

43/76. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

A

DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/83 A of 11 December 1979, 35/156 J of 12 December 1980, 36/97 K of 9 December 1981, 37/100 E of 13 December 1982, 38/73 H of 15 December 1983, 39/63 K of 12 December 1984 and 40/151 A of 16 December 1985,

Expressing the growing alarm of the world community over the dangers of the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and its adverse social and economic consequences,

Noting that the present state of the international situation requires that the disarmament principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations become part and parcel of any collective efforts aimed at ensuring a truly safe world, including those undertaken by the Security Council,

Reaffirming that the United Nations under its Charter plays a central role and bears main responsibility in the area of disarmament and the strengthening of international security,

Recalling paragraph 13 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ in which the Assembly acknowledged that genuine and lasting peace can only be created through the effective implementation of the security system provided for in the Charter and the speedy and substantial reduction of arms and armed forces, by international agreement and mutual example,

Recalling that, under Article 26 of the Charter, the Security Council is responsible for formulating, with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee, plans for establishing an arms regulation system,

Noting the fact that the Security Council, which is vested under the Charter with the principal responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, has not yet conducted any examination of the question of the adverse effects of the arms race, especially in the nuclear field, on international peace and security, as provided for in the relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,¹¹ which opens the process of genuine disarmament,

Mindful of the need to use all avenues for further progress through effective measures in the field of disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* the Security Council, in particular its permanent members, within the framework of its main task, to contribute to establishing and maintaining international peace and security with the least possible diversion of world human and economic resources to armament, and to take the necessary steps for the effective implementation of Article 26 of the Charter of the United Nations with a view to enhancing the central role of the United Nations in facilitating solutions to the issues of arms limitation, primarily in the nuclear field, and disarmament,

as well as the strengthening of international peace and security;

2. *Recommends* that the nuclear-weapon States, which at the same time are the five permanent members of the Security Council, hold joint meetings and provide regular information to the General Assembly, as well as to the Conference on Disarmament, about the state of affairs as regards the range of issues related to disarmament, especially in the nuclear field, the prevention of a nuclear war and the status of the current agreements in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, and about progress at those negotiations which include the participation of the nuclear-weapon States;

3. *Recommends* that the Security Council consider the question of establishing, under Article 29 of the Charter, such subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions to facilitate a solution to disarmament issues;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution within the framework of the agenda item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly".

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

B

NUCLEAR-ARMS FREEZE

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, adopted in 1978 and unanimously and categorically reaffirmed in 1982 during the twelfth special session of the General Assembly,⁸⁷ the second special session devoted to disarmament, the Assembly expressed deep concern over the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons and the continuing arms race,

Convinced that, in this nuclear age, lasting world peace can be based only on the attainment of the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Welcoming the improvement of the relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America and the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles,¹¹ as well as their agreement in principle to reduce by 50 per cent their strategic nuclear arsenals,

Convinced of the urgency further to pursue negotiations for the substantial reduction and qualitative limitation of existing nuclear arms,

Considering that a nuclear-arms freeze, while not an end in itself, would constitute an effective step to prevent the continued increase and qualitative improvement of existing nuclear weaponry during the period when the negotiations take place, and that at the same time it would provide a favourable environment for the conduct of negotiations to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons,

⁸⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32.

Convinced that the undertakings derived from the freeze can be effectively verified,

Noting with deep concern that nuclear-weapon States have not so far taken any action in response to the call made in the relevant resolutions on the question of a nuclear-arms freeze,

1. Urges once more the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, as the two major nuclear-weapon States, to agree to an immediate nuclear-arms freeze, which would, *inter alia*, provide for a simultaneous total stoppage of any further production of nuclear weapons and a complete cut-off in the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes;

2. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to agree, through a joint declaration, to a comprehensive nuclear-arms freeze, whose structure and scope would be the following:

(a) It would embrace:

- (i) A comprehensive test ban on nuclear weapons and on their delivery vehicles;
- (ii) The complete cessation of the manufacture of nuclear weapons and of their delivery vehicles;
- (iii) A ban on all further deployment of nuclear weapons and of their delivery vehicles;
- (iv) The complete cessation of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes;

(b) It would be subject to appropriate and effective measures and procedures of verification;

3. Requests the nuclear-weapon States to submit a joint report, or separate reports, to the General Assembly, prior to the opening of its forty-fourth session, on the implementation of the present resolution;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session an item entitled "Nuclear-arms freeze".

73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988

C

WORLD DISARMAMENT CAMPAIGN

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in paragraph 15 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, it declared that it was essential that not only Governments but also the peoples of the world recognize and understand the dangers in the present situation and stressed the importance of mobilizing world public opinion on behalf of disarmament,

Recalling also its resolution 42/39 G of 30 November 1987,

Having examined the reports of the Secretary-General of 19 May 1988⁸⁸ and 4 October 1988⁸⁹ on the implementation of the programme of activities of the World Disarmament Campaign by the United Nations system,

Having also examined the part of the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1988 dealing with the activities of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies relating to the implementation of the World Disarmament

Campaign,⁹⁰ as well as the Final Act of the Sixth United Nations Pledging Conference for the Campaign,⁹¹ held on 27 October 1988,

1. Reiterates its commendation of the manner in which, as described in the above-mentioned reports, the World Disarmament Campaign has been geared by the Secretary-General in order to guarantee "the widest possible dissemination of information and unimpeded access for all sectors of the public to a broad range of information and opinions on questions of arms limitation and disarmament and the dangers relating to all aspects of the arms race and war, in particular nuclear war";⁹²

2. Recalls that, as was also agreed by consensus in the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, it is likewise an essential requisite for the universality of the Campaign that it receive "the co-operation and participation of all States";⁹²

3. Endorses once more the statement made by the Secretary-General on the occasion of the Third United Nations Pledging Conference for the World Disarmament Campaign⁹³ to the effect that such co-operation implies that adequate funds be made available and that consequently the criterion of universality also applies to pledges, since a campaign without world-wide participation and funding will have difficulty in reflecting this principle in its implementation;

4. Reiterates its regret that most of the States that have the largest military expenditures have not so far made any financial contribution to the Campaign;

5. Decides that at its forty-fourth session there should be a seventh United Nations Pledging Conference for the World Disarmament Campaign, and expresses the hope that on that occasion all those Member States that have not yet announced any voluntary contribution may do so;

6. Reiterates its recommendation that the voluntary contributions made by Member States to the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund should not be earmarked for specific activities inasmuch as it is most desirable that the Secretary-General enjoy full freedom to take the decisions he deems fit within the framework of the Campaign previously approved by the General Assembly and in exercise of the powers vested in him in connection with the Campaign;

7. Notes with appreciation that the Secretary-General has given permanent character to his instructions to the United Nations information centres and regional commissions to give wide publicity to the Campaign and, whenever necessary, to adapt, as far as possible, United Nations information materials to local languages;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report covering both the implementation of the programme of activities of the Campaign by the United Nations system during 1989 and the programme of activities contemplated by the system for 1990;

⁸⁸ A/S-15/9.

⁸⁹ A/43/642.

⁹⁰ A/43/685, sect. II.D.

⁹¹ A/CONF.146/1.

⁹² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32, annex V, para. 4.

⁹³ See A/CONF.131/SR.1.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "World Disarmament Campaign".

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

D

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986 and 42/39 J of 30 November 1987,

Taking note of the Political Declaration adopted by the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986, in which the Heads of State or Government, *inter alia*, reaffirmed the need to strengthen the role of the regional bodies in mobilizing support for the World Disarmament Campaign and, in this regard, welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa at Lomé,⁹⁴

Bearing in mind resolution AHG/Res.164 (XXIII),⁹⁵ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-third ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 27 to 29 July 1987, by which it, *inter alia*, endorsed the Lomé Declaration on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa and the Programme of Action for Peace, Security and Co-operation in Africa,⁹⁶

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General,⁹⁷

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, inaugurated on 24 October 1986, has become operational;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts in taking the necessary measures to ensure the effective functioning of the Centre, and requests him to continue to lend all the necessary support to the Centre;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Member States and the international, governmental and non-governmental organizations that have already made contributions to ensure the functioning of the Centre;

4. *Appeals once again* to Member States, as well as to international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the effective functioning of the Centre;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

E

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by the threat to the survival of mankind and to the life-sustaining system posed by nuclear weapons and by their use, inherent in concepts of deterrence,

Conscious of an increased danger of nuclear war as a result of the intensification of the nuclear-arms race and the serious deterioration of the international situation,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament is essential for the prevention of nuclear war and for the strengthening of international peace and security,

Also convinced that a prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling that in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that the use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1988 session, was not able to undertake negotiations with a view to achieving agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, taking as a basis the text annexed to General Assembly resolution 41/60 F of 3 December 1986 and 42/39 C of 30 November 1987,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations, as a matter of priority, in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, taking as a basis the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the results of those negotiations.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

ANNEX

Draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The States Parties to this Convention,

Alarmed by the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that any use of nuclear weapons constitutes a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity,

Convinced that this Convention would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Determined to continue negotiations for the achievement of this goal,

⁹⁴ See A/41/697-S/18392, annex, sect. I, para. 58.

⁹⁵ See A/42/699, annex II.

⁹⁶ A/40/761-S/17573, annex. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fortieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1985*, document S/17537, annex.

⁹⁷ A/43/689.

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The States Parties to this Convention solemnly undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

Article 2

This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

Article 3

1. This Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State that does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. This Convention shall enter into force on the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty-five Governments, including the Governments of the five nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited after the entry into force of this Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The depositary shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession and the date of the entry into force of this Convention, as well as of the receipt of other notices.

6. This Convention shall be registered by the depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 4

This Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send duly certified copies thereof to the Government of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, opened for signature at _____ on the _____ day of _____ one thousand nine hundred and _____.

F

UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT FELLOWSHIP, TRAINING AND ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAMME

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁸⁷ the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, *inter alia*, to continue the programme and to increase the number of fellowships from twenty to twenty-five as from 1983,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has already trained an appreciable number of public officials selected from geographical regions represented in the United Nations system, most of whom are now in positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament affairs in their respective countries or Governments,

Recalling its resolutions 37/100 G of 13 December 1982, 38/73 C of 15 December 1983, 39/63 B of 12 December 1984, 40/151 H of 16 December 1985, 41/60 H of 3 December 1986 and 42/39 I of 30 November 1987,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme, as designed, has enabled an increased number of public offi-

cial, particularly from the developing countries, to acquire more expertise in the sphere of disarmament,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, particularly to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly and the report of the Secretary-General⁹⁸ approved by resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America for inviting the 1988 fellows to study selected activities in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of the programme within existing resources;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the programme.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

G

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/39 D of 30 November 1987, by which it decided to establish the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia with headquarters at Kathmandu,

Taking into account its decision that the Centre should provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by Member States of the Asian region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament through appropriate utilization of available resources, and should co-ordinate the implementation of regional activities in Asia under the World Disarmament Campaign,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General of 19 October 1988;⁹⁹

2. *Welcomes* the signing of an agreement and a memorandum of understanding between the Government of Nepal and the United Nations regarding the establishing of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia;

3. *Commends* the administrative measures taken by the Secretary-General to ensure the establishment and functioning of the Centre, and requests him to continue lending all possible support;

4. *Invites* Member States and interested organizations to make voluntary contributions for the effective functioning of the Centre;

⁹⁸ A/33/305.

⁹⁹ A/43/568.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

H

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986 and 42/39 K of 30 November 1987,

Welcoming the inauguration of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America on 9 October 1987,

Recalling also the Acapulco Commitment to Peace, Development and Democracy signed by the heads of State of States members of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action on 29 November 1987,¹⁰⁰ as well as the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Permanent Mechanism held at Cartagena, Colombia, in February 1988,

Taking into account that the scope of action of the Centre includes Latin America and the Caribbean,

Also welcoming the holding by the Centre of the Workshop-Seminar of Experts on Disarmament from 4 to 6 May 1988,

Taking note of the final documents of the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Nicosia from 7 to 10 September 1988,⁵⁵

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States that have made valuable contributions to the functioning of the Centre,

Convinced that in carrying out its activities the Centre will seek to promote relationships based upon mutual confidence and security among countries of the region in a spirit of harmony, solidarity and co-operation aimed at the implementation of measures that foster peace, disarmament and social and economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America, in conformity with its mandate contained in resolution 41/60 J, is called upon to explore new avenues for concerted political action among the countries of the region and to strengthen further the intra-Latin American and Caribbean links in a framework of harmony, solidarity and co-operation that will enable the region to become an effective area of peace;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the holding of the Conference of Experts on the Strengthening of Political Co-operation in Latin America and the Caribbean in the fields of peace, disarmament, development and security, within the framework of the World Disarmament Campaign, at Lima from 6 to 9 December 1988, which will also examine various conceptual and organizational aspects of the Centre to enable it to fulfil its objectives;

3. *Recommends* that the Centre hold two meetings during 1989 with a view to reaffirming its role as a centre for documentary collection, diffusion and dissemination, as a forum for the promotion of peace, disarmament and development measures in the context of the World Disarmament Campaign and as an organ for the co-ordination of studies, research and programmes in the fields of its competence;

4. *Invites once again* Member States and international, governmental and non-governmental organizations to make voluntary contributions to the Centre;

5. *Decides* to rename the Centre "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean";

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit that appeal to all Member States in order to ensure the effective functioning of the Centre;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*73rd plenary meeting
7 December 1988*

43/77. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifteenth special session

A

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, it unanimously stressed the importance of both qualitative and quantitative measures in the process of disarmament,

Observing that at no stage since the first special session devoted to disarmament has the qualitative aspect of the arms race been seriously addressed by the international community,

Noting with concern the existing potential in technological advances for application to military purposes, thus escalating the level and sophistication of armaments,

Recognizing that such a development will have a negative impact on the security environment while causing a major setback to disarmament efforts,

Stressing, in this context, the importance of effectively addressing this problem and ensuring that scientific and technological developments are not exploited for military purposes but harnessed for the common benefit of mankind,

Emphasizing that the proposal contained in the present resolution is without prejudice to research and development efforts being undertaken for peaceful purposes,

Recognizing the interests of the international community in the subject and the need to follow closely such developments,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow future scientific and technological developments, especially those which have potential military applications, and to evaluate their impact on international security, with the assistance of qualified consultant experts, as appropriate, and

¹⁰⁰ A/42/844-S/19314, annex. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1987*, document S/19314, annex.