

32/89. World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975 and 31/190 of 21 December 1976,

Reiterating its conviction that all peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

Stressing anew its belief that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could promote the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking into account the provisional agenda of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,⁴⁴ to be held in May and June 1978, and the recommendations proposed in the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament,⁴⁵ endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 32/88 A and B of 12 December 1977,

1. Requests the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference to submit to the General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament a special report on the state of its work and deliberations;

2. Requests the *Ad Hoc* Committee to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons in order to remain currently informed of their respective attitudes, as well as to consider any relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

3. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".

*100th plenary meeting
12 December 1977*

32/152. Incendiary and other specific conventional weapons which may be the subject of prohibitions or restrictions of use for humanitarian reasons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the suffering of civilian populations and combatants could be significantly reduced if general agreement can be attained on the prohibition or restriction for humanitarian reasons of the use of specific conventional weapons, including any which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

Mindful that positive results as regards the non-use or restriction of use for humanitarian reasons of spe-

cific conventional weapons would serve, in addition, as encouragement in the broader field of disarmament and might facilitate subsequent agreement on the elimination of such weapons which were completely banned for use,

Recalling that the issue of prohibitions or restrictions for humanitarian reasons of the use of specific conventional weapons has been the subject of substantive discussion for a number of years, notably at the sessions of the Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons held, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, at Lucerne from 24 September to 18 October 1974⁴⁶ and at Lugano from 28 January to 26 February 1976,⁴⁷ and at four sessions of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts and in the General Assembly since 1971,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General⁴⁸ on the work of the Diplomatic Conference relevant to the present resolution,

Having concluded from these reports that discussions have taken place primarily on the questions of prohibiting the use of conventional weapons, the primary effect of which is to injure by fragments not detectable by X-ray, of restrictions in the use of land-mines and booby traps, and of prohibitions or restrictions of use of incendiary weapons, including napalm, and that consideration was also given to other conventional weapons, such as small-calibre projectiles and certain blast and fragmentation weapons, and to the possibility of prohibiting or restricting the use of such weapons,

Noting resolution 22 (IV) on follow-up regarding prohibitions or restrictions of use of certain conventional weapons adopted by the Diplomatic Conference on 7 June 1977,⁴⁹ in which the Conference recommends, *inter alia*, that a conference of Governments on such weapons should be convened not later than 1979,

1. Believes that the work on such weapons should both build upon the areas of common ground thus far identified and include the search for further areas of common ground and should in each case seek the broadest possible agreement;

2. Decides to convene in 1979 a United Nations conference with a view to reaching agreements on prohibitions or restrictions of the use of specific conventional weapons, including those which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects, taking into account humanitarian and military considerations, and on the question of a system of periodic review of this matter and for consideration of further proposals;

3. Decides to convene a United Nations preparatory conference for the conference referred to in paragraph 2 above and requests the Secretary-General to transmit invitations to all States and parties invited to attend the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts;

⁴⁶ For the report of the first session, see *Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons* (International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, 1975).

⁴⁷ For the report of the second session, see *Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons* (International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, 1976).

⁴⁸ A/9726, A/10222, A/31/146, A/32/124 and Corr.1.

⁴⁹ A/32/124, annex II.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 17.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, paras. 17-32.