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CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

France: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the urgent need for strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition in the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and of the desirability of adherence by all States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington, on 10 April 1972,

Noting with concern the findings of a mission of inquiry commissioned by the Secretary-General in March 1986 that chemical weapons have been used, as well as the indications of their potential rapid emergence in an increasing number of national arsenals,

Expressing grave concern at the increasing risk that chemical weapons may be resorted to again in armed conflicts,

Noting efforts to strengthen relevant international prohibitions, including efforts to develop appropriate fact-finding mechanisms,

Recalling its resolution 39/65 A of 12 December 1984 on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons,

Reaffirming its concern to avoid the severe damage that the wide-scale use of chemical and bacteriological weapons would entail,

1. Reaffirms the need for strict observance of existing international obligations regarding prohibitions on chemical and biological weapons and condemns all actions that contravene those obligations;

1. Expresses grave concern at the risk of the use of chemical weapons becoming widespread and thereby undermining the authority of the prohibition on their use proclaimed in the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925 for the **Prohibition** in the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of **Bacteriological Methods of Warfare**, and of the **prohibitions embodied in the provisions** of the Convention of 10 April 1972 on the **Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction**;

3. Reaffirms its conviction that the goal of the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and **stockpiling of chemical weapons**, and of their destruction, through the conclusion of a convention currently being negotiated within the Framework of the Conference on Disarmament, must remain a priority in multilateral disarmament and arms control negotiations;

4. Calls upon all States, pending the conclusion of such a comprehensive ban, to co-operate in efforts to prevent, directly or indirectly, the use of chemical weapons;

5. Emphasizes the contribution that can be made, pending the outcome of the efforts being undertaken in the context of the ongoing negotiations on chemical weapons within the Conference on Disarmament, by coordinated national measures designed to monitor the export of chemicals that especially lend themselves to use in the production of such weapons;

6. Notes that a number of Member States, including States belonging to different economic and social systems, have already adopted national measures to monitor transfers of chemicals that especially lend themselves to use in the production of chemical warfare agents, and that they have made the content of these measures publicly known;

7. Encourages the institution of co-operation between the principal chemical-producing States aimed at drawing up and publishing itemized lists of products that especially lend themselves to use in the production of chemical warfare agents;

8. Requests the States concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General the list of substances of which the transfer is made subject to monitoring, and requests the Secretary-General to convey this information to the Conference on Disarmament so that account may be taken of it, as necessary, in the ongoing negotiations.