



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.1/42/L.67/Rev.1
9 November 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-second session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 61

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Zaire: revised draft resolution

Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions 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/ and other relevant rules of customary international law,

Recalling further the necessity for 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, 2/

1/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

2/ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

Reiterating its concern over reports that chemical weapons have been used and over indications of their emergence in an increasing number of national arsenals, as well as over the growing risk that they may be used again,

Noting with satisfaction that the Conference on Disarmament is actively engaged in negotiating a convention for the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, 3/ including detailed provisions for the on-site verification of compliance with the convention, and expressing its support for the early and successful conclusion of those negotiations,

Noting also that prompt and impartial investigation of reports of possible use of chemical and bacteriological weapons would further enhance the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the Secretary-General and noting the procedures available to him in support of the principles and objectives of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

1. Renews its call to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the 1925 Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and condemns all actions that violate this obligation;
2. Urges all States to be guided in their national policies by the need to curb the spread of chemical weapons;
3. Recognizes the need, upon the entry into force of the chemical weapons convention, to review the modalities available to the Secretary-General for the investigation of reports of the possible use of chemical weapons;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out investigations, in response to reports that may be brought to his attention by any Member State concerning the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons that may constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol or other relevant rules of customary international law, in order to ascertain the facts of the matter, and to report promptly the results of any such investigation to all Member States;
5. Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of qualified experts provided by interested Member States, to develop further technical guidelines and procedures available to him for the timely and efficient investigation of such reports of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons;

3/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/42/27), sect. III.D.

6. Also requests the Secretary-General, in meeting the objectives set forth in paragraph 4 above, to compile and maintain lists of qualified experts provided by Member States whose services could be made available at short notice to undertake such investigations, and of laboratories with the capability to undertake testing for the presence of agents the use of which is prohibited;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General, in meeting the objectives of paragraph 4 above:

(a) To appoint experts to undertake investigation of the reported activities;

(b) Where appropriate, to make the necessary arrangements for experts to collect and examine evidence and to undertake such testing as may be required;

(c) To seek, in any such investigation, assistance as appropriate from Member States and the relevant international organizations;

8. Requests Member States and the relevant international organizations to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the above-mentioned work;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.
