

C. CONCLUDING PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY

33. This Treaty shall be of unlimited duration. It shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty Governments, including the Governments of all States permanent members of the Security Council.

34. However, the States parties may agree that this Treaty should enter into force for an agreed limited period, given the participation of three States permanent members of the Security Council—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

35. Provision should be made for the procedure for the signing and ratification of this Treaty, for the depositary, for accession by States to this Treaty and for amendments.

37/95. Reduction of military budgets

A

The General Assembly,

Expressing its deep concern about the ever-spiralling arms race and growing military expenditures, which constitute a heavy burden for the economies of all nations and have extremely harmful effects on world peace and security,

Recalling that at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, all Member States unanimously and categorically reaffirmed the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, as well as their solemn commitment to it,⁷¹

Reaffirming the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, according to which the gradual reduction of military budgets on a mutually agreed basis, for example in absolute figures or in terms of percentage points, particularly by nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, would be a measure that would contribute to curbing the arms race and would increase the possibilities for the reallocation of resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries,⁷²

Recalling also the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,⁷³ in which it is provided that during this period renewed efforts should be made to reach agreement on the reduction of military expenditures and the reallocation of resources thus saved to economic and social development, especially for the benefit of developing countries,

Recalling further its resolution 34/83 F of 11 December 1979, in which it considered that a new impetus should be given to endeavours to achieve agreements to freeze, reduce or otherwise restrain, in a balanced manner, military expenditures, including adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission on the work accomplished during its session in 1982 on the question of the reduction of military budgets,⁷⁴

Convinced that the identification and elaboration of a set of principles that should govern further actions of States in freezing and reducing military budgets could contribute to harmonizing the views of States and create confidence among them conducive to achieving international agreements on the reduction of military budgets.

Considering that the identification and elaboration of the principles that should govern further actions of States in freezing and reducing military budgets and the other current activities within the framework of the United Nations related to the question of the reduction of military budgets should be regarded as having the fundamental objective of reaching international agreements on the reduction of military expenditures,

Aware of the various proposals submitted by Member States and of the activities carried out so far within the framework of the United Nations in the field of the reduction of military budgets,

1. *Declares once again its conviction* that it is possible to achieve international agreements on reduction of military budgets without prejudice to the right of all States to undiminished security, self-defence and sovereignty;

2. *Reaffirms* that human and material resources released through the reduction of military expenditures could be reallocated to economic and social development, especially for the benefit of the developing countries;

3. *Reiterates* the urgent need to reinforce the endeavours of all States and international action in the reduction of military budgets, with a view to reaching international agreements to freeze, reduce or otherwise restrain military expenditures;

4. *Urges* all States, in particular the most heavily armed States, pending the conclusion of agreements on the reduction of military expenditures, to exercise self-restraint in their military expenditures with a view to reallocating the funds thus saved to economic and social development, especially for the benefit of developing countries;

5. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue, at its session in 1983, the consideration of the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", including consideration of the background paper⁷⁵ as well as other proposals and ideas on that subject, with a view to identifying and elaborating the principles that should govern further actions of States in freezing and reducing military expenditures, keeping in mind the possibility of embodying such principles in a suitable document at an appropriate stage;

6. *Also requests* the Disarmament Commission to consider, at its next substantive session, other proposals and ideas, as well as recommendations submitted by Member States, for reducing military budgets;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets".

101st plenary meeting
13 December 1982

B

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned about the arms race and present tendencies to increase further the rate of growth of military expenditures, the deplorable waste of human and economic resources and the potentially harmful effects on world peace and security,

Considering that a gradual reduction of military expenditures on a mutually agreed basis would be a measure that would contribute to curbing the arms race and would increase the possibilities of reallocating resources now being used for military purposes to economic and social development, especially for the benefit of the developing countries,

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, document A/S-12/32, para. 62.

⁷² Resolution S-10/2, para. 89.

⁷³ Resolution 35/46, annex.

⁷⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-12/3)*, paras. 23-25.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-12/3), annex II.

Convinced that such reductions could and should be carried out on a mutually agreed basis without detriment to the national security of any country,

Reaffirming its conviction that provisions for defining, reporting, comparing and verifying military expenditures will have to be basic elements of any international agreement to reduce such expenditures,

Recalling that an international system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures has been introduced in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980 and that annual reports on military expenditures are now being received from a number of Member States,

Considering that a wider participation in the reporting system would promote its further refinement and would, by contributing to greater openness in military matters, increase confidence between States,

Considering that new initiatives are called for to give a fresh impetus towards achievement of the broadest possible participation, by States from different geographic regions and representing different budgeting systems, in the reporting of military expenditures to the Secretary-General,

Noting that among such initiatives is a proposal to convene an international conference on military expenditures,

Noting with appreciation that, in pursuance of resolution 35/142 B, the Secretary-General has submitted his report on the reduction of military budgets,⁷⁶ which deals, *inter alia*, with the question of comparing and verifying military expenditures and contains several useful conclusions and recommendations for the promotion of further progress in this field,

Considering also that the study of this question should be followed by a practical exercise in order to explore it further with a view to facilitating future negotiations on the reduction of military expenditures,

Emphasizing that all the above-mentioned activities and initiatives, as well as other ongoing activities within the United Nations related to the reduction of military budgets, should have the fundamental objective of facilitating future negotiations aimed at the conclusion of international agreements on the reduction of military expenditures,

1. *Stresses* the need to increase the number of reporting States with a view to the broadest possible participation from different geographic regions and representing different budgeting systems and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit their views and suggestions on practical means of promoting this goal and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the results of this consultation;

2. *Reiterates its recommendation* that all Member States should report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General, using the reporting instrument, their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to modify the instructions of the reporting instrument in the manner suggested in paragraph 59 of his report⁷⁶ and to circulate this revised instrument among all Member States so that they may use it in their reporting in 1983;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the collecting and assembling of data on military expenditures, reported by States on the basis of the reporting instrument, an integral part of his normal statistical services and to arrange and publish these data according to statistical practice;

⁷⁶ A/S-12/7. The report was subsequently issued with the title *Reduction of Military Budgets—Refinement of international reporting and comparison of military expenditures* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.IX.4).

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of qualified experts⁷⁷ and with the voluntary co-operation of States, to undertake the task of constructing price indices and purchasing-power parities for the military expenditures of participating States; this task should encompass a study of the problem as a whole, which would include the following:

(a) To assess the feasibility of such an exercise;

(b) To design the project and methodology to be employed;

(c) To determine the types of data required, such as product descriptions, prices and statistical weights;

(d) To construct military price indices and purchasing-power parities;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ascertain the willingness of States to participate and to enlist their voluntary co-operation;

7. *Invites* Member States to participate in the above-mentioned exercise;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit progress reports to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions and a final report to the Assembly at its fortieth session;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the group of experts with the necessary assistance and secretariat services;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the report on the reduction of military budgets to be issued as a United Nations publication⁷⁶ and to be widely distributed;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets".

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37/96. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/68 of 14 December 1978, 34/80 A and B of 11 December 1979, 35/150 of 12 December 1980 and 36/90 of 9 December 1981, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that, in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, it is stated that the establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole,⁷⁸

⁷⁷ Subsequently referred to as the Group of Experts on the Comparison of Military Budgets.

⁷⁸ Resolution S-10/2, para. 64.