Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the First Committee (A/57/510)]

57/65. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,¹

Recalling also the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,²


Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,³ and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,⁴

Welcoming the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development and the views and proposals received from Governments on the issue, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,⁵

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

Taking into account developments in the context of disarmament and international security since the end of the cold war, as well as new perspectives and

¹ See resolution S-10/2.
² United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.
⁵ See A/57/167 and Add.1.

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 56/24 E, including its proposal to consider the establishment of a group of governmental experts to undertake a review of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the role of the Organization in this connection;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, within available financial resources and with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be established in 2003 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, while seeking the views of States, to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report with recommendations for a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the future role of the Organization in this connection;

3. Calls upon the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate contained in subparagraph (ix) b of paragraph 35 (c) of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme;

5. Urges the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever widening gap between developed and developing countries;

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6 See resolution 55/2.
7 WT/MIN(01)/DEC/1.
10 Ibid., resolution 2, annex.
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

*57th plenary meeting*

*22 November 2002*