

Recalling hopefully the letters exchanged recently between Mr. Khrushchev, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mr. Kennedy, President of the United States of America, and Mr. Macmillan, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in which they expressed their readiness to resume disarmament negotiations with renewed determination and vigour,

Determined to avert the grave dangers to the human race of nuclear confrontation, on which the recent crisis focused attention,

1. Reaffirms the need for the conclusion, at the earliest possible date, of an agreement on general and complete disarmament based on the joint statement of agreed principles for disarmament negotiations, submitted on 20 September 1961 by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America⁹ and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 1722 (XVI);

2. Calls upon the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to resume at Geneva its negotiations on general and complete disarmament, with effective controls, expeditiously and in a spirit of constructive compromise, until agreement has been reached;

3. Recommends that urgent attention should be given by the Eighteen-Nation Committee to various collateral measures intended to decrease tension and to facilitate general and complete disarmament;

4. Requests the Eighteen-Nation Committee to report periodically to the General Assembly on the progress of its work and, in any case, not later than the second week of April 1963;

5. Transmits to the Disarmament Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Eighteen-Nation Committee, the documents and records of plenary meetings of the General Assembly and meetings of the First Committee at which the question of disarmament was discussed.

1173rd plenary meeting,
21 November 1962.

1801 (XVII). Question of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons,¹⁰

Having regard to the usefulness of further consultation with Governments of Member States on this question,

Requests the Secretary-General to consult further the Governments of Member States to ascertain their views on the possibility of convening a special conference for signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons for war

purposes, and to report on the results of such consultation to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session.

1192nd plenary meeting,
14 December 1962.

1802 (XVII). International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1721 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space,

Believing that the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space should be carried out in conformity with international law including the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of friendly relations among nations,

Stressing the necessity of the progressive development of international law pertaining to the further elaboration of basic legal principles governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space and to liability for space vehicle accidents and to assistance to and return of astronauts and space vehicles and to other legal problems,

Bearing in mind that the application of scientific and technological advances in outer space, particularly in the fields of meteorology and communications, can bring great advantages to mankind and contribute to the economic and social progress of the developing countries as envisaged in the United Nations Development Decade programme,

Having considered the report submitted by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in response to resolution 1721 (XVI),¹¹

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1. Notes with regret that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has not yet made recommendations on legal questions connected with the peaceful uses of outer space;

2. Calls upon all Member States to co-operate in the further development of law for outer space;

3. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue urgently its work on the further elaboration of basic legal principles governing the activities of States in the exploration and use of outer space and on liability for space vehicle accidents and on assistance to and return of astronauts and space vehicles and on other legal problems;

4. Refers to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as a basis for this work, all proposals which have been made thus far, including the draft declaration of the basic principles governing the activities of States pertaining to the exploration and use of outer space submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,¹² the draft international agreement on the rescue of astronauts and spaceships making emergency landings submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,¹³ the draft proposal on assistance to and return of space vehicles and personnel submitted by the United States of America,¹⁴ the draft proposal on lia-

⁹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 19, document A/4879.

¹⁰ Ibid., Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 26, document A/5174 and Add.1 and 2.

¹¹ Ibid., agenda item 27, document A/5181.

¹² Ibid., annex III, A.

¹³ Ibid., annex III, B.

¹⁴ Ibid., annex III, C.