Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,\(^1\) as well as 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,\(^4\)

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

\(^*\) On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

\(^1\) See resolution S-10/2.

\(^2\) United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.


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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,

*Stressing* the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development\(^5\) and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context;

2. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the disarmament-development relationship, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to assure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and sub-agencies;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;\(^5\)

4. *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;

5. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2005, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

6. *Also encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development in their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

\(^5\) A/59/119.