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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Samoa and Solomon Islands:
draft resolution

South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3477 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, in which it endorsed the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the South Pacific and invited the countries concerned to carry forward consultations about ways and means of realizing this objective,

Recalling also article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, 1/ which acknowledges the right of any group of States to conclude a regional treaty in order to assure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Bearing in mind paragraph 60 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure,

1/ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

Noting the adoption on 6 August 1985 by the Heads of Government of the independent or self-governing members of the South Pacific Forum, meeting at Rarotonga, Cook Islands, of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty 3/ (also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga), and their adoption on 8 August 1986 of three Protocols to this Treaty,

Noting also that the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty entered into force upon the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, on 11 December 1986,

Recognizing that the Treaty of Rarotonga reflects the particular circumstances of the South Pacific region,

1. Notes with satisfaction that eleven members of the South Pacific Forum have now ratified the Treaty and that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and China have adhered to Protocols 2 and 3 of the Treaty;

2. Notes also that the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have stated that none of their practices and activities within the Treaty area are inconsistent with the Treaty or its Protocols;

3. Commends the Treaty and its Protocols for the consideration of all Member States.

3/ See The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7, appendix VII.