

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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1762 (XVII). The urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests

A

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned with the continuation of nuclear weapon tests,

Fully conscious that world opinion demands the immediate cessation of all nuclear tests,

Viewing with the utmost apprehension the data contained in the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation,¹

Considering that the continuation of nuclear weapon tests is an important factor in the acceleration of the arms race and that the conclusion of an agreement prohibiting such tests would greatly contribute to paving the way towards general and complete disarmament,

Recalling its resolution 1648 (XVI) of 6 November 1961, whereby the States concerned were urged to refrain from further nuclear weapon test explosions pending the conclusion of necessary internationally binding agreements with regard to the cessation of tests,

Noting with regret that the States concerned have not responded to the appeal contained in the aforementioned and in other relevant resolutions and that, despite its efforts, the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, referred to in General Assembly resolution 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961, is not yet in a position to report agreement on this vitally important issue,

Recalling that, in resolution 1649 (XVI) of 8 November 1961, the General Assembly reaffirmed that an agreement prohibiting all nuclear weapon tests would inhibit the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries and would contribute to the reduction of international tensions,

Noting that, among the States represented in the Sub-Committee on a Treaty for the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests of the Eighteen-Nation Committee, basic agreement now prevails as regards the question of control of tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water,

Noting further that the proceedings of the Eighteen-Nation Committee indicate a somewhat enlarged area of agreement on the question of effective control of underground tests,

Considering that the memorandum of 16 April 1962, submitted to the Eighteen-Nation Committee by the delegations of Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic,² represents a sound, adequate and fair basis for the conduct of negotiations towards removing the outstanding differences on the question of effective control of underground tests,

Welcoming the intention to find a speedy settlement of the remaining differences on the question of the cessation of nuclear tests, declared in the letter dated 27 October 1962 from Mr. Khrushchev, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to Mr. Kennedy, President of the United

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/5216).*

² *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for January 1961 to December 1962, document DC/203, annex 1, section J.*

States of America, in the letter dated 28 October 1962 from Mr. Kennedy to Mr. Khrushchev, and in the letter dated 28 October 1962 from Mr. Macmillan, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to Mr. Khrushchev,

Convinced that no efforts should be spared to achieve prompt agreement on the cessation of all nuclear tests in all environments,

1. *Condemns* all nuclear weapon tests;
2. *Asks* that such tests should cease immediately and not later than 1 January 1963;
3. *Urges* the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to settle the remaining differences between them in order to achieve agreement on the cessation of nuclear testing by 1 January 1963, and to issue instructions to their representatives on the Sub-Committee on a Treaty for the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapon Tests to achieve this end;
4. *Endorses* the eight-nation memorandum of 16 April 1962 as a basis for negotiation;
5. *Calls upon* the parties concerned, taking as a basis the above-mentioned memorandum and having regard to the discussions on this item at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, to negotiate in a spirit of mutual understanding and concession in order to reach agreement urgently, bearing in mind the vital interests of mankind;
6. *Recommends* that if, against all hope, the parties concerned do not reach agreement on the cessation of all tests by 1 January 1963, they should enter into an immediate agreement prohibiting nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, accompanied by an interim arrangement suspending all underground tests, taking as a basis the eight-nation memorandum and taking into consideration other proposals presented at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly, such interim agreement to include adequate assurances for effective detection and identification of seismic events by an international scientific commission;
7. *Requests* the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to reconvene not later than 12 November 1962, to resume negotiations on the cessation of nuclear testing and on general and complete disarmament, and to report to the General Assembly by 10 December 1962 on the results achieved with regard to the cessation of nuclear weapon tests.

*1165th plenary meeting,
6 November 1962.*

B

The General Assembly,

Believing that a cessation of nuclear weapon tests is the concern of all peoples and all nations,

Declaring it imperative that an agreement prohibiting nuclear weapon tests for all time should be concluded as rapidly as possible,

Recalling its resolutions 1648 (XVI) of 6 November 1961 and 1649 (XVI) of 8 November 1961,

Profoundly regretting that the agreements called for in those resolutions have not yet been achieved,

Noting that the endeavour to negotiate a nuclear test ban agreement has been taking place at the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,

Noting that the discussions and negotiations at Geneva are based on the draft treaty submitted on 28 November 1961 by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,³ the memorandum submitted on 16 April 1962 by Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic⁴ and the comprehensive and limited draft treaties submitted on 27 August 1962 by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America,⁵

1. *Urges* the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to seek the conclusion of a treaty with effective and prompt international verification which prohibits nuclear weapon tests in all environments for all time;

2. *Requests* the negotiating Powers to agree upon an early date on which a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapon tests shall enter into force;

3. *Notes* the discussions and documents regarding nuclear testing contained in the two reports of the Conference;⁶

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Eighteen-Nation Committee the records of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly relating to the suspension of nuclear testing.

*1165th plenary meeting,
6 November 1962.*

1767 (XVII). Question of general and complete disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961,

Convinced that the aim of general and complete disarmament must be achieved on the basis of the eight agreed principles recognized by the General Assembly in resolution 1722 (XVI),

Reaffirming its responsibility for disarmament under the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of the two interim progress reports of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,⁶ the draft treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict international control, submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,⁷ and the outline of basic provisions of a treaty on general and complete disarmament in a peaceful world, submitted by the United States of America,⁸

Noting with regret that during six months of negotiations at Geneva little agreement was achieved on vital problems of disarmament,

Expressing its appreciation to the participants in the Eighteen-Nation Committee engaged in disarmament negotiations at Geneva for their perseverance in trying to reach agreement,

Welcoming the spirit of compromise which prompted the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to introduce certain modifications into their two draft treaties on disarmament,

³ *Ibid.*, annex 1, section I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, section J.

⁵ *Ibid.*, document DC/205, annex 1, sections O and P.

⁶ *Ibid.*, documents DC/203 and DC/205.

⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 90, document A/C.1/867.

⁸ A/C.1/875.