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Agenda item 42

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Alemayehu MAKONNEN (Ethiopia)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons:

- (a) Report of the Committee on Disarmament;
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General"

was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-sixth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 35/144 B and C of 12 December 1980.

2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 September 1981, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 7 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 39 to 56, 128 and 135. The general debate on these items took place at the 3rd to 26th meetings, from 19 October to 4 November (see A/C.1/36/PV.3-26).

4. In connexion with item 42, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Committee on Disarmament; 1/

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/36/27).

- (b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/36/613);
- (c) Letter dated 26 January 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/81);
- (d) Letter dated 17 February 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/104);
- (e) Letter dated 9 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/121);
- (f) Letter dated 27 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/157);
- (g) Letter dated 6 April 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/173);
- (h) Letter dated 14 April 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/207);
- (i) Letter dated 27 April 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/229);
- (j) Letter dated 5 May 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/232-S/14473);
- (k) Letter dated 14 May 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/254);
- (l) Letter dated 8 June 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/312);
- (m) Note verbale dated 14 September 1981 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/509);
- (n) Letter dated 22 September 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/549);

- (o) Letter dated 30 September 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 25 and 28 September 1981, to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (A/36/566-S/14713);
- (p) Letter dated 5 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Havana from 15 to 23 September 1981 (A/36/584);
- (q) Letter dated 9 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/664);
- (r) Letter dated 13 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/687);
- (s) Letter dated 24 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/36/721-S/14770);
- (t) Letter dated 9 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/36/5);
- (u) Note verbale dated 12 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/36/10);
- (v) Letter dated 3 December 1981 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/36/16).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.35

5. On 16 November, Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Italy, the Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.35), which was subsequently sponsored also by the Congo, Ethiopia, Ireland, the Niger and Qatar. The draft resolution

was introduced by the representative of Canada at the 36th meeting, on 19 November, and read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2933 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3256 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3465 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/65 of 10 December 1976, 32/77 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/59 A of 14 December 1978, 34/72 of 11 December 1979 and 35/144 B of 12 December 1980, relating to the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and of their destruction,

"Reaffirming also the 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, 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,

"Having considered the report of the Committee on Disarmament, which embodies, inter alia, the report of its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons,

"Taking note that the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons recommends that the Committee on Disarmament at the beginning of its 1982 session re-establish the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons with an appropriately revised mandate, which will enable the Committee to build upon the areas of convergence and to resolve the differences of views which were identified by the Group during the 1980 and 1981 sessions, so as to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date,

"Considering it necessary that all efforts be exerted for the resumption and successful conclusion of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

"1. Notes with satisfaction the work of the Committee on Disarmament during its session held in 1981 regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons, in particular progress in the work of its Ad Hoc Working Group on that question;

"2. Expresses its regret that an agreement on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;

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"3. Urges the Committee on Disarmament to continue, as from the beginning of its session to be held in 1982, negotiations on such a multilateral convention as a matter of high priority, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives;

"4. Requests the Committee on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament to be held in 1982, and at its thirty-seventh session."

6. On 19 November, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Yugoslavia proposed an amendment (A/C.1/36/L.48) to draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.35, which was introduced by the representative of Sweden at the 38th meeting, on 20 November. Under the amendment, operative paragraph 3 would be replaced by the following:

"Urges the Committee on Disarmament to continue, as from the beginning of its session to be held in 1982, negotiations on such a multilateral convention as a matter of high priority, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives and in particular to re-establish its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons with an appropriately revised mandate enabling the Committee to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date".

7. At its 42nd meeting, on 24 November, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.35 and the amendment thereto, as follows:

(a) The amendment (A/C.1/36/L.48) was adopted by a recorded vote of 101 to 2, with 19 abstentions. 2/ The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chad, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisian, Turkey,

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2/ Subsequently, the delegation of Bangladesh indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

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Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Canada, United States of America.

Abstaining: Bahamas, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Finland, Guinea, Honduras, Israel, Ivory Coast, Japan, Lesotho, Mali, Niger, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Zaire.

(b) The Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.35 as amended by a recorded vote of 127 to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 14, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: United States of America.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.36 and Rev.1

8. On 16 November, Afghanistan, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist

Republic and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.36). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the German Democratic Republic at the 35th meeting, on 19 November, and read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which, in paragraph 75, states that the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represent one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

"Convinced of the need for 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 contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

"Taking into consideration the work done in this area in the Committee on Disarmament as well as in the bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which regrettably had been suspended and did not take place in 1981,

"Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate such negotiations,

"Expressing profound concern over the production of new types of chemical weapons and other actions, which would intensify the chemical arms race and compromise international efforts to prohibit chemical weapons,

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

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

"3. Calls upon the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to resume at the earliest possible date bilateral negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction and to submit their joint initiative to the Committee on Disarmament;

"4. Also calls upon all States to refrain from any action which could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons, and specifically to refrain from production and deployment of new types of chemical weapons, including binary weapons, and from seeking to station chemical weapons on the territories of States where there are no such weapons at present."

9. On 20 November, the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.36 submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.36/Rev.1), which was subsequently sponsored also by Ethiopia. Revisions to draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.36 were made, as follows:

- (a) The fifth preambular paragraph was replaced by the following:

"Expressing profound concern over the production of new types of chemical weapons and other actions, which would intensify the chemical arms race and compromise international efforts on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction";

- (b) The following new operative paragraph 3 was added:

"Urges the Committee on Disarmament to continue, as from the beginning of its session to be held in 1982, negotiations on such a multilateral convention as a matter of high priority, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives, and in particular to re-establish its Ad Hoc Working Group on chemical weapons with an appropriately revised mandate enabling the Committee to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date";

- (c) Operative paragraph 3 was renumbered 4;

- (d) Operative paragraph 4 was renumbered 5 and reworded as follows:

"5. Also calls upon all States to refrain from any action which could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons, and specifically to refrain from production and deployment of binary and other new types of chemical weapons as well as from stationing chemical weapons in those States where there are no such weapons at present".

10. At its 42nd meeting, on 24 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.36/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 95 to 1, with 30 abstentions (see para. 14, draft resolution B). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic,

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Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Somalia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaire.

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.54

11. On 24 November, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, the Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Spain and Turkey submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.54), which was introduced by the representative of New Zealand at the 44th meeting on 25 November.

12. At its 53rd meeting, on 4 December, a statement by the Secretary-General was circulated on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.62). The observations of the Committee on Conferences on the administrative implications of the draft resolution were also circulated (A/C.1/36/L.62/Add.1).

13. At its 53rd meeting, on 4 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.54 by a recorded vote of 74 to 18, with 30 abstentions (see para. 14, draft resolution C). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Mozambique, Poland, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahrain, Bhutan, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cape Verde, Finland, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Nepal, Peru, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

14. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

##### A

#### The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2933 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3256 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3465 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/65 of 10 December 1976, 32/77 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/59 A of 14 December 1978, 34/72 of 11 December 1979 and 35/144 B of 12 December 1980, relating to the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and of their destruction,

Reaffirming also the 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, 3/ 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, 4/

Having considered the report of the Committee on Disarmament, 5/ which embodies, inter alia, the report of its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons,

Taking note of the recommendation in the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons 6/ that the Committee on Disarmament at the beginning of its

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

4/ General Assembly resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/36/27).

6/ Ibid., para. 56.

1982 session should re-establish the Ad Hoc Working Group with an appropriately revised mandate, which would enable the Committee to build upon the areas of convergence and to resolve the differences of views which were identified by the Group during its sessions held in 1980 and 1981, so as to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date,

Considering it necessary that all efforts be exerted for the resumption and successful conclusion of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. Notes with satisfaction the work of the Committee on Disarmament during its session held in 1981 regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons, in particular progress in the work of its Ad Hoc Working Group on that question;
2. Expresses its regret that an agreement on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;
3. Urges the Committee on Disarmament to continue, as from the beginning of its session to be held in 1982, negotiations on such a multilateral convention as a matter of high priority, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives, and in particular to re-establish its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons with an appropriately revised mandate enabling the Committee to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date;
4. Requests the Committee on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament, to be held in 1982, and to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in paragraph 75 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, it stated that the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represented one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

Convinced of the need for 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 contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Taking into consideration the work done in this area in the Committee on Disarmament as well as in the bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which regrettably had been suspended and did not take place in 1981,

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate such negotiations,

Expressing profound concern over the production of new types of chemical weapons and other actions, which would intensify the chemical arms race and compromise international efforts on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. Rcaffirms the necessity of the earliest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

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

3. Urges the Committee on Disarmament to continue, as from the beginning of its session to be held in 1982, negotiations on such a multilateral convention as a matter of high priority, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives, and in particular to re-establish its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons with an appropriately revised mandate enabling the Committee to achieve agreement on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest date;

4. Calls upon the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to resume at the earliest possible date bilateral negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction and to submit their joint initiative to the Committee on Disarmament;

5. Calls upon all States to refrain from any action which could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons and specifically to refrain from production and deployment of binary and other new types of chemical weapons, as well as from stationing chemical weapons in those States where there are no such weapons at present.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/144 C in which, inter alia, it decided to carry out an impartial investigation to ascertain the facts pertaining to reports regarding the alleged use of chemical weapons and requested the Secretary-General to carry out such an investigation with the assistance of qualified medical and technical experts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 7/ to which is annexed the report prepared by the Group of Experts to Investigate Reports on the Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons,

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7/ A/36/613.

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Noting that, as indicated by the conclusions of its report, the Group of Experts has not yet completed the investigations called for under paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 35/144 C,

Noting also the views of the Group of Experts concerning the importance of prompt on-site investigation of allegations of the use of chemical weapons and the need to devise appropriate procedures for impartial collection and analysis of samples that may be obtained in the course of any such investigations,

Considering, accordingly, that the Group of Experts should continue its investigations,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General, 7/
2. Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Group of Experts to Investigate Reports on the Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons, to continue his investigations pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/144 C and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.