

to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

2. *Invites* Member States to establish panels at the national level to monitor and evaluate such developments and disseminate the assessments provided by the Secretary-General;

3. *Also invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and proposals as well as the evaluations of the national panels;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

B

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Convinced that, in the international community's continuing search for lasting security, multilateral action has an increasingly important role,

Welcoming the fact that during recent years a favourable climate has developed within the international community and progress has been recorded in some important fields of disarmament,

Encouraged by the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,¹¹ which represents a valuable initial step in the reduction of nuclear weapons,

Taking into account that, despite the positive processes and developments, the general situation with regard to armament is far from satisfactory,

Stressing the necessity of mutually complementary bilateral, regional and global approaches for success in disarmament negotiations and the attainment of peace and security,

Expressing its regret that the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament, ended without agreement on a concluding document,

Reaffirming the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, which reflected a historic consensus on the part of the international community that the halting and reversing of the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and the achievement of genuine disarmament are tasks of primary importance and urgency,

1. *Considers* that the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly served the purpose of increasing awareness of the areas where future efforts should be concentrated and underscored the urgency that States should work resolutely for the common cause of curbing the arms race, particularly in the nuclear field, and achieving disarmament;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the numerous constructive proposals submitted by Member States to the General Assembly at its fifteenth special session aimed at advancing disarmament and increasing security;¹⁰¹

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to contribute to the strengthening of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, as it provides the most appropriate forum for all Member States to contribute actively and collectively to the consideration and resolution of disarmament issues that have a bearing on their security;

4. *Considers* that the contribution of the special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament has been useful in reviewing and assessing the results of the efforts of Member States in moving forward deliberations and negotiations on all disarmament and related issues, and that they can provide a new direction and impetus for these efforts;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session an item entitled "Special sessions on disarmament".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

43/78. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The General Assembly,

Having considered the special and annual reports of the Disarmament Commission,¹⁰²

Emphasizing again the importance of an effective follow-up to the relevant recommendations and decisions contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Taking into account the relevant sections of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁸⁷ the second special session devoted to disarmament,

Also taking into account widespread views expressed during the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth special session,

Recalling its resolutions 33/71 H of 14 December 1978, 34/83 H of 11 December 1979, 35/152 F of 12 December 1980, 36/92 B of 9 December 1981, 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, 38/183 E of 20 December 1983, 39/148 R of 17 December 1984, 40/152 F of 16 December 1985, 41/86 E of 4 December 1986 and 42/42 G of 30 November 1987,

¹⁰¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 10 to 15, document A/S-15/50, annex I.

¹⁰² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-15/3)*, and *ibid.*, *Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/43/42)*.

1. *Takes note* of the special and annual reports of the Disarmament Commission;

2. *Commends* the Disarmament Commission for its adoption by consensus of a set of principles of verification on disarmament issues¹⁰³ as well as a set of guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level,¹⁰⁴ which were recommended to the General Assembly for consideration;

3. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission has yet to conclude its consideration of some items on its agenda, but notes also with appreciation the progress achieved on some of these;

4. *Recalls* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Stresses* the importance for the Disarmament Commission to work on the basis of a relevant agenda of disarmament topics, thereby enabling the Commission to concentrate its efforts and thus optimize its progress on specific subjects in accordance with resolution 37/78 H;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations, at its 1989 substantive session, on the outstanding items on its agenda, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly as well as the results of its 1988 substantive session;

7. *Also requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1989 and to submit a substantive report, containing specific recommendations on the items included in its agenda, to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the special and annual reports of the Conference on Disarmament,¹⁰⁵ together with all the official records of the fifteenth special session and the forty-third session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services to this end;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 3 (A/S 15/3), para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I of the quoted text).

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 41 (para. 6 of the quoted text).

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2), and *ibid.*, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/43/27).

B

NON-USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with paragraph 20 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war have the highest priority and that this commitment was reaffirmed by the Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document, it is stated that all States, in particular nuclear-weapon States, should consider as soon as possible various proposals designed to secure the avoidance of the use of nuclear weapons, the prevention of nuclear war and related objectives, where possible through international agreement, and thereby ensure that the survival of mankind is not endangered,

Recalling further that, at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament, it was generally recognized that the prevention of nuclear war was of utmost concern and that specific efforts, bilateral, regional or multilateral, should be vigorously pursued and measures should be strengthened to reduce and ultimately eliminate the risk of nuclear war,

Reaffirming that the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament and for undertaking measures aimed at preventing the outbreak of nuclear war,

Welcoming measures taken by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to reduce the risk of nuclear war,

Stressing that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Recalling that, in the Political Declaration adopted at the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986, all nuclear-weapon States were called upon to enter early into an internationally binding commitment not to be the first to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons,¹⁰⁶

Emphasizing that for the sake of international peace and security, military concepts and doctrines must be of a strictly defensive character,

1. *Considers* that the solemn declarations by two nuclear-weapon States made or reiterated at the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, concerning their respective obligations not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, offer an important avenue to decrease the danger of nuclear war;

2. *Expresses the hope* that those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet done so will consider making similar declarations with respect to not being the first to use nuclear weapons;

3. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on the item in its agenda concerning prevention of nuclear war and to consider, *inter alia*, the elaboration of an international instrument of a legally binding character laying down the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons;

¹⁰⁶ See A/41/697-S/18392, annex, sect. I, para. 47.

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

C

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of achieving international co-operation in the field of arms limitation and disarmament,

Taking into account that since its forty-second session there have been important and encouraging developments in the areas of arms limitation and disarmament,

Stressing that disarmament can only be achieved through active and sustained joint efforts of all States,

Stressing also the vital importance of proceeding to balanced, mutually acceptable, fully verifiable and effective measures of arms limitation and disarmament, in accordance with established priorities, for the preservation of peace and the strengthening of international security,

Stressing further that the necessary balance between bilateral and multilateral approaches to arms limitation and disarmament should be secured through a significantly enhanced role of the United Nations and its respective bodies in this field,

1. *Invites* all States further to increase co-operation for achieving effective arms limitation and disarmament agreements on the basis of reciprocity, equality, undiminished security, non-use of force and the rule of law in international relations;

2. *Calls upon* all States to aim at strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations in fulfilling its central role and primary responsibility in the sphere of disarmament and to contribute actively to the consideration and resolution of all disarmament issues that have a bearing on their security and other fundamental interests;

3. *Also invites* all States to consider, in a spirit of co-operation, ways and means to facilitate both bilateral and multilateral solutions to disarmament.

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

D

CLIMATIC EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WAR, INCLUDING NUCLEAR WINTER

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, after referring specifically to the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons, it declared, in paragraph 18, that removing the threat of world war—a nuclear war—is the most acute and urgent task of the present day,

Recalling also its resolutions 40/152 G of 16 December 1985 and 41/86 H of 4 December 1986, by which it requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of consultant experts chosen by him, bearing in

mind the advisability of wide geographical representation and of their qualifications in a broad range of scientific fields, to carry out a study on the climatic and potential physical effects of nuclear war, including nuclear winter, which would examine, *inter alia*, its socio-economic consequences,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General entitled *Study on the Climatic and Other Global Effects of Nuclear War*,⁸¹

Gravely concerned by the conclusions of that study,

1. *Takes note* of the *Study on the Climatic and Other Global Effects of Nuclear War*;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the group of consultant experts that assisted him in the preparation of the study;

3. *Commends* the study and its conclusions to the attention of all Member States;

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the study before 1 September 1989;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the reproduction of the study as a United Nations publication and to give it the widest possible distribution.

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7 December 1988

E

CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR-ARMS RACE AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Believing that all nations have a vital interest in negotiations on nuclear disarmament because the existence of nuclear weapons jeopardizes the vital security interests of both nuclear and non-nuclear-weapon States alike,

Recalling that, in paragraphs 11 and 47 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, the Assembly stated that the nuclear-arms race, far from contributing to the strengthening of the security of all States, on the contrary weakens it and increases the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war,

Noting that at the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Countries held at Nicosia from 7 to 10 September 1988, the Ministers welcomed the recent developments in the field of disarmament, which they considered a historic achievement, expressed the hope that they would result in further substantive progress in the field of current and future bilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament, and emphasized as well the need to encourage this positive trend through the immediate adoption of measures for the reversal of the nuclear-arms race, so as to remove the threat of a nuclear holocaust which endangers the very survival of mankind,¹⁰⁷

Welcoming proposals on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world and, especially, the signing of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter Range Missiles,¹¹

¹⁰⁷ See A/43/667-S/20212, annex, sect. I, para 17

Considering that it is necessary to halt all testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons of all types and versions and their delivery systems as a first step in the process that should lead to the achievement of substantial reductions in nuclear forces, and welcoming in this context the proposals to that end forwarded by the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania in their various declarations,

Noting that, at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament, and at the 1988 session of the Conference on Disarmament, several proposals on nuclear disarmament were introduced by Member States and that there was general agreement that nuclear disarmament remains a priority objective and represents a central task facing mankind,

Taking into account that all nuclear-weapon States, in particular those with the most important nuclear arsenals, bear a special responsibility for the fulfilment of the task of achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament,

Convinced of the imperative need to take constructive multilateral action towards halting and reversing the nuclear-arms race,

1. *Reaffirms* that both bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the nuclear and space arms race are by nature complementary to one another;

2. *Believes* that efforts should be intensified with a view to initiating, as a matter of the highest priority, multilateral negotiations in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

3. *Again requests* the Conference on Disarmament to establish an *ad hoc* committee at the beginning of its 1989 session to elaborate on paragraph 50 of the Final Document and to submit recommendations to the Conference as to how it could best initiate multilateral negotiations of agreements, with adequate measures of verification, in appropriate stages for:

(a) Cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems;

(b) Cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes;

(c) Substantial reduction in existing nuclear weapons with a view to their ultimate elimination;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on its consideration of this subject;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

F

PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the prevention of nuclear war and the reduction of the risk of nuclear war are matters of the highest priority and of vital interest to all people of the world,

Recalling the provisions of paragraphs 47 to 50 and 56 to 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session de-

voted to disarmament, regarding the procedures designed to secure the avoidance of nuclear war,

Reiterating that it is the shared responsibility of all Member States to save succeeding generations from the scourge of another world war, which would inevitably be a nuclear war,

Noting that at the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Countries held at Nicosia from 7 to 10 September 1988, the Ministers stated that, being aware that the gravest danger confronting humanity today was the nuclear threat, they welcomed the recent developments in the field of disarmament, which they considered a historic achievement, and emphasized the need to encourage that positive trend through the immediate adoption of measures for the prevention of nuclear war,¹⁰⁷

Recognizing that the prevention of nuclear war requires disarmament measures, and welcoming the first bilateral nuclear disarmament agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the elimination of all land-based intermediate-range nuclear forces,

Aware of the essential complementarity which links both bilateral and multilateral disarmament negotiations,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 1988 session,⁵¹

Taking into account the deliberations on this item at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament, and at its forty-third session,

1. *Notes with regret* that, despite the fact that the Conference on Disarmament has discussed the question of the prevention of nuclear war for several years, it has been unable even to establish a subsidiary body to consider appropriate and practical measures to prevent it;

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that, in view of the urgency of the matter and the inadequacy or insufficiency of existing measures, it is necessary to devise suitable steps to expedite effective action for the prevention of nuclear war;

3. *Again requests* the Conference on Disarmament to undertake, as a matter of the highest priority, negotiations with a view to achieving agreement on appropriate and practical measures that could be negotiated and adopted individually for the prevention of nuclear war and to establish for that purpose an *ad hoc* committee on the subject at the beginning of its 1989 session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Prevention of nuclear war".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

G

DISARMAMENT WEEK

The General Assembly,

Noting that there have been important developments of late in the areas of arms limitation and disarmament efforts which provide a sense of strong encouragement and hope for a more secure world,

Noting at the same time that, despite the positive developments, the arms race still poses a grave threat to world peace and security,

Stressing the vital importance of eliminating the threat of a nuclear and conventional war, ending the nuclear and conventional arms race and bringing about disarmament,

Emphasizing anew the need for and the importance of world public opinion in support of halting and reversing the global arms race in all its aspects,

Taking into account the aspirations of the world public to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on Earth,

Noting with satisfaction the broad and active support by Governments and international and national organizations of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, regarding the proclamation of the week starting 24 October, the day of the foundation of the United Nations, as a week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament,¹⁰⁸

Recalling the recommendations concerning the World Disarmament Campaign contained in annex V to the Concluding Document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, in particular the recommendation that Disarmament Week should continue to be widely observed,¹⁰⁹

Noting the support for the further observance of Disarmament Week expressed by Member States at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General¹¹⁰ on the follow-up measures undertaken by States and governmental and non-governmental organizations in holding Disarmament Week;

2. *Commends* all States and international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations for their energetic support of and active participation in Disarmament Week since its first observance ten years ago;

3. *Invites* all States that so desire, in carrying out appropriate measures at the local level on the occasion of Disarmament Week, to take into account the elements of the model programme for Disarmament Week prepared by the Secretary-General;¹¹¹

4. *Invites* Governments to continue, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/71 D of 14 December 1978, to inform the Secretary-General of activities undertaken to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week;

5. *Invites* international and national non-governmental organizations to take an active part in Disarmament Week and to inform the Secretary-General of the activities undertaken;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to use the United Nations information organs as widely as possible to promote better understanding among the world public of disarmament problems and the objectives of Disarmament Week;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 33/71 D, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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¹⁰⁸ Resolution S 10/2, para. 102.

¹⁰⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S 12/32, annex V, para. 12.*

¹¹⁰ A/43/508 and Add.1.

¹¹¹ A/34/436.

H

GUIDELINES FOR CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/39 F, adopted without a vote on 30 November 1987,

Taking note of the report of the Disarmament Commission containing the agreed text of the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level,¹⁰⁴

Appreciative of the work accomplished by the Disarmament Commission in finalizing the text of these guidelines,

Reaffirming its conviction that confidence-building measures, especially when applied in a comprehensive manner, have a potential to contribute significantly to the enhancement of peace and security and to promote and facilitate the attainment of disarmament measures,

Mindful of the fact that confidence-building measures, while neither a substitute nor a pre-condition for arms limitation and disarmament measures, can be conducive to achieving progress in disarmament,

Realizing that effective disarmament and arms limitation measures which directly limit or reduce military potential have particularly high confidence-building value,

Appealing to all States to consider the widest possible use of confidence-building measures in their international relations,

Aware that there are situations peculiar to specific regions which have a bearing on the nature of the confidence-building measures feasible in those regions,

Noting with satisfaction the encouraging results of specific confidence-building measures agreed upon and implemented in some regions,

Pointing to the example of progress in the implementation of confidence- and security-building measures adopted at Stockholm in 1986 that has contributed to more stable relations and increased security, reducing the risk of military confrontation in Europe,

1. *Endorses* the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures and for the implementation of such measures on a global or regional level, as adopted by consensus by the Disarmament Commission at its 1988 substantive session;

2. *Recommends* these guidelines to all States for implementation, fully taking into account the specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of these guidelines on the basis of national reports on accumulated relevant experience;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session an item entitled "Implementation of the guidelines for appropriate types of confidence-building measures".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

I

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant portions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ in particular paragraph 120,

Bearing in mind that considerable and urgent work remains to be accomplished in the field of disarmament,

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating forum for global disarmament questions, should fully take into account the Programme of Action set forth in section III of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁵¹ which the Conference adopted by consensus,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 1988 session;
2. *Reaffirms* that the Conference on Disarmament plays a vital role in the field of disarmament for the world community;
3. *Reaffirms also* its support for the efforts of the Conference on Disarmament in fulfilling its tasks, and calls upon all Conference members and observer States to contribute as effectively as possible to this end;
4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to continue and to intensify its work on the various substantive items on its agenda;
5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;
6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

J

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ARMAMENTS RACE AND ITS EXTREMELY HARMFUL EFFECTS ON WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security",

Recalling its resolutions 2667 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2831 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 3075 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 32/75 of 12 December 1977, 35/141 of 12 December 1980, 40/150 of 16 December 1985 and 41/86 I of 4 December 1986,

Deeply concerned that the arms race, particularly in nuclear armaments and military expenditures, continues to increase at an alarming speed, representing a heavy burden for the economies of all States and constituting a grave danger for world peace and security,

Recalling also the numerous statements made by the representatives of Governments during the disarmament negotiations and particularly at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament, to the effect that the vastly in-

creased military budgets have also contributed to current economic problems in certain States and that existing and planned military programmes constitute a huge waste of precious resources which might otherwise be used to elevate living standards of all peoples and solve the problems confronting developing countries in achieving economic and social development,

Reaffirming the need for all Governments and peoples to be informed about and to understand the situation prevailing in the field of the arms race and disarmament,

Bearing in mind the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign,¹¹² solemnly launched at the twelfth special session, which is intended to promote public interest in and support for the reaching of agreements on measures of arms limitation and disarmament,

Recalling further paragraph 93 (c) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it is provided that the Secretary-General shall periodically submit reports to the Assembly on the economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security,

Considering that the elaboration of such reports should be viewed as a measure aimed at building confidence among States,

1. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the updated report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social consequences of the arms race and military expenditures;⁶⁶
2. *Expresses its thanks* to the Secretary-General and the consultant experts as well as to the Governments and international organizations that have rendered assistance in the updating of the report;
3. *Recommends* that the report be brought to the attention of public opinion and also taken into account in future actions by the United Nations in the field of disarmament;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the reproduction of the report as a United Nations publication and to give it broad publicity in the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign;
5. *Recommends* that all Governments ensure the widest possible distribution of the report, including its translation into the respective national languages;
6. *Invites* the specialized agencies as well as intergovernmental, national and non-governmental organizations to use their facilities to make the report widely known;
7. *Reaffirms* its decision to keep the item entitled "Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security" under constant review, and decides to include it in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

K

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/42 I of 30 November 1987, in which it urged the Conference on Disarmament to resume the work on the elaboration of the comprehensive pro-

¹¹² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32, annex V*

gramme of disarmament at the outset of its 1988 session with a view to resolving outstanding issues and concluding negotiations on the programme,

Having examined the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament concerning its work during the 1988 session of the Conference on Disarmament, which is an integral part of the report of the Conference,¹¹³ and noting the agreement of the *Ad Hoc* Committee that it should resume its work at the outset of the 1989 session of the Conference with the firm intention of completing the elaboration of the programme for its submission to the General Assembly, at the latest at its forty-fourth session,

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Comprehensive programme of disarmament".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

L

CONSIDERATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE 1990S AS THE THIRD DISARMAMENT DECADE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it declared the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 34/75 of 11 December 1979, in which it directed the Disarmament Commission to prepare elements of a draft resolution entitled "Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade" for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session for consideration and adoption,

Bearing in mind that the Second Disarmament Decade declared by its resolution 35/46 is coming to an end,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations in the attainment of disarmament,

Noting the progress in the disarmament talks between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America and its positive impact on the attainment of global peace and security,

Desirous of maintaining the current momentum in the disarmament process,

Convinced that a third disarmament decade will accelerate the disarmament process,

1. *Decides* to declare the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade;

2. *Directs* the Disarmament Commission, at its 1989 substantive session, to prepare elements of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade" and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session for consideration and adoption;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views and suggestions of Member States and of relevant specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency on the possible elements to be included in the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade and to make these available to the Disarmament Commission at its 1989 substantive session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance to the Disarmament Commission in implementing the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

M

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/83 B of 11 December 1979, 35/152 J of 12 December 1980, 36/92 F of 9 December 1981, 37/78 G of 9 December 1982, 38/183 I of 20 December 1983, 39/148 N of 17 December 1984, 40/152 M of 16 December 1985, 41/86 M of 4 December 1986 and 42/42 L of 30 November 1987,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁵¹

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, should play the central role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Expressing its regret that the Conference on Disarmament was not able in 1988 either to establish *ad hoc* committees or to commence negotiations on nuclear issues on its agenda,

Expressing its expectation that the Conference on Disarmament, in view of the positive current processes in some important fields of disarmament, would be in a position to reach concrete agreements on disarmament issues to which the United Nations has assigned greatest priority and urgency and which have been under consideration for a number of years,

Considering that it is more than ever imperative in the present circumstances to give an additional impetus to negotiations on disarmament at all levels and to achieve genuine progress in the immediate future,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that further progress has been made in the negotiations on the elaboration of a draft convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, and urges the Conference on Disarmament to intensify further its work with a view to completing negotiations on such a draft convention as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its work, to further its mandate more earnestly through substantive negotiations, within the framework of *ad hoc* committees as the most appropriate mechanism, and to adopt concrete measures on the specific priority issues of disarmament on its agenda, in accordance with the Programme of Action set forth in section III of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;¹³

4. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to provide negotiating mandates to *ad hoc* committees on all agenda items, in keeping with the fundamental role of the Confer-

¹¹³ *Ibid.*, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/43/27), para. 90

ence as identified in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty fourth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

43/79. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/68 of 14 December 1978, 34/80 A and B of 11 December 1979, 35/150 of 12 December 1980, 36/90 of 9 December 1981, 37/96 of 13 December 1982, 38/185 of 20 December 1983, 39/149 of 17 December 1984, 40/153 of 16 December 1985, 41/87 of 4 December 1986, 42/43 of 30 November 1987 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that the establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,¹¹⁴

Reaffirming its conviction that concrete action for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security, as well as to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States of the region,

Convinced that agreement on such action should be facilitated by encouraging developments in international relations that could have beneficial effects on the region,

Also convinced that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean area, conceived in the context of their confrontation, gives urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration,

Further convinced that the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area is an important consideration bearing on the question of the urgent convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo and that the further easing of tension in the area would enhance the prospect of success of the Conference,

Considering that the creation of a zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration,

Recalling the decision of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to make every effort, in consideration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area and of progress made in the harmonization of views, to finalize, in accordance with its normal methods of work, all preparations for the Conference, including dates for its convening,

Noting that, in accordance with resolution 42/43, the *Ad Hoc* Committee submitted a report,¹¹⁵ adopted by consensus, to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament, and urged it to reaffirm its full support for the implementation of the Declaration,

Noting also that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has requested the Secretary-General to continue to extend to it all necessary assistance in order to facilitate the intensification of the Committee's work towards the implementation of its mandate and to enable the completion of its remaining preparatory work for the early convening of the Conference, as repeatedly called for by the Assembly, in particular in its resolution 42/43,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean;¹¹⁶

2. *Reaffirms* full support for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace;

3. *Reiterates and emphasizes* its decision to convene the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

4. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions, and requests the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the implementation of the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the preparatory work for the convening of the Conference, as called for in the relevant resolutions recommended by the Committee and adopted by the General Assembly by consensus, progress has been made by the Working Group of the *Ad Hoc* Committee in its meetings during the sessions of the Committee in 1988;

6. *Urges* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to intensify its discussions of substantive issues and principles, including those identified by the Chairman of the Working Group in his report dated 14 July 1988,¹¹⁷ with the aim of elaborating elements that might be taken into consideration during the subsequent preparation of a draft final document of the Conference;

7. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold two preparatory sessions during the first half of 1989, the first with a duration of one week and the second with a duration of two weeks, for completion of the remaining preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean to enable the convening of the Conference at Colombo in 1990 in consultation with the host country;

8. *Notes* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee will, during its preparatory sessions in 1989, continue to keep under review the need to organize its work more effectively in order to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/S-15/5).

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/43/29).

¹¹⁷ A/AC.159/L.85, annex