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CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and to their destruction,

Reaffirming the urgent necessity, particularly in the light of the past use of and recent threats to use chemical weapons, of strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, 1/

1/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2133.

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 2/ which incorporates, inter alia, the report of its Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, 3/ and noting in particular the Conference's decision to further mandate this Committee to intensify, as a priority task, the negotiations on a multilateral convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and on their destruction with the view to striving to achieve a final agreement on the convention by 1992,

Noting with satisfaction that the States participating in the Third Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, held at Geneva from 9 to 27 September 1991, inter alia, declared themselves in favour of the early conclusion of the negotiations on a convention banning chemical weapons,

Noting with appreciation the increasing number of States that have declared their intention to be among original signatories to the convention, and in particular the statements made by the States participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe on 21 November 1990 and the States signatories to the Mendoza Accord, on 5 September 1991, as well as the statement by States of South-East Asia and the East Pacific, assembled at Brisbane on 13 November 1990, inter alia, calling on all States to be original signatories to the convention,

1. Renews its call to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925;

2. Notes the progress made in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons of the Conference on Disarmament during its 1991 session, and the results recorded in the Committee's report;

3. Commends the Conference's decision to further intensify the negotiations on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and on their destruction with the view to striving to achieve a final agreement on a convention by 1992;

4. Strongly urges the Conference on Disarmament, as a matter of the highest priority, to resolve in the forthcoming months outstanding issues so as to achieve a final agreement during its 1992 session;

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/46/27).

3/ Ibid., para. 89.

5. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the results of its negotiations;

6. Stresses the particular significance and importance of declarations made by States on whether or not they possess chemical weapons and of further international exchanges of data and other relevant information in connection with the negotiations on such a convention;

7. Welcomes those initiatives taken by States, and urges all States to take further initiatives, measures and steps on a national, bilateral, regional or multilateral basis to achieve rapid agreement in the negotiations on, and universal adherence to, such a convention;

8. Calls upon all States to consider declaring their intention to become original States parties to the convention so as to ensure its early entry into force, its effective implementation and its universal character;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons".
