

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled “Cessation of all nuclear-test explosions”.

*54th plenary meeting
4 December 1990*

45/50. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/106 of 15 December 1989,

Reiterating its conviction that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is the highest-priority measure for the cessation of the nuclear arms race and for the achievement of the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Recalling also its resolution 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, in which it noted with approval the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water,³ signed on 5 August 1963, and requested the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament⁶ to continue with a sense of urgency its negotiations to achieve the objectives set forth in the preamble to the Treaty,

Recalling further that more than one third of the parties to the Treaty have requested the Depositary Governments to convene a conference to consider an amendment that would convert the Treaty into a comprehensive test-ban treaty,

Reiterating also its conviction that such a conference will facilitate the attainment of the objectives set forth in the Treaty and thus serve to strengthen it,

Noting with satisfaction that the meeting for the organization of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water was held in New York from 29 May to 8 June 1990, and taking note of the report of that meeting,⁹

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water will be held in New York from 7 to 18 January 1991;

2. *Calls upon* all parties to the Treaty to participate in, and to contribute to the success of, the Amendment Conference for the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test ban at an early date, as an indispensable measure towards implementation of their undertakings in the preamble to the Treaty;

3. *Reiterates its conviction* that, pending the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, the nuclear-weapon States should suspend all nuclear-test explosions through an agreed moratorium or unilateral moratoria;

4. *Recommends* that arrangements be made to ensure that intensive efforts continue, under the auspices of the Amendment Conference, until a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is achieved;

⁸ The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

⁹ PTBT/CONF/1.

5. *Recommends also* that the Amendment Conference establish a working group, or other means it deems appropriate, to study, *inter alia*, the organization of control, institutional mechanisms and legal aspects of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and to report its conclusions to the Conference;

6. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring adequate coordination among the various negotiating forums dealing with a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled “Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water”.

*54th plenary meeting
4 December 1990*

45/51. Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty

The General Assembly,

Convinced that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Convinced also of the consequent urgent need for an end to the nuclear-arms race and the immediate and verifiable reduction and ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Convinced further that an end to nuclear testing by all States in all environments for all time is an essential step in order to prevent the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and their further proliferation and to contribute, along with other concurrent efforts to reduce nuclear arms, to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons,

Noting concerns expressed about the environmental and health risks associated with underground nuclear testing,

Recognizing the agreement on and signature of, in Washington on 1 June 1990, the verification protocols to the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests,¹⁰ signed on 3 July 1974, and to the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes,¹¹ signed on 28 May 1976, and looking forward to the conclusion of all ratification processes,

Welcoming the ongoing implementation 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 Missiles¹² and the agreement in principle on and further progress made towards a first treaty on significant reductions in their strategic nuclear forces, and urging the earliest possible conclusion of such a treaty,

Recalling the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of

¹⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/9627)*, annex II, document CCD/431.

¹¹ *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. I: 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.IX.2), appendix III.

¹² *Ibid.*, vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.