

## CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT FINAL DOCUMENT

### CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT OF THE DOCUMENT OF THE FIFTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The world will soon reach the end of a most turbulent and dramatic century: a century that has enriched human life with unprecedented progress in science, technology, health, education and the means of communication. It is also a century that has endured the scourge of two world wars, entered the nuclear age, experienced countless other conflicts and has provided humanity the means for its own annihilation. While important advances have been made, the full potential of human development for a large proportion of the world's population has yet to be realized.
2. Given the interdependent nature of life on this planet, multilateral co-operation in the solution of international problems is imperative. Major stresses and strains are placing great burdens on the capacities of human society, some of which are beyond the means of any one State or group of States to resolve. In a world of growing interdependence, it is essential for the international community to stimulate and deepen awareness of the common interests of our global society and of our common interest in strengthening international peace and security.
3. As the international organization charged with the responsibilities of pursuing international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and achieving international co-operation in solving international problems, the United Nations is the universal forum for harmonizing and developing global actions towards the attainment of these common ends. In the international community's continuing search for lasting security capable of meeting the needs of present and future generations, multilateral action has an increasingly important role.
4. While concepts and perceptions of security differ, a common objective of States is national security and the maintenance of international peace and security. National concepts and perceptions have evolved in response to diverse political, military, social, economic and technological circumstances. However, the differences in the historical backgrounds, political institutions and socio-economic systems of States should not constitute insurmountable obstacles to international co-operation in the pursuit of peace and security.
5. The fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament, takes place at a propitious moment. It provides an opportunity for the States Members of the United Nations to