



UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/380
5 December 1977
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/SPANISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda item 51

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Francisco CORREA (Mexico)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"General and complete disarmament:

"(a) Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament;

"(b) Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

"(c) Report of the Secretary-General."

was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-second session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 31/189 A, C and D of 21 December 1976 and 31/90 of 14 December 1976.

2. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1977, 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 7th meeting, on 18 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 33, 34, 38 to 49 and 51 to 53. The general debate on these items took place at the 7th to 27th meetings, from 18 October to 7 November. 1/

1/ For an index to statements by delegations on disarmament items, see A/32/383.

4. In connexion with item 51, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament; 2/
- (b) Annual report for 1976 of the International Atomic Energy Agency circulated under a note by the Secretary-General (A/32/158 and Add.1);
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 31/90 (A/32/276);
- (d) Letter dated 6 May 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/83);
- (e) Letter dated 6 May 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/84);
- (f) Letter dated 6 May 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/85);
- (g) Letter dated 6 July 1977 from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final communiqué of the Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Tripoli from 16 to 22 May 1977 (A/32/133, annex);
- (h) Letter dated 23 September 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the resolutions adopted by the Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (A/32/235).
- (i) Letter dated 30 September 1977 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations at Geneva addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Final Document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (A/C.1/32/4);
- (j) Note verbale, dated 27 October 1977, from the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final communiqué of the Organizing Conference of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, held in Washington, D.C. from 19 to 21 October 1977 (A/C.1/32/7).

II. PROPOSALS

5. On 19 October, Finland submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.3), which in its revised form (A/C.1/32/L.3/Rev.1) was sponsored by Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Nepal, Norway, Poland, Senegal, Tunisia and Zaire. The revised draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Finland at the 34th meeting, on 16 November; subsequently, it was further revised (A/C.1/32/L.3/Rev.2) by its sponsors. The representative of Pakistan submitted amendments (A/C.1/32/L.38) to the revised draft resolution, which he introduced at the 38th meeting, on 18 November. They read as follows:

(a) "In operative paragraph 4, replace the words 'effective and non-discriminatory restraints' by the words 'universally applied and non-discriminatory safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency'.

(b) "Reformulate operative paragraph 6 as follows:

'Urges the nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to respond positively to the proposals and preoccupations of the non-nuclear-weapon States in order to make it possible for all non-nuclear-weapon States, as defined in article I of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to adhere to the Treaty and urges them, in the interim, to accept the application of universal and non-discriminatory safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency.'

(c) "At the end of operative paragraph 7 add the following:

'without jeopardizing their respective fuel cycle policies or international co-operation agreements and contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy'.

(d) "In operative paragraph 8 (ii) replace the words 'effective and non-discriminatory restraints' by the words 'universally applied and non-discriminatory safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency'."

6. On 2 November, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, the German Democratic Republic, Ghana, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.6), subsequently also sponsored by Nicaragua, Togo, Yemen and Zaire, which was introduced by Poland at the 24th meeting, on 3 November.

7. On 2 November, the representative of Pakistan submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.8), which he introduced at the 28th meeting, on 9 November. The draft resolution was subsequently co-sponsored by Morocco.

8. On 7 November, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Norway, Romania, Sweden, Tunisia and Venezuela submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.11), subsequently also sponsored by Jordan, which was introduced by Sweden at the 32nd meeting, on 15 November. A statement on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution was submitted by the Secretary-General on 18 November (A/C.1/32/L.36). On 9 November, Saudi Arabia submitted amendments (A/C.1/32/L.15) to the draft resolution, which read as follows:

(a) "Amend the title of the draft resolution to read:

"Publication of a disarmament periodical and consideration of the preparation of a United Nations candid film on wars and their consequences"

(b) "Insert a new operative paragraph to read:

"2. Recommends that consideration be given to the making of a United Nations film candidly portraying the vast devastation wrought by the last World War and subsequent wars, and also highlighting the human tragedies and untold miseries brought about as a consequence of these wars, so that such a United Nations film could be shown in schools and universities and on television all over the world with the hope of creating a genuine aversion to all wars in the future;

"and renumber existing paragraph 2 accordingly."

9. On 11 November, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Ghana, Mexico, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.21), subsequently also sponsored by Bangladesh and Venezuela, which was introduced by the representative of Cyprus at the 31st meeting, on 14 November.

10. On 11 November, Belgium submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.26), which was later introduced by its representative at the 32nd meeting, on 15 November.

11. On 14 November, Argentina, Mexico, Nigeria and Sweden submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.28), subsequently also sponsored by Ghana, Jordan, Morocco, New Zealand and Pakistan, which was introduced by the representative of Mexico at the 34th meeting, on 16 November, and was subsequently revised (A/C.1/32/L.28/Rev.1). Australia later also became a sponsor of the revised draft resolution.

III. VOTING

12. At its 29th meeting, on 10 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.6 (see para. 6 above) by consensus (see para. 19 below, draft resolution A).

13. At its 35th meeting, on 17 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.8 (see para. 7 above) by a recorded vote of 86 to none, with 36 abstentions (see para. 19 below, draft resolution B). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierre Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

14. At its 36th meeting, on 17 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.21 (see para. 9 above) by consensus (see para. 19 below, draft resolution C).

15. At its 37th meeting, on 18 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.26 (see para. 10 above) by a recorded vote of 71 to none, with 41 abstentions (see para. 19 below, draft resolution D). 3/ The voting was as follows:

3/ The representative of Jordan subsequently indicated that, had he been present, he would have abstained.

/...

In favour: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

16. At its 38th meeting, on 18 November, before the First Committee proceeded to vote on draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.13 (see para. 8 above), the Chairman announced that consultations with the delegation of Saudi Arabia had confirmed that the intention of its amendments (A/C.1/32/L.15) was "that consideration be given to the making of a United Nations film" and that they need not be put to a vote, on the understanding that the Office of Public Information would undertake preparatory research work on the project and the Secretary-General would report at the next regular session of the General Assembly on the feasibility of making such a film. The draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.13) was then adopted by consensus (see para. 19 below, draft resolution E).

17. At the 40th meeting, on 21 November, before the First Committee proceeded to vote on draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.3/Rev.2, Finland orally revised the draft resolution, on behalf of its co-sponsors as follows:

(a) The following was added as the eighth preambular paragraph:

"Underlining the importance of the nuclear-weapon States parties to the NPT responding positively, by participating in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy as provided in article IV of the Treaty, to the proposals and preoccupation of the non-nuclear-weapon States in order to facilitate the adherence of all non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty;

/...

(b) In operative paragraph 4, the word "all" was inserted before "States".

(c) In operative paragraph 4, the words "under effective and non-discriminatory restraints against the proliferation of nuclear weapons" were replaced by "under effective and non-discriminatory safeguards against the proliferation of nuclear weapons".

(d) The following was added at the end of operative paragraph 7:

"without jeopardizing the respective fuel cycle policies or international co-operation agreements and contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, provided that agreed safeguard measures are applied;"

(e) In operative paragraph 8, the words "under effective and non-discriminatory restraints against the proliferation of nuclear weapons" were replaced by "under effective and non-discriminatory safeguards against the proliferation of nuclear weapons".

At the same meeting, Pakistan announced that its amendments (A/C.1/32/L.38) would not be pressed to the vote. Thereupon, the draft resolution, as revised and subsequently circulated (A/C.1/32/L.3/Rev.3), was adopted by a recorded vote of 89 to 1, with 16 abstentions (see para. 19 below, draft resolution F). The voting was as follows: 4/

In favour: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: China.

4/ The representatives of Luxembourg and Nicaragua subsequently indicated that had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

Abstaining: Algeria, Bhutan, Burma, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Kuwait, Mauritania, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uganda, Zambia.

18. At its 44th meeting, on 25 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.28/Rev.1 (see para. 11 above) by a recorded vote of 91 to 2, 5/ (see para. 19 below, draft resolution G). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Surinam, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: Albania, China.

5/ The representatives of Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Democratic Yemen, Nigeria, Qatar, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda and Zambia later subsequently indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

General and complete disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2660 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, in which it commended the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof,

Convinced that the Treaty constitutes a step towards the exclusion of the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof from the arms race,

Recalling that the States parties to the Treaty met at Geneva from 20 June to 1 July 1977 to review the operation of the Treaty with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Treaty were being realized,

Noting with satisfaction that the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof concluded that the obligations assumed under the Treaty had been faithfully observed by the States parties,

Noting that in its Final Declaration, 6/ the Review Conference affirmed its belief that universal adherence to the Treaty would enhance international peace and security,

Noting furthermore that the States parties to the Treaty reaffirmed their strong support for and continued dedication to the principles and objectives of the Treaty, as well as their commitment to implement effectively its provisions,

Recognizing that in the final Declaration the States parties to the Treaty reaffirmed the commitment undertaken in article V to continue negotiations in good faith concerning further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof,

Bearing in mind that, in this connexion, they have addressed specific requests to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

6/ A/C.1/32/4.

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, 7/

Noting the comments with respect to further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, as well as relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session,

1. Welcomes with satisfaction the positive assessment by the Review Conference of the effectiveness of the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof since its entry into force;

2. Invites all States that have not yet done so, particularly those possessing nuclear weapons or any other types of weapons of mass destruction, to ratify or accede to the Treaty as a significant contribution to international confidence;

3. Affirms its strong interest in avoiding an arms race in nuclear weapons or any other types of weapons of mass destruction on the sea-bed, the ocean floor or subsoil thereof,

4. Requests the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament - in consultation with the States parties to the Treaty and taking into account the proposals made during the Review Conference and any relevant technological developments - to proceed promptly with the consideration of further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race in that environment;

5. Calls upon all States to refrain from any action which might lead to the extension of the arms race to the sea-bed and the ocean floor;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly relevant to further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the sea-bed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof;

7. Requests the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to report on its negotiations to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/189 C of 21 December 1976, in which it requested the nuclear-weapon States, as a first step towards a complete ban on the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, to consider undertaking, without prejudice to

their obligations arising from treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the nuclear security arrangements of some nuclear-weapon Powers,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of the arms race, in particular the nuclear arms race, and the threat to mankind due to the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to devise effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Noting that the non-nuclear-weapon States have called for assurances from nuclear-weapon Powers that they will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against them,

Considering that the existence of credible and binding restraints against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear States would contribute towards strengthening the international non-proliferation régime and creating a suitable climate for disarmament,

Recalling its resolution 3261 G (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 in which it recommended that Member States should consider in all appropriate forums, without loss of time, the question of strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States,

1. Reaffirms the provisions of its resolution 31/189 C;
2. Urges the nuclear-weapon Powers to give serious consideration to extending the undertaking proposed by its resolution 31/189 C and to take expeditious action in all relevant forums to strengthen the security of non-nuclear-weapon States;
3. Recommends that all possible efforts be made at its special session devoted to disarmament to be held in May/June 1978, to evolve binding and credible security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States, taking into account its resolution 31/189 C.

C

The General Assembly,

Mindful that, according to Article 1, paragraph 1, of the Charter, the primary purpose of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security,

Convinced that the relationship between international peace and security to disarmament is a close one and that a determination of this relationship can promote peace, security and disarmament,

Considering that for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to

/...

disarmament, to be held in May/June 1978, the Preparatory Committee proposed that one agenda item be a review and appraisal of the close interrelationship between disarmament, international peace and security and economic development,

Considering further that the proposal for a study of experts on the interrelationship between disarmament and economic development is under consideration by the General Assembly at its current session,

Bearing in mind the need for a parallel study of the interrelationship between disarmament and international security,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to initiate a study on the interrelationship between disarmament and international security;
2. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its special session.

D

The General Assembly,

Concerned at the fact that the armaments race is accelerating and that the world figure for expenditures on armaments continues to increase,

Convinced of the need to intensify and diversify the efforts to promote general and complete disarmament, under strict and effective international control,

Reaffirming the right of each State, in the exercise of its sovereignty, to determine the appropriate conditions and to take all the necessary measures for ensuring its security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Mindful of the importance which new regional measures taken on the initiative of the States concerned may have,

Convinced of the usefulness for the international community of a study on all regional aspects of disarmament,

1. Invites all States to inform the Secretary-General, not later than 15 April 1978, of their views and suggestions concerning the regional aspects of disarmament, including measures designed to increase confidence and stability as well as means of promoting disarmament on a regional basis;
2. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the national communications received by him as official documents to the General Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament, to be held in May/June 1978,
3. Decides to consider at its thirty-third session the desirability of requesting the Secretary-General to prepare, with the collaboration of a special group of qualified governmental experts, a comprehensive study of all the regional

/...

aspects of disarmament, bearing in mind, inter alia, the decisions and recommendations of the special session.

E

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/90 of 14 December 1976, in which it endorsed the agreed proposals made by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Review of the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Disarmament, 8/

Having considered the report on the measures taken by the Secretary-General as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee, 9/

Noting that the Secretary-General has carried out the request in resolution 31/90 to implement as soon as possible the measures recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee falling within his area of responsibilities,

Noting with satisfaction the publication of the first volume of the United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, 10/

Recognizing the vital interest of all Governments and world public opinion to be kept properly informed on all efforts in the field of disarmament,

Recalling the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee to the effect that the General Assembly, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General, should consider publication of a disarmament periodical,

1. Emphasizes the need for a disarmament periodical presenting in highly readable form current facts and developments in the field of disarmament, such as summaries of new proposals, of important relevant statements and communiqués and of in-depth studies undertaken by the United Nations or the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, annotated bibliographies and brief summaries of important books and articles on disarmament questions and related matters;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to initiate the publication of a disarmament periodical in all working languages of the General Assembly.

F

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the danger of nuclear warfare remains a grave threat to the survival of mankind,

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 36 (A/31/36), para. 18.

9/ A/32/276.

10/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.IX.2.

Convinced that the prevention of proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, especially in those areas of the world where the maintenance of international peace and security is endangered, remains an important element in the efforts to avert nuclear warfare,

Recalling resolution 31/189 D of 21 December 1976, in which the General Assembly requested the International Atomic Energy Agency to give special attention to its programme of work in the non-proliferation area and to give careful consideration to all relevant suggestions aiming at strengthening the safeguards régime that have been presented to the Agency, including the communication from the Government of Finland, 11/ and to report on the progress of its work on this question to the Assembly at its thirty-second session,

Noting the annual report for 1976 of the International Atomic Energy Agency, 12/

Recalling also its resolution 31/75 of 10 December 1976 on the implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the recommendations, proposals and statements made at the Conference, 13/

Recalling its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, in which it commended the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to that Treaty,

Noting that more than 100 States are now parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Underlining the importance of the nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons responding positively, by participating in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as provided in article IV of the Treaty, to the proposals and preoccupation of the non-nuclear-weapon States in order to facilitate the adherence of all non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty,

Noting also the importance of the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various parts of the world as a possible means of contributing to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons as recognized in its resolution 31/70 of 10 December 1976 on the comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects,

Recognizing the need to ensure, on a non-discriminatory basis in accordance with article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and in keeping

11/ A/C.1/31/6.

12/ A/32/158 and Add.1.

13/ See A/C.1/31/4.

with the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, a supply of nuclear technology, materials and facilities to meet the world's energy needs,

Noting the deliberations of the International Conference on Nuclear Power and Its Fuel Cycle, held at Salzburg, Austria, from 2 to 13 May 1977 14/ under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the Conference on the Transfer of Nuclear Technology, held at Persepolis, Iran, from 10 to 14 April 1977, which confirmed the important and growing contribution that nuclear energy will make to meeting the energy needs of all countries, including the developing countries,

Noting also that the Organizing Conference of the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation, held in Washington, D.C. from 19 to 21 October 1977 15/ recognized that nuclear energy should be made widely available for peaceful purposes, that effective measures can and should be taken at the national level and through international agreements to minimize the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and that the evaluation would not jeopardize the respective fuel cycle policies or international co-operation agreements and contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, provided that agreed safeguard measures were applied,

Anxious that the accelerated spread and development of nuclear technology should not increase the danger of proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and convinced that these two objectives are not contradictory,

Underlining again the important role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting the contribution of nuclear energy to economic progress, bearing in mind the special needs of developing countries, and in implementing safeguards in the interest of non-proliferation,

Noting that the International Atomic Energy Agency has made further progress in its safeguards activities by increasing its preparedness to reach with States which are not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, if they so desire, universal and non-discriminatory safeguards agreements no less effective than those concluded by the International Atomic Energy Agency with States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, by keeping under scrutiny the strengthening of its safeguards, by completing this year a study on the establishment of regional fuel cycle centres and by presenting a draft convention for physical protection of nuclear materials,

Determined that similar progress could be made in exploring possibilities of increased assistance to the developing areas of the world,

1. Urgently calls for determined efforts by all nuclear-weapon States:

14/ For the proceedings of the Conference, see International Atomic Energy Agency, Nuclear Power and its Fuel Cycle (STI/PUB/465), vol. I (to be issued in eight volumes).

15/ For the final communiqué of the Conference, see A/C.1/32/7.

(a) To bring about the cessation of the nuclear arms race;

(b) To undertake effective measures in the direction of nuclear disarmament;

(c) To find an early solution to the remaining problems in reaching agreement to discontinue all test explosions of nuclear weapons as a step towards the realization of these objectives;

2. Emphasizes in this connexion the particular responsibility of those nuclear-weapon States that have already accepted international obligations, namely, in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with respect to the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and the discontinuance of nuclear-weapon tests and notes as encouraging the recent efforts under way towards these ends;

3. Underlines the importance of determined efforts, especially by the nuclear-weapon States, to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States;

4. Reaffirms that all States have the right, as provided for, inter alia, in article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes under effective and non-discriminatory safeguards against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and underlines the importance of increased efforts in this field, particularly for the needs of the developing countries and areas;

5. Recognizes the importance of the technical assistance provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency to the developing countries and areas of the world within an effective and comprehensive safeguards system, and emphasizes the urgent need of common efforts towards an essential increase of this assistance;

6. Urges States that as yet have not adhered to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in the first instance, to do so at an early date or, at a minimum, to accept other arrangements involving the application of safeguards to their complete nuclear fuel cycle that would provide satisfactory assurances to the international community against the dangers of proliferation while guaranteeing to the States concerned unhindered and non-discriminatory access to the peaceful benefits of nuclear energy;

7. Emphasizes the importance of common efforts to study satisfactory arrangements for an adequate supply of nuclear fuels and other materials and facilities necessary to the efficient implementation and operation of national nuclear power programmes without jeopardizing the respective fuel cycle policies or international co-operation agreements and contracts for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, provided that agreed safeguard measures are applied;

8. Solemnly affirms the following principles:

(a) States should not convert civil nuclear materials or facilities to the production of nuclear weapons;

/...

(b) All States have the right, in accordance with the principle of sovereign equality, to develop their programmes for the peaceful use of nuclear technology for economic and social development in conformity with their priorities, interests and needs and should have, without discrimination, access to, and be free to acquire, technology and materials for the peaceful use of nuclear energy under effective and non-discriminatory safeguards against the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

9. Expresses its strong support for the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to increase the effectiveness of its safeguards system in order to ensure that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will not lead to the proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

10. Recognizes the need adequately to ensure the physical protection of nuclear materials, facilities and transport;

11. Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue the consideration of reaching an international agreement for such protection;

12. Expresses its support for the continuation of the studies by the International Atomic Energy Agency on the question of multinational fuel cycle centres and an international régime for plutonium management as possible means to promote the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and the interests of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

13. Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to report on the progress of its work on these questions to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session.

G

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2602 A (XXIV) of 16 December 1969 relating to the initiation of bilateral negotiations between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the limitation of offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems,

Recalling also its resolutions 2932 B (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3184 A and C (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3261 C (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3484 C (XXX) of 12 December 1975 and 31/189 A of 21 December 1976,

Regretting the absence of definitive results during the last three years of those bilateral negotiations,

1. Notes with satisfaction that, in his address to the General Assembly on 4 October 1977, 16/ the President of the United States of America stated, inter alia, the following:

"The United States is willing to go as far as possible, consistent with our security interests, in limiting and reducing our nuclear weapons. On a

16/ A/32/PV.18, p. 6.

reciprocal basis we are willing now to reduce them by 10 per cent, 20 per cent or even 50 per cent. Then we will work for further reduction to a world truly free of nuclear weapons";

2. Notes with identical satisfaction that, in his address to the Joint Session of the Supreme Soviet and Central Committee of the Communist Party on 2 November 1977, the President of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated the following:

"Today we are proposing a radical step: that agreement be reached on a simultaneous halt in the production of nuclear weapons by all States. All such weapons - whether atomic, hydrogen or neutron bombs or missiles. At the same time the nuclear Powers could undertake to start the gradual reduction of existing stockpiles of such weapons and move towards their complete, total destruction";

3. Stresses the necessity and urgency that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America strive to implement as soon as possible the foregoing declarations of their respective heads of State and invites the Governments of both countries to adopt without delay all relevant measures to achieve that objective;

4. Reiterates with special emphasis its invitation to both Governments to keep the General Assembly informed in good time of the results of their negotiations and trusts to be able to receive from them appropriate information in this regard during the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, to be held in May/June 1978.
