

ference on Disarmament to undertake, as a matter of the highest priority, negotiations with a view to achieving agreement on appropriate and practical measures for the prevention of nuclear war,

*Having considered* the report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 1985 session,<sup>95</sup>

*Noting with grave concern* that the Conference on Disarmament was once again unable to start negotiations on the question during its 1985 session,

*Taking into account* the deliberations on this item at its fortieth session,

*Convinced* that the prevention of nuclear war and the reduction of the risk of nuclear war are matters of the highest priority and of vital interest to all peoples of the world,

*Also convinced* that the prevention of nuclear war is a problem too important to be left to the nuclear-weapon States alone,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>104</sup>

1. *Notes with regret* that, despite the fact that the Conference on Disarmament has discussed the question of the prevention of nuclear war for several years, it has been unable even to establish a subsidiary body to consider appropriate and practical measures to prevent it;

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that, in view of the urgency of this matter and the inadequacy or insufficiency of existing measures, it is necessary to devise suitable steps to expedite effective action for the prevention of nuclear war;

3. *Again requests* the Conference on Disarmament to undertake, as a matter of the highest priority, negotiations with a view to achieving agreement on appropriate and practical measures for the prevention of nuclear war and to establish for that purpose an *ad hoc* committee on the subject at the beginning of its 1986 session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Prevention of nuclear war".

117th plenary meeting  
16 December 1985

#### 40/153. 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, 36/90 of 9 December 1981, 37/96 of 13 December 1982, 38/185 of 20 December 1983 and 39/149 of 17 December 1984, and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling further* the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,<sup>102</sup>

*Reaffirming its conviction* that concrete action for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security,

*Recalling* its decision, taken at its thirty-fourth session in resolution 34/80 B, to convene a Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo during 1981,

*Recalling also* its decision to make every effort, in consideration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area and progress made in the harmonization of views, to finalize, in accordance with its normal methods of work, all preparations for the Conference, including the dates for its convening,

*Recalling further* its decision, taken at its thirty-ninth session in resolution 39/149, concerning the convening of the Conference in the first half of 1986,

*Recalling* the exchange of views in the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean in 1985,<sup>106</sup>

*Noting* the exchange of views on the adverse political and security climate in the region,

*Noting further* the various documents before the *Ad Hoc* Committee,

*Convinced* that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean area, conceived in the context of their confrontation, gives urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

*Considering* that any other foreign military presence in the area, whenever it is contrary to the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, gives greater urgency to the need to take practical steps towards the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration,

*Considering further* that the creation of a zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the littoral and hinterland States,

*Calling* for the renewal of genuinely constructive efforts through the exercise of the political will necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

*Deeply concerned* at the danger posed by the grave and ominous developments in the area and the resulting sharp deterioration of peace, security and stability which particularly seriously affect the littoral and hinterland States, as well as international peace and security,

*Convinced* that the continued deterioration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area is an important consideration bearing on the question of the urgent convening of the Conference and that the easing of tension in the area would enhance the prospect of success being achieved by the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean<sup>107</sup> and the exchange of views in the Committee;

2. *Emphasizes* its decision to convene the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

3. *Notes* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has been unable, during 1985, to complete preparatory work relating to the convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean and

<sup>104</sup> A/40/498.

<sup>105</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

<sup>106</sup> See A/AC.159/SR.266-272, 274, 277-279, 281-285, 287 and 288 and A/AC.159/SR.263-292/Corrigendum.

<sup>107</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/40/29).

urges the Committee to continue its work with vigour and determination;

4. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee, taking into account the political and security climate in the region, to complete preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean during 1986 in order to enable the opening of the Conference at Colombo at an early date soon thereafter, but not later than 1988, to be decided by the Committee in consultation with the host country;

5. *Emphasizes* that the Conference called for in its resolution 34/80 B and subsequent resolutions and the establishment and maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace require the full and active participation and co-operation of all the permanent members of the Security Council, the major maritime users and the littoral and hinterland States;

6. *Decides* that preparatory work would comprise organizational matters and substantive issues, including the provisional agenda for the Conference, rules of procedure, participation, stages of the Conference, level of representation, documentation, consideration of appropriate arrangements for any international agreements that may ultimately be reached for the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and the preparation of the draft final document of the Conference;

7. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee at the same time to seek the necessary harmonization of views on remaining relevant issues;

8. *Requests* the Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to consult the Secretary-General, at the appropriate time, on the establishment of a secretariat for the Conference;

9. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions, and requests the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

10. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold three preparatory sessions in 1986 of a duration of two weeks each, for completion of the preparatory work;

11. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit to the Conference a report on its preparatory work;

12. *Requests* the Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue his consultations on the participation in the work of the Committee by States Members of the United Nations that are not members of the Committee, with the aim of resolving this matter at the earliest possible date;

13. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-first session a full report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the provision of summary records, in recognition of its preparatory function.

*117th plenary meeting  
16 December 1985*

#### 40/154. World Disarmament Conference

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977, 33/69 of 14 December 1978, 34/81 of 11 December 1979, 35/151 of 12 December 1980, 36/91 of 9 December 1981,

<sup>108</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 28 (A/40/28).

37/97 of 13 December 1982, 38/186 of 20 December 1983 and 39/150 of 17 December 1984,

*Reiterating its conviction* that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

*Stressing anew its conviction* that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could provide the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

*Taking note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference,<sup>108</sup>

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>10</sup> it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

*Recalling also* that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 14 of its report to the General Assembly,<sup>108</sup> the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated the following:

“Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly should take up the question at its fortieth session for further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of that resolution, and resolution 39/150, also adopted by consensus”;

2. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

3. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue to maintain close contact with the representatives of the nuclear-weapon States in order to remain currently informed of their positions, as well as with all other States, and to consider any relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially bearing in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled “World Disarmament Conference”.

*117th plenary meeting  
16 December 1985*

#### 40/155. Relationship between disarmament and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 38/71 B of 15 December 1983 and 39/160 of 17 December 1984,

*Recalling*, in particular, its decision to convene an International Conference on the Relationship between Disarm-