



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.1/43/L.51
31 October 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-third session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 53

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sweden, Vanuatu and Zaire: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

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

Convinced of the consequent urgent need for an end to the nuclear-arms race and the immediate and verifiable reduction and ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that an end to nuclear testing by all States in all environments for all time is an essential step in order to prevent the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and their further proliferation and to contribute, along with other concurrent efforts to reduce nuclear arms, to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the ongoing negotiations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in accordance with their joint statement of 17 September 1987 and noting the significant developments on improved verification arrangements to facilitate the ratification of the 1974 Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the 1976 Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty,

Welcoming also the conclusion on 8 December 1987 of the historic treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on

312

the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles ^{1/} and the agreement in principle on and progress made towards an agreement for 50 per cent reductions in the strategic nuclear forces of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Recalling the proposals by the leaders of the six-nation initiative ^{2/} to promote an end to nuclear testing,

Convinced that the most effective way to achieve the discontinuance of all nuclear tests by all States in all environments for all time is through the conclusion, at an early date, of a verifiable, comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty that will attract the adherence of all States,

Reaffirming the particular responsibilities of the Conference on Disarmament in the negotiation of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

1. Reaffirms its conviction that a treaty to achieve the prohibition of all nuclear-test explosions by all States in all environments for all time is a matter of fundamental importance;

2. Urges, therefore, that the following actions be taken in order that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty may be concluded at an early date:

(a) The Conference on Disarmament should intensify its consideration of item 1 of its agenda entitled "Nuclear-test ban" and initiate substantive work on all aspects of a nuclear-test-ban treaty at the beginning of its 1989 session;

(b) States members of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, and all other States should co-operate in order to facilitate and promote such work;

(c) The nuclear-weapon States, especially those that possess the most important nuclear arsenals, should agree promptly to appropriate verifiable and militarily significant interim measures, with a view to realizing a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

^{1/} CD/798.

^{2/} See the Joint Declaration issued on 22 May 1984 by the heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania (A/39/277-S/16587, annex; for the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-ninth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1984, document S/16587, annex), reaffirmed in the Delhi Declaration issued on 28 January 1985 (A/40/114-S/16921, annex; for the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Fortieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1985, document S/16921, annex) and the Mexico Declaration issued on 7 August 1986 (A/41/518-S/18277, annex I).

(d) Those nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so should adhere to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water; 3/

3. Also urges the Conference on Disarmament:

(a) To take immediate steps for the establishment, with the widest possible participation, of an international seismic monitoring network with a view to the further development of its potential to monitor and verify compliance with a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

(b) In this context, to take into account the progress achieved by the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events, including work on the routine exchange and use of wave-form data, and other relevant initiatives or experiments by individual States and groups of States;

(c) To initiate detailed investigation of other measures to monitor and verify compliance with such a treaty, including an international network to monitor atmospheric radioactivity;

4. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on progress made;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty".
