

49. At the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, the participating States declared that disarmament and development are two pillars on which enduring international peace and security can be built. It was stated that the development process, by overcoming non-military threats to security and contributing to a more stable and sustainable international system, can enhance security and thereby promote arms reduction and disarmament. It was further noted that a process that provides for undiminished security at progressively lower levels of armaments could allow additional resources to be devoted to addressing non-military challenges to security, and thus result in enhanced overall security. The Member States participants of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development reaffirm their international commitment to allocate a portion of the resources released through disarmament for purposes of socio-economic development, with a view to bridging the gap between developed and developing countries. Accordingly the States participating in that Conference stress the need to implement the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

IV. MACHINERY

50. The United Nations continues to have a central role and primary responsibility in the field of disarmament and needs the political will of States to enable it to function effectively. As the universal organization charged with the maintenance of international peace and security, the United Nations provides the broadest framework for the consideration of security issues of interest to all Member States. Therefore, the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament should be strengthened as it provides the best forum for all Member States to contribute actively and collectively to the consideration and resolution of all disarmament issues that have a bearing on their security. The United Nations should continue to encourage and facilitate all disarmament efforts - bilateral, regional and global.

51. In order to review and assess the results of the efforts of Member States in moving forward deliberations and negotiations on all disarmament and related issues as well as to provide a new direction and impetus for these efforts, the General Assembly should decide on convening further special sessions, as appropriate.

52. The General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies should continue to fulfil their deliberative functions. The First Committee of the General Assembly should continue to serve as the Main Committee dealing with disarmament and related international security questions. The Disarmament Commission, as a deliberative body, should organize its work in such a way as to allow for in-depth consideration of specific issues leading to the formulation and submission of concrete recommendations. Both the First Committee and the Disarmament Commission should make the necessary improvements to the methods of their work to enable them to be more effective.