

41/58. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

A

SECOND REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2826 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, in which it commended the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to the Convention,

Recalling its resolution 39/65 D of 12 December 1984, in which it noted that, at the request of a majority of States parties to the Convention, a second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention would be held in 1986,

Recalling that the States parties to the Convention met at Geneva from 8 to 26 September 1986 to review the operation of the Convention with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Convention, including the provisions concerning negotiations on chemical weapons, were being realized,

Noting with satisfaction that, at the time of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, there were more than a hundred States parties to the Convention, including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

1. *Notes with appreciation* that on 26 September 1986, the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction adopted by consensus a Final Declaration;³⁸

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of relevant parts of the Final Declaration;

3. *Calls upon* all signatory States that have not ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so without delay, and also calls upon those States that have not yet signed the Convention to join the States parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention and to international confidence.

94th plenary meeting
3 December 1986

B

PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 75 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁹ which states that the complete and effective prohibition of the de-

velopment, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represents one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

Convinced of the urgency of the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, which would significantly contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Emphasizing the need for the extension of international co-operation in the field of chemical industries for peaceful purposes,

Bearing in mind that the conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction would contribute to the achievement of this goal,

Stressing the continuing importance 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 1925,³⁹

Determined, for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons, through the earliest conclusion and implementation of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all types of chemical weapons and on their destruction, thereby complementing the obligations assumed under the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925,

Appreciating the work of the Conference on Disarmament during its 1986 session regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and the progress achieved in negotiations,

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate negotiations and to display a constructive approach to such negotiations and the political will to reach an early agreement on the chemical weapons convention,

Emphasizing the need to stop a further increase of arsenals of chemical weapons and to refrain from the deployment of such weapons on the territories of other countries, as well as the necessity of withdrawing chemical weapons deployed abroad to within the national boundaries of States to which they belong,

Expressing profound concern at decisions on the production of new types of chemical weapons, as well as at their intended deployment,

Welcoming the agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to accelerate the efforts to conclude an effective and verifiable international convention on the general and complete prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons,

Taking note of proposals and initiatives on the creation of chemical-weapon-free zones in various regions aimed at facilitating the complete prohibition of chemical weapons and at contributing to the achievement of stable regional and international security,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,³⁸ which stresses the urgency of a chemical weapons ban,

³⁸ BWC/CONF.II/13/II, part II

³⁹ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity for the speediest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify the negotiations in order to submit a draft convention on the complete ban on chemical weapons to the General Assembly at its forty-second session;

3. *Reaffirms its call* to all States to conduct serious negotiations in good faith and to refrain from any action that could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons and specifically from the production of new types of chemical weapons, as well as from deploying chemical weapons on the territory of other States;

4. *Appeals* to all States to facilitate in every possible way the conclusion of such a convention;

5. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare.

94th plenary meeting
3 December 1986

C

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/92 C of 12 December 1985,

Reaffirming the urgent necessity 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 1925,³⁹ and of the 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 1972,⁴⁰

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 international efforts to strengthen relevant international prohibitions, including efforts to develop appropriate fact-finding mechanisms,

Recalling its resolution 40/94 L of 12 December 1985, in which, *inter alia*, it pointed out the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements on arms limitation and disarmament,

Reaffirming its dedication to protecting mankind from chemical and biological warfare,

1. *Calls for* compliance with existing international obligations regarding prohibitions on chemical and biological weapons, and condemns all actions that contravene those obligations;

2. *Strongly endorses* the ongoing efforts to ensure the most effective prohibitions possible on chemical and biological weapons;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to pursue vigorously and accelerate its 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;

4. *Calls upon* all States, pending the elaboration of such a convention, to co-operate in efforts to prevent the use of chemical weapons and in efforts to establish facts in cases of reports of such use, and to be guided in their national policies by the need to curb the spread of chemical weapons.

94th plenary meeting
3 December 1986

D

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

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

Reaffirming the urgent necessity 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 1925,³⁹ and of the 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 1972,⁴⁰

Taking note of the Final Document of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by consensus on 26 September 1986,⁴¹ and in particular of article IX of the Final Declaration of the Conference,³⁸

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁴² which incorporates, *inter alia*, the report of its *Ad Hoc* Committee on Chemical Weapons,⁴³ and noting that following the precedents set in 1984 and 1985, consultations are continuing during the inter-sessional period, thus increasing the time devoted to negotiations,

Convinced of the necessity that all efforts be exerted for the continuation and successful conclusion of negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Conference on Disarmament during its 1986 session regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons, and in particular appreciates the work of its *Ad Hoc* Committee on Chemical Weapons on that question and the progress recorded in its report;

2. *Expresses again none the less its regret and concern* that notwithstanding the progress made in 1986 a convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;

³⁹ BWC/CONF.11/13/13

⁴² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/41/27).*

⁴¹ *Ibid.* para 87

⁴⁰ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex

3. *Urges again* the Conference on Disarmament, as a matter of high priority, to intensify, during its 1987 session, the negotiations on such a convention and to reinforce further its efforts by, *inter alia*, increasing the time during the year that it devotes to such negotiations, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives, with a view to the final elaboration of a convention at the earliest possible date, and to re-establish its *Ad Hoc* Committee on Chemical Weapons for this purpose with the 1986 mandate;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the results of its negotiations.

94th plenary meeting
3 December 1986

41/59. General and complete disarmament

A

PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/94 D of 12 December 1985,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 1986 session that deals with the question of radiological weapons, in particular the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Radiological Weapons;⁴⁴

2. *Takes note also* of the recommendation of the Conference on Disarmament that the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Radiological Weapons should be re-established at the beginning of its 1987 session;

3. *Recognizes* that the work done by the *Ad Hoc* Committee in 1986 was useful in terms of the mandate entrusted to it;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to continue its negotiations on the subject with a view to a prompt conclusion of its work, taking into account all proposals presented to the Conference to this end, the result of which should be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-second session;

5. *Also requests* that the Secretary-General transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all relevant documents relating to the discussion of all aspects of the issue by the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons".

94th plenary meeting
3 December 1986

B

OBJECTIVE INFORMATION ON MILITARY MATTERS

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 105 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁹ which

encourages Member States to ensure a better flow of information with regard to the various aspects of disarmament to avoid dissemination of false and tendentious information concerning armaments and to concentrate on the danger of escalation of the arms race and on the need for general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recognizing that the adoption of concrete, confidence-building measures on a global, regional or subregional level would greatly contribute to a reduction in international tension,

Emphasizing that the need for such measures at the regional and subregional levels is of special importance,

Believing that the adoption of such measures would contribute to greater openness and transparency, thus helping to prevent misperceptions of the military capabilities and the intentions of potential adversaries, which could induce States to undertake armaments programmes leading to the acceleration of the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and to heightened international tensions,

Believing that objective information on the military capabilities, in particular of nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, could contribute to the building of confidence among States and to the conclusion of concrete disarmament agreements and thereby help to halt and reverse the arms race,

Recalling its resolutions 37/99 G of 13 December 1982, 38/188 C of 20 December 1983 and 40/94 K of 12 December 1985,

Aware of the existence, under the auspices of the United Nations, of an international system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, and that annual reports on military expenditures are now being received from an increasing number of States,

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* that a better flow of objective information on military capabilities could help relieve international tension and contribute to the building of confidence among States on a global, regional or subregional level and to the conclusion of concrete disarmament agreements;

2. *Urges* those global, regional and subregional organizations that have already expressed support for the principle of practical and concrete confidence-building measures of a military nature on a global, regional or subregional level to intensify their efforts with a view to adopting such measures at the earliest possible date;

3. *Urges* all States, in particular nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, to consider implementing additional measures based on the principles of openness and transparency such as, for example, the international system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, with the aim of facilitating the availability of objective information on, as well as objective assessment of, military capabilities;

4. *Expresses its thanks* to the Secretary-General for his report⁴⁵ prepared in conformity with resolution 40/94 K;

5. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General before 30 April 1987 the measures they have adopted to contribute to greater openness in military matters in general and in particular to improve the flow of objective information on military capabilities;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution;

⁴⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/41/27)*, para. 102.

⁴⁵ A/41/466 and Add.1