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Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/18 of 18 November 1985,

Recalling also the Harare Appeal on Disarmament, 25/ adopted at the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries on 6 September 1986,

Gravely concerned over the continuing escalation of the arms race, especially in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, despite the fact that this increases the risk of nuclear war and endangers the survival of humanity,

Convinced that the alternative today in the nuclear age is not between war or peace, but between life and death, which makes the prevention of nuclear war the principal task of our times,

Further convinced that international peace and security can be ensured only through general and complete disarmament under effective international control and that one of the most urgent tasks is to halt and reverse the arms race and to undertake concrete measures of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament,

1. Appeals to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the United States of America to conduct, pursuant to their special obligations and responsibilities as leading nuclear-weapon States, their bilateral negotiations with the greatest resolve with a view to achieving agreements on concrete and effective measures for the halting of the nuclear-arms race, radical reduction of their nuclear arsenals, nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

2. Invites the two negotiating parties to keep the General Assembly duly informed of the progress of their negotiations.

96th plenary meeting
4 December 1986

25/ See A/41/697-S/18362, annex, sect. I.