

ARTICLE 26

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 26

In order to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources, the Security Council shall be responsible for formulating, with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee referred to in Article 47, plans to be submitted to the Members of the United Nations for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. No decisions requiring treatment under this Article were taken by the organs of the United Nations during the period under review.
2. There were, however, a number of explicit references, largely incidental in nature, to Article 26 in the General Assembly and its Committees¹ as well as in the Security Council.²
3. These references were usually made in connexion with appeals to activate the mandate given under this Article to the Security Council. But they did not give rise to constitutional discussions regarding the interpretation or application of Article 26.
4. It should be noted that the Final Document of the tenth special session devoted to disarmament,³ in Section IV entitled "Machinery", made no reference⁴ to Article 26 or to the role of the Security Council under that Article.

¹For the texts of relevant statements, see: in connexion with the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations: G A (25) Plen., 1866th mtg.: Barbados, para. 28; in connexion with disarmament items: G A (XXV), 1st Com., 1759th mtg.: Indonesia, para. 12, United Arab Republic, para. 152; 1762nd mtg.: Philippines, para. 15, Sudan, para. 38; G A (28), 1st Com., 1953rd mtg.: Venezuela, para. 15; G A (30), 1st Com., 2093rd meeting: Brazil, p. 41; G A (31), 1st Com., 23rd mtg.: Spain, pp. 26-37; G A (S-10), Plen., 17th mtg.: Mali, para. 99; in connexion with the reduction of military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries: G A (28) Plen., 2180th mtg.: Mali, para. 84; in connexion with the strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations, and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States: G A (29), Plen., 2314th mtg.: Mexico, para. 281; in connexion with the general debate: G A (30), Plen., 2355th mtg.: Brazil, para. 46.

See also the following documents: G A (27), Annexes, a.i. 11, A/8847/Add.1, pp 6-7; G A (30), Annexes, a.i. 29, A/10255, p. 10 and G A (S-10), A/S-10/AC.1/37, para. 179.

²In connexion with a statement by the President (Burundi), see: S C (25), 1527th mtg., para. 11; and in connexion with the situation in the Middle East, S C (33), 2071st mtg.: Israel, paras. 19-70.

³The Final Document was embodied in G A resolution S-10/2 which was adopted at the 27th plenary meeting of the tenth special session on 30 June 1978.

⁴The only reference to Article 26 and the Security Council was contained in the listing in para. 125 of the Final Document under (ff) "Proposal by Italy on the role of the Security Council in the field of disarmament in accordance with Article 26 of the Charter of the United Nations."