

security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole,

*Recalling also* the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,<sup>89</sup>

*Noting* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean, during its preparatory session in July 1989,<sup>90</sup> commemorated the tenth anniversary of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, which took place on 13 July 1979,

*Recalling further* paragraph 22 of the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,<sup>7</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, as well as to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States of the region,

*Convinced* that agreement on such action should be facilitated by encouraging developments in international relations that could have beneficial effects on the region,

*Also 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,

*Considering* that the creation of the 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,

*Noting with appreciation* the offer made by the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, in 1992,

*Regretting* the decision of some members to withdraw from the *Ad Hoc* Committee, and expressing the hope that they would reconsider their position,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean,<sup>91</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* full support for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace;

3. *Reiterates and 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;

4. *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;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in the implementation of the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, includ-

ing the preparatory work for the convening of the Conference, as called for in the relevant resolutions recommended by the Committee and adopted by the General Assembly by consensus, significant progress has been made in the preparatory work, in particular in the preparation of the draft agenda and the draft rules of procedure of the Conference;

6. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Working Group of the *Ad Hoc* Committee has made considerable progress in identifying substantive elements at the 1989 session of the Committee,<sup>92</sup> and urges the *Ad Hoc* Committee to intensify its discussions on substantive issues and principles, with the aim of elaborating elements that might be taken into consideration during the subsequent preparation of a draft final document of the Conference;

7. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold two preparatory sessions during 1991, the first with a duration of one week and the second with a duration of two weeks, for completion of the remaining preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean to enable the convening of the Conference at Colombo in 1992 in consultation with the host country;

8. *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;

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

10. *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 functions.

66th plenary meeting  
12 December 1990

#### 45/78. Question of Antarctica

##### A

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

*Recalling* its resolutions 38/77 of 15 December 1983, 39/152 of 17 December 1984, 40/156 A and B of 16 December 1985, 41/88 A and B of 4 December 1986, 42/46 A and B of 30 November 1987, 43/83 A and B of 7 December 1988 and 44/124 A and B of 15 December 1989,

*Recalling also* the relevant paragraphs of the final documents adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,<sup>7</sup> the second meeting of States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, held at Abuja, Nigeria, from 25 to 29 June 1990,<sup>93</sup> and the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990,<sup>94</sup>

<sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

<sup>90</sup> A/AC.159/SR.357; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/44/29)*, sect. II.C.

<sup>91</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/45/29)*.

<sup>92</sup> A/AC.159/L.93, annex.

<sup>93</sup> See A/45/474, annex.

<sup>94</sup> See A/45/421-S/21797, annex IV, res. 17/19-E.

*Taking into account* the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

*Reaffirming* the principle that the international community is entitled to information covering all aspects of Antarctica and that the United Nations should be made the repository for all such information in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/88 A, 42/46 B, 43/83 A and 44/124 B,

*Conscious* of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community in terms, *inter alia*, of international peace and security, environment, its effects on global climatic conditions, economy and scientific research,

*Conscious also* of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

*Welcoming* the increasing recognition of the significant impact that Antarctica exerts on the global environment and ecosystems and of the need for a comprehensive agreement on the protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

*Sharing* the concern over the environmental degradation of Antarctica and its impact on global environment expressed at the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990,

*Welcoming also* the increasing support for the establishment of Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park to ensure the protection and conservation of its environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems for the benefit of all mankind,

*Welcoming further* the increasing support within the international community for the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

*Welcoming* the initiative taken by some Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in promoting Antarctica as a nature reserve or world park and the banning of prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica,

*Welcoming also* the ongoing trend in acknowledging the need for internationally co-ordinated scientific research stations in Antarctica in order to minimize unnecessary duplication and logistical support facilities,

*Welcoming further* the increasing awareness of and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

*Affirming its conviction* that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

*Reaffirming* that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international co-operation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

*Convinced* of the need to prevent or minimize any negative impact of human activity resulting from the large number of scientific stations and expeditions in Antarctica on the environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems,

*Taking into account* all aspects pertaining to all areas covered by the Antarctic Treaty,<sup>95</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica of 6 September 1990<sup>96</sup> and 8 September 1990,<sup>97</sup>

1. *Expresses its regret* that, despite the numerous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General or his representative has not been invited to the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, including the special session of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting at Santiago from 19 November to 7 December 1990, and urges once again the Consultative Parties to invite the Secretary-General or his representative to their future meetings;

2. *Calls upon* the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to deposit information and documents covering all aspects of Antarctica with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on his evaluations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

3. *Expresses the conviction* that any move to draw up a comprehensive environmental convention on the conservation and protection of Antarctica and its dependent and associated ecosystems as well as establishing a nature reserve or world park must be negotiated with the full participation of the international community, and in this regard stresses that this should be pursued within the context of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

4. *Urges* all members of the international community to support all efforts to ban prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica and to ensure that all activities are carried out exclusively for the purpose of peaceful scientific investigation and that all such activities ensure the maintenance of international peace and security in Antarctica and the protection of its environment and are for the benefit of all mankind;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study with the help of relevant United Nations programmes and specialized agencies such as the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, using available data and resources, on the establishment of a United Nations-sponsored station in Antarctica with a view to promoting co-ordinated international co-operation in scientific research for the benefit of mankind, particularly the importance of Antarctica to the global environment and ecosystems, as well as to act as an early-warning system on climate change and accidents, and submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

6. *Urges* all States Members of the United Nations to co-operate with the Secretary-General and to continue consultations on all aspects relating to Antarctica;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, using available data and resources, on the state of the environment in Antarctica and its impact on the global system to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

<sup>95</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

<sup>96</sup> A/45/458.

<sup>97</sup> A/45/459.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".

66th plenary meeting  
12 December 1990

**B**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 43/83 B of 7 December 1988 and 44/124 A and B of 15 December 1989,

*Having considered* the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

*Noting with regret* that the racist *apartheid* régime of South Africa, which has been suspended from participation in the General Assembly of the United Nations, has continued to participate in the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties,

*Recalling* the resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its fiftieth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 22 July 1989,<sup>57</sup>

*Recalling also* the final document on Antarctica adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,<sup>7</sup>

*Recalling further* that the Antarctic Treaty<sup>95</sup> is, by its terms, intended to further the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Noting* that the policy of *apartheid* practised by the racist minority régime of South Africa, which has been universally condemned, constitutes a threat to regional and international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>96</sup> and expresses deep concern that no concrete measures have been taken in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 44/124 A;

2. *Views with concern* the continuing participation of the *apartheid* régime of South Africa in the meetings of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties;

3. *Appeals once again* to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to take urgent measures to exclude the racist *apartheid* régime from participation in the meetings of the Consultative Parties at the earliest possible date, and invites them to inform the Secretary-General of the measures taken regarding the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report in this regard to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, taking into account the concern expressed in paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".

66th plenary meeting  
12 December 1990

**45/79. Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including its resolution 44/125 of 15 December 1989,

*Recognizing* the importance of intensifying and promoting peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region and of strengthening further the economic, commercial and cultural links in the region,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in the promotion of peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region,

*Expressing concern* at the persistent tension and continuing military operations and activities in parts of the Mediterranean region and the consequent threat to peace and security,

*Welcoming* the favourable developments in international political relations, and expressing the hope that the enhancement of security and co-operation, particularly in Europe, will also have a positive impact on the Mediterranean region,

*Reaffirming also* the responsibility of all States to conform in their actions to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>98</sup>

*Recognizing* the efforts realized so far and the determination expressed by the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations aimed at promoting peace, security and co-operation in the region,

*Recognizing also* the desire of the Mediterranean countries that the needs of their region be taken into account in ongoing and future negotiations relating to international security and disarmament, particularly on the enhancement of security and co-operation in Europe,

*Recognizing further* the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and the need to ensure that all actions are aimed towards the promotion of peace, security and co-operation in the region,

*Noting with satisfaction* the greater awareness in Europe of the need for interdependent action in the Mediterranean with the aim of contributing to reducing tension, improving good-neighbourly relations and fostering political, cultural and economic progress in the region,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on this item,<sup>99</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Welcomes* the determination expressed by Mediterranean countries to intensify their efforts to promote dialogue and co-operation in the region in order to achieve through peaceful settlement just and lasting solutions to those crises which still threaten regional peace and stability, thus ensuring the withdrawal of for-

<sup>98</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

<sup>99</sup> A/45/713.