



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-eighth session

Agenda item 99 (aa)

### General and complete disarmament: follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 2023

[on the report of the First Committee ([A/78/409](#), para. 89)]

### 78/27. Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [67/39](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/32](#) of 5 December 2013, [69/58](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/34](#) of 7 December 2015, [71/71](#) of 5 December 2016, [72/251](#) of 24 December 2017, [73/40](#) of 5 December 2018, [74/54](#) of 12 December 2019, [75/45](#) of 7 December 2020, [76/36](#) of 6 December 2021 and [77/47](#) of 7 December 2022,

*Welcoming* the convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, on 26 September 2013, and recognizing its contribution to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Emphasizing* the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that effective measures of nuclear disarmament have the highest priority, as affirmed at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons are the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Acknowledging* the significant contribution made by a number of countries towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament by the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as by the voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapon programmes or withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from their territories, and



strongly supporting the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

*Recalling* the resolve of the Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>1</sup> to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, and reaffirming also the continued importance and relevance of multilateral disarmament machinery as mandated by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Acknowledging* the important role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians and the mass media, in advancing the objective of nuclear disarmament,

*Sharing the deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 77/47,<sup>2</sup> and welcoming the fact that a large number of Member States contributed their views to this report,

*Noting* the adoption, with a vote, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons<sup>3</sup> on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, its entry into force on 22 January 2021 and the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>4</sup> particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Expressing its concern* that improvements in existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons, as provided for in the military doctrines of some nuclear-weapon States, violate their legal obligations on nuclear disarmament, as well as the commitments made to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their military and security policies, and contravene the negative security assurances provided by the nuclear-weapon States,

*Expressing its deep concern* that the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons have not yet commenced,

*Determined* to work collectively towards the realization of nuclear disarmament,

1. *Underlines* the strong support, expressed at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013, for taking urgent and effective measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>2</sup> A/78/133.

<sup>3</sup> A/CONF.229/2017/8.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

2. *Calls for* urgent compliance with the legal obligations and the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken on nuclear disarmament;
3. *Endorses* the wide support expressed at the high-level meeting for a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;
4. *Calls for* the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on effective nuclear disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, including, in particular, on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;
5. *Decides* to convene, in New York, on a date to be decided later, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;
6. *Takes note* of the views provided by Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on the elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as reflected in the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 77/47, and requests the Secretary-General to forward this report to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission for their early consideration;
7. *Welcomes* the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons devoted to furthering this objective;
8. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals that developed activities in promotion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;
9. *Reiterates its request* to the President of the General Assembly to organize, on 26 September every year, a one-day high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;
10. *Decides* that the aforementioned high-level plenary meeting shall be held with the participation of Member and observer States, represented at the highest possible level, as well as with the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;
11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to update the platform for the promotion of these activities and to undertake all the arrangements, providing all the necessary resources and services, including webcasts, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, including through the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;
12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination in order to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;
13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on effective nuclear disarmament measures, including elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, and to submit a report thereon to the

General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, and also to transmit the report to the Conference on Disarmament;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament”.

*42nd plenary meeting  
4 December 2023*