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Agenda item 48

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Australia, Austria, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sweden and Thailand: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Convinced that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Convinced of the consequent urgent need for an end to the nuclear arms race and the immediate and verifiable reduction and ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Convinced therefore that an end to all nuclear testing by all States in all environments for all time is an essential step in order to prevent the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and further nuclear proliferation and to contribute, along with other concurrent efforts to limit and reduce nuclear arms, to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons,

Noting that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America are engaged in nuclear and space talks and in consultations on the entire scope of issues relating to nuclear testing, and expressing the hope that those talks and consultations will lead to both early and concrete results,

Noting also recent initiatives, including the proposals by the six leaders associated with the Five Continent Initiative, to promote an end to nuclear testing,

Convinced that the most effective way to achieve the discontinuance of all nuclear tests in all environments for all time is through the conclusion of a verifiable, comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty open for and able to attract the adherence of all States,

Reaffirming the responsibilities of the Conference on Disarmament in the negotiation of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

1. Reaffirms its conviction that a treaty to achieve the prohibition of all nuclear test explosions by all States in all environments for all time is a matter of fundamental importance;

2. Therefore urges that the following actions be taken in order that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty may be concluded at an early date:

(a) The Conference on Disarmament commence practical work on a nuclear-test-ban treaty at the beginning of its 1987 session;

(b) States members of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular the nuclear-weapon States members, and all other States, co-operate with the Conference on Disarmament in order to facilitate and promote such work;

(c) The nuclear-weapon States, especially those which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, agree to appropriate verifiable, interim measures with a view to realizing a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

(d) Those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet done so adhere to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water; 1/

3. Further urges the Conference on Disarmament:

(a) To take immediate steps for the establishment, with the widest possible participation, of an international seismic monitoring network with a view to the further development of its potential to monitor and verify compliance with a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

(b) In this context, to take into account the progress achieved by the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events, including the exchange of wave form data, and other relevant initiatives by individual States and groups of States;

(c) To initiate detailed investigation of other measures to monitor and verify compliance with such a treaty, including an international network to monitor atmospheric radioactivity;

4. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to report on progress to the General Assembly at its forty-second session;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty".

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480, No. 6964, p. 43.