

However, on the fourth aspect -- the general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces -- the Assembly was breaking new and difficult ground. It was therefore necessary for the Assembly to go into considerable detail if its work was to be constructive.

The resolution sets forth the four stages of the process of general disarmament. The first stage is that which the Assembly took in adopting, in virtue of its powers under Article 11 of the Charter, a resolution on the principles which should govern the general regulation and reduction of armaments. The second stage is the formulation by the Security Council, under Article 26 of the Charter, of plans for the establishment of a system for the regulation and reduction of armaments. During this stage the Security Council will be doing the work of a preparatory commission on disarmament. The third stage is the consideration by all the Members of the U.N., at a special session of the General Assembly, of the plans formulated by the Security Council. The fourth stage in the process of general disarmament is the ratification by the signatory states and the coming into force of the disarmament treaties or conventions approved by the General Assembly in special session.

The resolution establishes four principles of general disarmament:-

- (1) An early general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces is necessary to strengthen international peace and security;
- (2) Practical measures shall be agreed upon to assure that the regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces will be generally observed by all participants and not by some only;
- (3) Practical and effective safeguards by way of inspection and other means shall be provided to protect complying states against the hazards of violations and evasions;
- (4) The international convention or conventions on disarmament shall create, within the framework of the Security Council, an international system of control and inspection, operating through special organs deriving their powers and status from the convention or conventions.

These principles, which are stated explicitly in the resolution, clearly imply that the international system of control and inspection of general disarmament will have to be clothed with all the powers required to implement practical and effective safeguards by way of inspection and other means and to detect and report on any breach or threatened breach of the disarmament convention or conventions. There can be no requirement of unanimity in the organs of the international system of control and inspection since, if any state had a veto over inspection and report, other states would obviously not be protected against violations and evasions by that state or by states which it was attempting to shield. Nor would there be assurance that the conventions were being generally observed by all participants and not by some only.