

44/126. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

The General Assembly,

Conscious that the present stage of mankind's development is distinctive for its technological, economic and political changes, making overall progress possible, but at the same time also for its many obstacles, old and new, to the building of a more peaceful, secure, just, equitable, democratic and humane world,

Considering that events of significant bearing on international security are taking place, including a wide-ranging dialogue between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, with their positive effect on world developments and establishment of new trends in international relations,

Noting with satisfaction that conflicts and hostilities are giving way to negotiations, understanding and co-operation in a number of instances,

Mindful that the use of nuclear weapons could lead to the extinction of human life on earth,

Stressing the need for the strengthening of international security through disarmament and restraints on the qualitative and quantitative escalation of the arms race,

Expressing its expectation that 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, of 8 December 1987,¹⁴ would be a precursor to the adoption of further concrete disarmament measures leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing that the existing sombre contrast between enormous military expenditures and dire poverty underlines the importance of giving concrete shape to the concept of the link between disarmament and development,

Stressing also that disarmament, the relaxation of international tension, respect for the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, especially the principles of the sovereign equality of States and the peaceful settlement of disputes and the injunction to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in international relations; respect for the right to self-determination and national independence, economic and social development, the complete eradication of colonialism, *apartheid* and all other forms of racism and racial discrimination, aggression and occupation; respect for human rights, and the strengthening of international peace and security are closely related to each other,

Expressing its support for all efforts towards a successful resolution of hotbeds of crisis in the world, irrespective of their historical or contemporary causes, ensuring that the solutions are not imposed by outside Powers to the detriment of the interest of the parties directly concerned,

Expressing its conviction that the gradual military disengagement of the great Powers and their military alliances from various parts of the world should be promoted,

Considering that a *détente* devoid of economic content is unlikely to endure, and that if economic imperatives, particularly the requirements of developing countries, are not accommodated, the resulting strains may very well undermine the current trends towards global peace and harmony,

Considering also that the economic situation in the vast majority of the developing countries has deteriorated dramatically, especially in the least developed ones, and

that the fruits of development should benefit the largest segments of population,

Stressing that the present asymmetry in economic and technological development can only be redressed through a balanced development of the entire international community and through efforts aimed at the broadest possible democratization of international relations,

Stressing also the need for structural adjustments in all spheres, in accordance with the development objectives and priorities of the countries concerned, in order to respond to the challenges of advanced technology, especially the technology of tomorrow,

Noting with satisfaction that the important process of decolonization from which a large number of sovereign States have emerged is entering a decisive stage,

Concerned over the growing environmental problems, which pose a threat to the very survival of mankind and testify to the interdependence of interests of all nations,

Stressing further that the promotion of freedom and human rights is one of the basic objectives of the world community,

Deeply concerned that racism and discrimination based on colour, creed, ethnic origin, culture or way of life are still practised,

Strongly emphasizing that *apartheid* is a particular and repugnant form of institutionalized racism which civilized nations have rightly condemned as a crime against humanity,

Reaffirming that the United Nations is an irreplaceable instrument for regulating international relations and resolving international problems and that its main organs, particularly the Security Council, are responsible for the maintenance and effective promotion of international peace and security,

1. Reaffirms the validity of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,¹¹⁸ and calls upon all States to contribute effectively to its implementation;

2. Urges once again all States to abide strictly, in their international relations, by their commitment to the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Emphasizes that, until an enduring and stable peace based on a comprehensive, viable and readily implementable structure of international security is established, peace, the achievement of disarmament and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means continue to be the first and foremost task of the international community;

4. Calls upon all States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force, intervention, interference, aggression, foreign occupation and colonial domination or measures of political and economic coercion which violate the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and security of other States, as well as the permanent sovereignty of peoples over their natural resources;

5. Also calls upon all States to seek, through more effective utilization of the means provided for in the Charter, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the elimination of the focal points of crisis and tension, which constitute a threat to international peace and security;

6. Urges all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States and other militarily significant States, to take immediate steps aimed at promoting and using effectively the system of collective security as envisaged in the Charter, as well as halting effectively the arms race with the aim of achieving general and complete disarmament under effec-

¹¹⁸ Resolution 2734 (XXV).

tive international control, and implementing the recommendations and decisions contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;¹⁷

7. *Stresses* that there is a need further to enhance the effectiveness of the Security Council in discharging its principal responsibility of maintaining international peace and security and to enhance the preventive role, authority and enforcement capacity of the Council in accordance with the Charter;

8. *Emphasizes* the role that the United Nations has in the maintenance of international peace and security and in economic and social development and progress for the benefit of mankind;

9. *Considers* that the management of the world economy needs to be more broad-based so as to reflect the interests of all countries and groups of countries and to evolve policies which can be supported by all, as well as that the current economic and social problems and the needs of the future are such that no single nation or group of nations can solve them in isolation;

10. *Emphasizes also* that there can be no lasting peace and security in the world without the solution of the international economic problems, particularly those of the developing countries, and the ensuring of the sustained growth and development of the world economy;

11. *Reaffirms* that the total eradication of colonialism and the economic emancipation of all peoples as an indispensable pre-condition for maintaining and strengthening their political independence remain priority tasks;

12. *Considers* that the protection of the environment has emerged as a major global concern, dramatically emphasizing the growing interdependence of the world, which calls for urgent co-operative measures and a global

compact ensuring sustainable and environmentally sound development;

13. *Considers also* that respect for and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in their civil, political, economic, social and cultural aspects, on the one hand, and the strengthening of international peace and security, on the other, mutually reinforce each other;

14. *Reaffirms also* the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples under colonial domination, foreign occupation or racist régimes and their inalienable right to self-determination and independence;

15. *Reaffirms further* that the democratization of international relations is an imperative necessity enabling, under the conditions of interdependence, the full development and independence of all States, as well as the attainment of genuine security, peace and co-operation in the world, and stresses its firm belief that the United Nations offers the best framework for the promotion of these goals;

16. *Emphasizes* the role that the United Nations has to play in promoting respect for international law as a basis of peace and security;

17. *Invites* Member States to submit their views on the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the basis of the replies received;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*