

Realizing that such a treaty would also constitute an effective measure to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons,

1. *Urges* all States which have not done so to adhere to the Treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water;
2. *Calls upon* all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments;
3. *Expresses the hope* that States will contribute to an effective international exchange of seismic data;
4. *Requests* the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to elaborate without any further delay a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests.

*1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.*

2164 (XXI). Question of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling the declaration on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons contained in its resolution 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961,

Cognizant of the fact that the consultations carried out by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961 and 1801 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, with the Governments of Member States to ascertain their views on the possibility of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons have not been conclusive,

Recalling that, by General Assembly resolution 1909 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament was requested to give urgent consideration to this question,

Believing that the signing of a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons would greatly facilitate negotiations on general and complete disarmament under effective international control and give further impetus to the search for a solution of the urgent problem of nuclear disarmament,

Believing further that the widest possible attendance at a conference for the purpose of signing such a convention is of vital importance for the effective and universal observance of its provisions,

Requests that the forthcoming world disarmament conference give serious consideration to the question of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons.

*1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.*

2165 (XXI). Elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "Elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America",

Considering that this question is of paramount importance and therefore necessitates serious discussion because of its implications for international peace and security,

Decides to transmit to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, for further consideration and report, all the documents and records of the meetings of the First Committee and the plenary meetings of the General Assembly pertaining to this item.

*1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.*

2221 (XXI). United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

The General Assembly,

Having received the unanimous recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that a United Nations conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space should be held in September 1967,

Convinced that the exploration and use of outer space should be carried on for the betterment of mankind and for the benefit of States, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Believing that it is in the interest of all countries, and of the developing countries in particular, that knowledge and understanding of the achievements of space science and technology should be more widely disseminated and that the practical applications of space technology should be actively promoted,

Recalling its resolution 1721 B (XVI) of 20 December 1961, in which it expressed the belief that the United Nations should provide a focal point for international co-operation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

Recalling that the Declaration of the Second Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cairo in October 1964, requested those States which had succeeded in exploring outer space to exchange and disseminate information related to the research they had carried out in this field, so that scientific progress in the peaceful utilization of outer space might be of common benefit to all, and expressed the view that for this purpose an international conference should be convened at an appropriate time,

1. *Decides* that a United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space should be held at Vienna in September 1967;

2. *Endorses* the detailed recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session concerning the terms of reference, objectives, draft agenda and organization of such a conference, including the composition and terms of reference of the panel of experts;⁹

3. *Endorses in particular* the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the objectives of the Conference shall be to examine the practical benefits of space programmes on the basis of scientific and technical achievements, and the opportunities available to non-space Powers for international co-operation in space activities, with special reference to the needs of the developing countries;

4. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies, States

⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda items 30, 89 and 91, document A/6431, paras. 12 and 16.

Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and States that the General Assembly decides specially to invite, to participate in the Conference;

5. *Invites* the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Committee on Space Research of the International Council of Scientific Unions and intergovernmental space organizations to attend the Conference as observers;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the panel of experts within its terms of reference, and in co-operation with the interested specialized agencies, to make, within the ceiling of expenditure established for the Conference, the necessary organizational and administrative arrangements;

7. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session a report on the preparations for, and the organization and proceedings of, the Conference.

*1499th plenary meeting,
19 December 1966.*

2222 (XXI). Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space covering its work during 1966,¹⁰ and in particular the work accomplished by the Legal Sub-Committee during its fifth session, held at Geneva from 12 July to 4 August and at New York from 12 September to 16 September,

Noting further the progress achieved through subsequent consultations among States Members of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the importance of international co-operation in the field of activities in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, and the importance of developing the rule of law in this new area of human endeavour,

1. *Commends* the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Depositary Governments to open the Treaty for signature and ratification at the earliest possible date;

3. *Expresses its hope* for the widest possible adherence to this Treaty;

4. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:

(a) To continue its work on the elaboration of an agreement on liability for damages caused by the launching of objects into outer space and an agreement on assistance to and return of astronauts and space vehicles, which are on the agenda of the Committee;

(b) To begin at the same time the study of questions relative to the definition of outer space and the utilization of outer space and celestial bodies, including the various implications of space communications;

(c) To report on the progress of its work to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session.

*1499th plenary meeting,
19 December 1966.*

ANNEX

Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

The States Parties to this Treaty,

Inspired by the great prospects opening up before mankind as a result of man's entry into outer space,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that the exploration and use of outer space should be carried on for the benefit of all peoples irrespective of the degree of their economic or scientific development,

Desiring to contribute to broad international co-operation in the scientific as well as the legal aspects of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that such co-operation will contribute to the development of mutual understanding and to the strengthening of friendly relations between States and peoples,

Recalling resolution 1962 (XVIII), entitled "Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space", which was adopted unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 December 1963,

Recalling resolution 1884 (XVIII), calling upon States to refrain from placing in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction or from installing such weapons on celestial bodies, which was adopted unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 October 1963,

Taking account of United Nations General Assembly resolution 110 (II) of 3 November 1947, which condemned propaganda designed or likely to provoke or encourage any threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression, and considering that the aforementioned resolution is applicable to outer space,

Convinced that a Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, will further the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Have agreed on the following:

Article I

The exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind.

Outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be free for exploration and use by all States without discrimination of any kind, on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law, and there shall be free access to all areas of celestial bodies.

There shall be freedom of scientific investigation in outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, and States shall facilitate and encourage international co-operation in such investigation.

Article II

Outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means.

Article III

States Parties to the Treaty shall carry on activities in the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, document A/6431.