

technology with military applications at its 1992 session, with a view to concluding its work on this matter at its 1993 session;

2. *Invites* all Member States to make available to the Secretary-General pertinent information and comments on this subject, taking into account arrangements, laws and regulations related to international transfers of high technology with military applications, as appropriate;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, taking into account the information and comments transmitted by Member States.

*65th plenary meeting
6 December 1991*

46/39. Israeli nuclear armament

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its previous resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is resolution 45/63 of 4 December 1990,

Recalling its resolution 44/108 of 15 December 1989, in which, *inter alia*, it called for placing all nuclear facilities in the region under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Recalling also that the Security Council, in its resolution 487 (1981), called upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards,

Noting with grave concern Israel's persistent refusal to commit itself not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons, despite repeated calls by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Taking note of resolution GC(XXXV)/RES/570, adopted on 20 September 1991 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency,²⁶

Taking into consideration the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,¹⁷ and in particular its paragraph 12, which relates to Israel's nuclear capabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the information with regard to the continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel and its testing of their delivery systems in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, thus threatening the peace and security of the region, and equally alarmed by reports of Israel's placing on alert its nuclear arsenal during conflicts in the Middle East,

Aware of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and Israel's collaboration with South Africa in developing their delivery systems,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not committed itself to refrain from attacking or threatening to attack safeguarded nuclear facilities,

1. *Deplores* Israel's refusal to renounce possession of nuclear weapons;

2. *Expresses grave concern* at the cooperation between Israel and South Africa in the military nuclear fields;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* regarding the information on Israel's continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and testing of their delivery systems;

4. *Reaffirms* that Israel should promptly apply Security Council resolution 487 (1981), in which the Council, *inter alia*, requested it to place all nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to refrain from attacking or threatening to attack nuclear facilities;

5. *Calls upon* all States and organizations that have not yet done so not to cooperate with or give assistance to Israel that could enhance its nuclear-weapons capability;

6. *Requests* the International Atomic Energy Agency to inform the Secretary-General of any steps Israel may take to place its nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow closely Israeli nuclear activities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Israeli nuclear armament".

*65th plenary meeting
6 December 1991*

46/40. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/152 of 19 December 1977, 35/153 of 12 December 1980, 36/93 of 9 December 1981, 37/79 of 9 December 1982, 38/66 of 15 December 1983, 39/56 of 12 December 1984, 40/84 of 12 December 1985, 41/50 of 3 December 1986, 42/30 of 30 November 1987, 43/67 of 7 December 1988 and 45/64 of 4 December 1990,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,⁶⁵ together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),⁶⁵ the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)⁶⁵ and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),⁶⁵

Reaffirming its conviction that general agreement on the prohibition or restriction of use of specific conventional weapons would significantly reduce the suffering of civilian populations and of combatants,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General,⁶⁶

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that an increasing number of States have either signed, ratified, accepted or acceded to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, which was opened for signature in New York on 10 April 1981;

2. *Also notes with satisfaction* that, consequent upon the fulfilment of the conditions set out in article 5 of the Convention, the Convention and the three Protocols annexed thereto entered into force on 2 December 1983;

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to exert their best endeavours to become parties to the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto as early as possible, so as ultimately to obtain universality of adherence;

4. *Stresses* that, under article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to consider amendments to the Convention or any of the annexed Protocols, to consider additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by the existing annexed Protocols or to review the scope and operation of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto and to consider any proposal for amendments to the Convention or to the existing Protocols and any proposals for additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by the existing Protocols;

5. *Notes*, taking into account the nature of the Convention, the potential of the International Committee of the Red Cross to consider questions pursuant to the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General as depositary of the Convention and its three annexed Protocols to inform the General Assembly from time to time of the state of adherence to the Convention and its Protocols;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

65th plenary meeting
6 December 1991

46/41. Question of Antarctica

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

Recalling its resolutions 38/77 of 15 December 1983, 39/152 of 17 December 1984, 40/156 A and B of 16 December 1985, 41/88 A and B of 4 December 1986, 42/46 A and B of 30 November 1987, 43/83 A and B of 7 December 1988, 44/124 A and B of 15 December 1989 and 45/78 A and B of 12 December 1990,

Recalling also the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,¹⁷ the second meeting of States of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic, held at Abuja from 25 to 29 June 1990,⁶⁷ the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990,⁶⁸ and the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, held at Harare from 16 to 22 October 1991,⁶⁹

Taking into account the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

Reaffirming the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Ant-

arctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/88 A, 42/46 B, 43/83 A, 44/124 B and 45/78 A,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community in terms, *inter alia*, of international peace and security, environment, its effects on global climate conditions, economy and scientific research,

Conscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

Welcoming the increasing recognition of the significant impact that Antarctica exerts on the global environment and ecosystems and of the need for a comprehensive agreement to be negotiated by the international community on the protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

Sharing the concern over the environmental degradation of Antarctica and its impact on the global environment expressed at the first, second and third substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Welcoming the increasing support, including by some Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, for the establishment of Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park to ensure the protection and conservation of its environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems for the benefit of all mankind,

Welcoming the signing of the Protocol on Environmental Protection by the Antarctic Treaty parties on 3 October 1991 at Madrid, which among other things banned prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica for the next fifty years,

Welcoming also the ongoing trend in acknowledging the need for internationally coordinated scientific research stations in Antarctica in order to minimize unnecessary duplication and logistical support facilities,

Welcoming further the increasing awareness of and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international cooperation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Convinced of the need to prevent or minimize any negative impact of human activity resulting from the large number of scientific stations and expeditions, including tourism, in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on a United Nations-sponsored station in Antarctica⁷⁰ and decides to keep the matter under review;

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of the environment in Antarctica,⁷¹ and requests the Secretary-General to monitor and gather information within existing resources on the state of the envi-