

THE DISARMAMENT AGENDA FOR THE NEXT DECADE

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I. The New Context for Arms Regulation and Disarmament

- A. During the Cold War, the widespread formula was "security through disarmament".

In the post-Cold War era, the international community has accepted the new approach of "security in all aspects".

Disarmament is not a synonym for security. It is just one of the routes leading towards security, the others being crisis solution, protection of human rights, economic and social development and preservation of the environment.

Of all these routes, arms regulation and disarmament play a special role since they deal with hardware which provides an important block of security.

The major consequence of these changes in the role of disarmament is the necessity for an integrated approach. In other words, disarmament should be treated not as an issue in itself, but as part of the solution of other problems, such as crises, development and environment.

- B. During the Cold War, disarmament was mainly dealt with through bilateral talks, with multilateral negotiations usually playing a supportive role.

In the post-Cold War era, a new pattern of multilateralism has been established, the best examples of which are the conclusion of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the bilateral, trilateral and other negotiations which have taken place within the Conference on Disarmament (CD).

This pattern should be preserved in future approaches and the role of the CD, as the sole negotiating body in the field of disarmament, should be strengthened. Its unique position in the field of multilateral disarmament can be maintained through new organizational arrangements.

In the future, the CD could become a Board of Governors of the global community in the field of disarmament.

II. An Agenda for Disarmament

A. Revitalization and building on past achievements.

The focus of attention is on nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

The new imperatives for NPT are:

- conventional weapons;
- CBM;
- verification and control;
- improvement of multilateral machinery.

Top priority should be given to co-ordination within the multilateral disarmament machinery.

B. New Issues.

- A system for the regulation of armaments (UN Charter, article 26)
- PDA problems. With the development of the process of disarmament, we are encountering an entirely new set of problems which may be labelled "post-disarmament agreements". The correlation between disarmament measures and economic conditions has drawn more attention over recent years as democratic trends influence development. This emerging issue highlights the immediate need for post-disarmament efforts as economies and Governments try to transform military-oriented industrial complexes into enterprises serving social, humanitarian and development needs. Three problems stand out in urgency and complexity: the safe storage, transportation and destruction of armaments resulting from disarmament agreements; conversion of military capacities to peaceful uses; and adequate technical and financial facilities to make this transition in a balanced manner.

We are witnessing how weapons stockpiled in incredible quantities are being scattered in every direction. They are either sold by corrupt army personnel or stolen. They are violently taken away in conflict zones, lost due to negligence or left behind during troop relocations. Like Chekhov's rifle on the wall, the weapons, mountains of which have been stockpiled, will fire sooner or later.

- Gun control, ^{arms traffic} and disarmament of non-State actors (international crime syndicates and cartels, terrorists, etc.).
- Input of disarmament into crisis prevention, management and solution. (*Landmines (Eliasson); Statement of Goulding*)

C. Action-oriented Agenda.

Example: CTBT / Cut-off

III. Globalization of Arms Regulation & Disarmament Action

Alongside the CD and UN machinery, it is necessary to put into effect regional arrangements.

IV. Tangible Results are Possible

The prospects of success are enhanced by a new and growing global consensus.