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UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA, UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 G of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia,

Reaffirming its resolutions 37/100 F of 13 December 1982, 38/73 J of 15 December 1983, 39/63 F of 12 December 1984, 40/94 A of 12 December 1985, 41/59 M of 3 December 1986 and 42/39 E of 30 November 1987 on regional disarmament,

Taking note of the final documents of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,⁷ and noting in particular the importance placed by the heads of State or Government on the activities of the United Nations regional centres in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean,

Convinced that the initiatives and activities mutually agreed upon by Member States of the respective regions aimed at fostering mutual confidence and security, as well as the implementation and co-ordination of regional activities under the World Disarmament Campaign, would encourage and facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament in these regions,

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to the trust funds of the three regional centres,

Bearing in mind the need to provide the centres with financial stability so as to facilitate the planning of their activities,

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on the regional centres in Africa,⁹⁵ Asia⁹⁶ and Latin America and the Caribbean,⁹⁷ and of the efforts of the Secretary-General in providing the necessary administrative measures to permit the establishment of the three centres,

Convinced that the appointment of a Director to head each of the three regional centres is essential to ensure the continued effective functioning of the centres,

Noting that the responsibilities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia include the Asia-Pacific region,

1. *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 operational activities of the centres;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for all the efforts he has made in favour of the centres, and requests him to continue to provide all the necessary support to their activities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, as soon as practicable, the post of Director at each of the regional centres so as to ensure the effective functioning of the centres;

4. *Decides* to rename the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia as the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

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

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

44/118. Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security

A

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/77 A of 7 December 1988,

Noting with concern the potential in technological advances for application to military purposes, which could lead to the emergence of an entirely new class of weapon systems,

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

Stressing, in this context, the importance of preventing this negative impact by effectively addressing this problem and ensuring that scientific and technological developments are harnessed for the common benefit of mankind,

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

Recognizing further that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Emphasizing that the proposal contained in resolution 43/77 A is without prejudice to research and development efforts being undertaken for peaceful purposes,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on this question,⁹⁸

1. *Takes note* of the preliminary work undertaken by 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;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conclude this work so that a report can be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

⁹⁵ A/44/582.

⁹⁶ A/44/583.

⁹⁷ A/44/584.

⁹⁸ A/44/487 and Add.1 and 2.

3. *Notes* that the process of establishing national expert panels by Member States has already begun;

4. *Encourages* Member States to participate by communicating their views to the Secretary-General, and invites them to establish panels at the national level to monitor and evaluate developments;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

B

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Considering that science and technology can profoundly contribute to solving the problems of mankind, especially to promoting its social and economic development,

Noting the interest of the international community in the peaceful uses of scientific and technological achievements,

Recognizing the vast possibilities that scientific and technological progress offers for supporting disarmament negotiations and implementing their results, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on arms limitation and disarmament as well as conversion of military industry to civilian production,

Welcoming respective activities undertaken so far in this area by States and national and international scientific and technological institutions,

Taking into account that scientifically and technologically more advanced States bear a special responsibility for disseminating information on and promoting the application of science and technology in the field of disarmament,

Considering the need for an intensification and extension of such activities, as well as international co-operation, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on arms limitation and disarmament, application of technologies for improved means of verification and conversion of military industry to civilian production,

1. *Takes note* of national and international activities to use scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify and extend such activities, to develop international co-operation in this area and to keep the United Nations informed about progress in this field;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session an item entitled "Science and technology for disarmament".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

44/119. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it declared the decade of the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade and requested, *inter alia*, the then Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to work out "a comprehensive programme, dealing with all aspects of the problem of the cessation of the arms race and general and complete disarmament under effective international control, which would provide the Conference with a guideline to chart the course of its further work and its negotiations",

Recalling also its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, by which it adopted the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, which, *inter alia*, called for the elaboration of the comprehensive programme of disarmament with the utmost urgency,

Recalling further its resolution 43/78 K of 7 December 1988, in which it noted the agreement of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament of the Conference on Disarmament to "resume its work at the outset of the 1989 session of the Conference with the firm intention of completing the elaboration of the programme for its submission to the General Assembly, at the latest at its forty-fourth session",

Having examined the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament concerning its work during the 1989 session of the Conference on Disarmament,⁹⁹ which is an integral part of the report of the Conference,

Recognizing the efforts of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament and the substantial progress achieved thus far,

Conscious of the need to continue the work on the comprehensive programme of disarmament, building on the texts already agreed to, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues and thus concluding negotiations on it,

Recalling its resolution 43/78 L of 7 December 1988, in which it declared the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade,

Considering that the conclusion of the elaboration of the comprehensive programme of disarmament would constitute an important contribution to the success of the Third Disarmament Decade and to the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to consider, at the beginning of its 1991 session, the resumption of the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament with the aim of resolving the outstanding issues in order to conclude the elaboration of the programme;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Comprehensive programme of disarmament".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

⁹⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), para. 100.*