

*Reaffirming its conviction* that general agreement on the prohibition or restriction of use of specific conventional weapons would significantly reduce the suffering of civilian populations and of combatants,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>83</sup>

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that an increasing number of States have either signed, ratified, accepted or acceded to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, which was opened for signature in New York on 10 April 1981;

2. *Also notes with satisfaction* that, consequent upon the fulfilment of the conditions set out in article 5 of the Convention, the Convention and the three Protocols annexed thereto entered into force on 2 December 1983;

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to exert their best endeavours to become parties to the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto as early as possible, so as ultimately to obtain universality of adherence;

4. *Stresses* that, under article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to consider amendments to the Convention or any of the annexed Protocols, to consider additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by the existing annexed Protocols or to review the scope and operation of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto and to consider any proposal for amendments to the Convention or to the existing Protocols and any proposals for additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by the existing Protocols;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General as depositary of the Convention and its three annexed Protocols to inform the General Assembly from time to time of the state of adherence to the Convention and its Protocols;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

#### 45/65. Study on the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 40/152 O of 16 December 1985, 41/86 Q of 4 December 1986, 42/42 F of 30 November 1987 and 43/81 B of 7 December 1988,

*Underlining* the important role that the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has to play in the sphere of disarmament,

*Recalling also* that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotia-

tions and that, consequently, all States have the duty to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament,

*Noting* that the critical importance of verification of and compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements is universally recognized,

*Stressing* that the issue of verification of and compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements is a matter of concern to all nations,

*Recognizing* that the United Nations, in accordance with its role and responsibilities established under the Charter, can make a significant contribution in the field of verification, in particular of multilateral agreements,

*Reiterating its view* that:

(a) Disarmament and arms limitation agreements should provide for adequate and effective measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned in order to create the necessary confidence and to ensure that they are being observed by all parties;

(b) The form and modalities of the verification to be provided for in any specific agreement depend upon and should be determined by the purposes, scope and nature of the agreement;

(c) Agreements should provide for the participation of parties directly or through the United Nations system in the verification process;

(d) Where appropriate, a combination of several methods of verification as well as other compliance procedures should be employed,

*Recalling* that:

(a) In the context of international disarmament negotiations, the problem of verification should be further examined and adequate methods and procedures in this field should be considered;

(b) Every effort should be made to develop appropriate methods and procedures that are non-discriminatory and that do not interfere unduly with the internal affairs of States parties or other States or jeopardize their economic, technological and social development,

*Taking note* of all proposals that had been put forward in the field of verification by Member States,<sup>84</sup> including those by Canada and the Netherlands, France and the countries of the Six-Nation Initiative,<sup>13</sup>

*Affirming* its support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,<sup>85</sup>

*Noting* that recent developments in international relations have underscored the importance of effective verification of existing and future arms limitation and disarmament agreements,

*Recalling* that by resolution 43/81 B it requested the Secretary-General to undertake, with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, an in-depth study of the role of the United Nations in the field of verification that would:

(a) Identify and review existing activities of the United Nations in the field of verification of arms limitation and disarmament;

<sup>84</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-15/3)*, para. 60 (para. 6, sect. III.2, of the quoted text).

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I, of the quoted text).

<sup>83</sup> A/43/589.

(b) Assess the need for improvements in existing activities as well as explore and identify possible additional activities, taking into account organizational, technical, operational, legal and financial aspects;

(c) Provide specific recommendations for future action by the United Nations in this context; and to submit a comprehensive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>86</sup>
2. *Notes* that the report was approved by the Group of Qualified Governmental Experts to Undertake a Study on the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification;
3. *Commends* the report to the attention of Member States;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give the report the widest possible circulation;
5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate action within available resources on the recommendations of the Group;
6. *Encourages* Member States to give active consideration to the recommendations contained in the concluding chapter of the report and to assist the Secretary-General in their implementation where appropriate;
7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on actions taken by Member States and by the United Nations Secretariat to implement these recommendations;
8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session an item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

**45/66. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

*Taking note* of paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>15</sup>

*Determined* to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948,<sup>87</sup>

*Noting* that in the course of its 1989 and 1990 sessions the Conference on Disarmament considered the item entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons",

<sup>86</sup> A/45/372 and Corr.1.

<sup>87</sup> The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev.1).

*Taking into account* the sections of the reports of the Conference on Disarmament relating to this question,<sup>88</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that effective measures should be undertaken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, in the light of its existing priorities, to keep under review, with expert assistance, as appropriate, the questions of the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on the identified types of such weapons;

3. *Calls upon* all States, immediately following the recommendation of the Conference on Disarmament, to give favourable consideration to these recommendations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to continue the practice of reporting the results of its consideration of these questions in its annual report to the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

**45/77. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/68 of 14 December 1978, 34/80 A and B of 11 December 1979, 35/150 of 12 December 1980, 36/90 of 9 December 1981, 37/96 of 13 December 1982, 38/185 of 20 December 1983, 39/149 of 17 December 1984, 40/153 of 16 December 1985, 41/87 of 4 December 1986, 42/43 of 30 November 1987, 43/79 of 7 December 1988, 44/120 of 15 December 1989 and other relevant resolutions,

*Reaffirming* that the establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the

<sup>88</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), paras. 94-98 and ibid., Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/45/27), paras. 122-126.*