

[9 April 1982]

1. At the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Czechoslovak delegation voted in favour of the adoption of resolution 36/92 J calling for world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, which, in its intent, contributes towards the implementation of mankind's aspiration to live in peace.
2. Czechoslovakia is of the view that this action could play an important role in the preparation for, and in the implementation of the results of, the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament by mobilizing world public opinion in support of the noble goals pursued by the second special session.
3. Czechoslovakia is convinced that this action could help to create a favourable climate for curbing the arms race and for progress in the field of disarmament that is rightfully demanded by all peace-loving people throughout the world.
4. Guided by the above reasons, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic fully supports the realization of world-wide action as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/92 J.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[5 May 1982]

1. The German Democratic Republic supports resolution 36/92 J, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, concerning a world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, and it is ready to participate actively in its practical implementation. Such signature-collecting action should be an essential element of the World Disarmament Campaign since it is fully in accord with the objectives of that Campaign.
2. The German Democratic Republic has gathered useful experience in the organization and carrying out of such an action.
3. The National Council of the National Front of the German Democratic Republic, a body where all social organizations work together, organized, for example, the collection of signatures in support of the significant peace proposals made by L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on 7 October 1979.
4. With their signature, over 13 million citizens of the German Democratic Republic called for an end to the arms race, the non-deployment of new nuclear

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missiles in Western Europe, continuation of the policy of détente and effective measures of disarmament.

5. In the light of its own experience, the German Democratic Republic believes that the actions for collecting signatures should be carried out under the auspices of the United Nations and involve all Member States and non-governmental organizations.

6. Member States and non-governmental organizations would themselves have to decide on the practical methods to be applied and to adapt them to the actual conditions obtaining in each country.

7. Arrangements should be made within the United Nations system concerning the main content and the format of the documents to be signed, as well as the time-frame.

8. It would be most desirable to launch an appeal calling for the implementation of the most urgent measures to avert a nuclear catastrophe, to curb the arms race and for disarmament.

HUNGARY

[Original: English]

[19 May 1982]

1. The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic is of the view that organizing a world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 36/92 J could be a form of mobilizing world public opinion on behalf of disarmament. In the present situation, when certain imperialist circles are seeking to intensify the arms race and to upset the balance of military power, such an action would testify to the desire of world public opinion for peace and would be instrumental in creating a favourable atmosphere and favourable conditions for progress in disarmament.

2. The Government of Hungary is of the view that the action for collecting signatures could be carried out within the framework of the world disarmament campaign under the auspices of the United Nations. It would be practicable to organize the action in each country separately, but simultaneously. It could be timed so as to coincide with events of dissemination of comprehensive information about disarmament issues or of mobilization for disarmament, such as Disarmament Week. The whole action could be based on an appeal, to be issued by the General Assembly. In the preparation and organization of the action a primary role could be played by non-governmental organizations and/or their ad hoc co-ordinating committees. It would also be desirable for Governments of Member States to contribute to the success of the action. With this end in view, the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament could appeal to the Governments of Member States to lend support to the action. It would be appropriate to entrust the Secretary-General of the United Nations with preparing a summary report on the results of the action.

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INDONESIA

[Original: English]

[5 May 1982]

1. The collection of signatures should be carried out at the time of the observance of Disarmament Week, 24 to 31 October 1983, considering that the discussion of the methods for the implementation of the resolution will only begin at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly.
2. It is hoped that such signatures will be secured particularly from international personalities such as the recipients of the Nobel Prize.
3. In order that such an undertaking have stronger moral force, it should be primarily conducted in the nuclear weapons States.

JAPAN

[Original: English]

[3 May 1982]

1. It is the earnest desire of the people of Japan, the only nation to have experienced the horrors caused by nuclear weapons, that all nuclear weapons ultimately be abolished. On the occasion of the first special session devoted to disarmament a large number of representatives from non-governmental organizations in Japan visited New York and deposited with the Secretary-General petitions with the signatures of almost 20 million men and women of all ages who earnestly desire nuclear disarmament. At the forthcoming second special session on disarmament, an even greater number of representatives will come to New York carrying with them signatures on petitions, again to be presented to the Secretary-General.
2. As stated in paragraph 15 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament:

"It is essential that not only Governments but also the peoples of the world recognize and understand the dangers in the present situation. In order that an international conscience may develop and that world public opinion may exercise a positive influence, the United Nations should increase the dissemination of information on the armaments race and disarmament with the full co-operation of Member States."
3. The Government of Japan recognizes that it is meaningful for peoples of the world to elucidate their desire for disarmament by presenting signatures on petitions based on a full knowledge of the international situation and a correct understanding of disarmament which must be realized in a balanced manner and accompanied by adequate verification measures.
4. The Government of Japan believes that the collecting of signatures in this way

should be an entirely voluntary and private initiative sponsored by non-governmental organizations and without the involvement of the Government of each State. It further believes it is desirable that through such initiatives the voice of the people will be heard not only by national Governments but throughout the world.

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[5 April 1982]

1. In connexion with the invitation extended to Member States by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/92 J of 9 December 1981, the Government of Mexico wishes to state that it considers "world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament" to be a commendable step towards what the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament called the mobilization of world opinion on behalf of disarmament.

2. Precisely because this initiative undoubtedly has merit, the procedures for carrying it out should be carefully studied in advance and should remain subject to co-ordination by the United Nations, either within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign referred to in resolution 36/92 C of the same date or outside it. That will avoid criticism or unfounded accusations being directed against world-wide action for collecting signatures.

POLAND

[Original: English]

[30 April 1982]

1. Guided by continued, invariable and vital interest to maintain peace and save humanity from the spectre of nuclear annihilation and regarding the continuation of the arms race as a growing threat to security and peace in the world, the Government of the Polish People's Republic views with deep interest and appreciation all initiatives that can contribute to positive results in the area of disarmament. It is in this spirit that the Polish Government offers its point of view and suggestions regarding the proposal to undertake a world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament, contained in General Assembly resolution 36/92 J of 9 December 1981.

2. The Government of the Polish People's Republic lends its full support to the idea of a world-wide action for collecting signatures. Such a campaign, pursued under the auspices of the United Nations and enjoying - in our view indispensable - active and broad participation of international and national organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, would:

(a) Constitute a welcome step on the road towards mobilization of public opinion in support of disarmament measures and against threats inherent in the continuation of the arms race;

(b) Add to the realization of the fact that people, all and sundry, should feel responsible for promotion and support of efforts aimed at disarmament;

(c) Make the people responsible for the maintenance of peace and security aware of the real position of the world community with respect to the alternative of war or peace;

(d) Constitute an effective and consistent step towards implementation of the decisions of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament with regard to mobilization of world public opinion on behalf of disarmament.

3. In the view of the Government of the Polish People's Republic, the experience gained from the Stockholm Appeal and from other campaigns of signature collecting to promote peace has confirmed the need of such actions and has also helped to identify the possible form of implementation of such an initiative. For these reasons, the Government of the Polish People's Republic wishes to propose - without prejudice to the ultimate solution - that the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament issue an appeal or a manifesto to the world community to check the possibility of the outbreak of nuclear war, supporting the efforts aimed at curbing the arms race and at disarmament. A personal signature placed under such an appeal or manifesto would be tantamount to one's declaration in favour of the consolidation of world peace and security.

4. In the assessment of the Government of the Polish People's Republic, the present day world, characterized by increased international tension and escalation of armaments, calls, in particular, for measures to create a climate conducive to effective opposition against these dangerous phenomena. This is all the more justified since the military thinking in the realm of nuclear arms increasingly passes from the deterrent function of these weapons to formulating concepts of their actual use. Such thinking should meet appropriate response of the international community expressed through a campaign of collecting signatures under a possible appeal or manifesto

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[6 May 1982]

1. The mobilization of all peace-loving forces in the world in order to further intensify the struggle to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and to promote disarmament assumes particular importance in the current complex international situation, in which some major Powers are accumulating armaments and attempting to disrupt the existing balance of power in the world. The danger of that policy, and especially the development of the concepts of admissibility of nuclear war and first use of nuclear weapons, is clear. The policy conflicts with the Declaration

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on the Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe, in which the General Assembly proclaimed that States and statesmen that resorted first to the use of nuclear weapons would be committing the gravest crime against humanity.

2. At the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic supported resolution 36/92 J. Action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament could be a major element of the Disarmament Campaign. The collection of signatures among broad segments of the population of the various countries would make this action truly world-wide.

3. It would seem that the General Assembly, at its second special session devoted to disarmament, should prepare and approve a short appeal to the text of which signatures collected in the States Members of the United Nations could be appended. It would be appropriate to reflect in this document the major provisions of resolutions on disarmament adopted by the United Nations.

4. As far as the practical arrangements for the collection of signatures are concerned, the experience acquired in the Ukrainian SSR during campaigns for the collection of signatures in support of peace, especially in 1976 in connexion with the Stockholm appeal of the World Peace Council, demonstrates the possibility of employing a variety of formats and methods. Clearly, the universal nature of the action makes it imperative to pay due regard to local conditions and traditions and to enlist the participation of mass public organizations. The Ukrainian SSR is resolved to do all in its power to assist the action for collecting signatures for disarmament.

5. Mindful that the conduct of a World Disarmament Campaign could play an important role in mobilizing world public opinion with a view to creating the necessary conditions for curbing the arms race and promoting disarmament, the Ukrainian SSR also voted in favour of resolution 36/92 C, entitled "World Disarmament Campaign". The conduct of this Campaign under United Nations auspices will further the practical implementation of the recommendations contained in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and also will enhance the participation of governmental and non-governmental organizations in the Campaign.

6. The conclusions and recommendations of the study concerning a World Disarmament Campaign (A/36/458, annex) are, generally speaking, consistent with this aim. Their implementation would mean a more efficient use of the facilities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, which would be responsible for organizing and conducting the World Disarmament Campaign. The Campaign could be financed from resources released as a result of reapportionment within the United Nations regular budget. This would allow the size of voluntary contributions to a trust fund to be kept to a minimum.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[9 April 1982]

1. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics attaches great importance to the part which world public opinion plays in efforts to remove the threat of war and to curb the arms race. The movement of wide cross-sections of public opinion in behalf of disarmament plays a significant role in establishing the requisite conditions for States to take practical measures for the limitation of armaments and for disarmament, as well as measures to strengthen political guarantees of peace. Many initiatives set in motion by world public opinion have developed into agreements between States, while others are being discussed in international forums and in the relevant negotiations.
2. The involvement of all peace-loving forces in the world is of great importance in the present international situation, when some States, in an attempt to disrupt the existing world balance of forces to gain military supremacy, subject the peoples of the world to a further spiral in the arms race. The danger becomes all the greater when warlike preparations are accompanied by the formulation of such concepts as the acceptability of nuclear warfare and the first use of nuclear weapons. That irresponsible policy was condemned by the General Assembly, which stated in the declaration it recently adopted that States and statesmen that resorted first to the use of nuclear weapons would be committing the gravest crime against humanity.
3. The Soviet Union shares the objectives of the popular movement against the threat of nuclear war, a movement which continues to grow in a number of countries. The United Nations can play an important part in stimulating the mass campaign for the removal of the danger of war and for disarmament. The USSR supported the recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament, for the mobilization of world public opinion to those ends. The USSR has promoted and is promoting their realization.
4. At the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the USSR voted for two resolutions connected with these objectives: world-wide action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament (resolution 36/92 J) and the World Disarmament Campaign (resolution 36/92 C).
5. The Soviet Union considers that a disarmament campaign would be very useful as an important means of marshalling world public opinion behind efforts to achieve peace and disarmament. Such a campaign under United Nations auspices would promote more active participation in efforts for peace by governmental and non-governmental organizations, and would lead to the improvement of information, study and education, in the spirit of peace and friendship among nations.
6. Action for collecting signatures in support of measures to prevent nuclear war, to curb the arms race and for disarmament could be a substantive part and a

practical feature of a world disarmament campaign. An expression of popular feeling, manifested by the collection of signatures, would give the world campaign a firm focus and would be a means of uniting the broad mass of the population of various countries in the struggle to restrain the arms race and achieve disarmament.

7. To ensure the success of this campaign it would be as well to draft a short appeal, which could be based on documents already adopted by the United Nations and could reproduce fundamental principles in these documents concerning the problems of preventing nuclear war, curbing the arms race, and disarmament. Such an appeal, if approved at the second special session of the General Assembly, could be recommended for distribution among States Members of the United Nations, and the list of signatures might be appended to the text of the appeal.

8. The collection of signatures as part of a world disarmament campaign could be carried out in each country in the light of local conditions, experience and traditions. In our view, it would be as well to allow for considerable diversity in the ways of conducting an opinion poll among peace-loving world public opinion and coupling it with the text of the appeal.

9. Signatures for the preservation of peace have often been collected in the USSR. The last such campaign was held in 1976 in connexion with the signing of the second Stockholm appeal of the World Peace Council. To this important document were appended the signatures of the leaders of our country and of virtually the entire adult population.

10. Non-governmental organizations, particularly those representing mass movements, such as trade unions and women's and youth movements, could choose the method they found most appropriate - be it individual or collective - for endorsing the appeal and could determine the level of their direct participation in the campaign to collect signatures.

11. The Soviet Union agrees with the general trend of the report by the Secretary-General on the organization of a world disarmament campaign (A/36/458). The conclusions and recommendations in that document are a development of the decisions of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and in general they meet the purpose of mobilizing public opinion in behalf of peace and disarmament. Their implementation would make it easier to use the possibilities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies to conduct a disarmament campaign on a really world-wide basis. To finance the campaign it would be best to make the maximum use of existing United Nations resources by redistributing them within the regular budget so as to keep to a minimum the size of a possible trust fund based on voluntary contributions.

12. In the opinion of the Soviet Union, the world campaign and the collection of signatures for disarmament under United Nations auspices would be a means of using United Nations facilities to promote a popular movement to remove the threat of war and halt the arms race. The USSR for its part is prepared to do all it can to assist this objective.