

ARTICLE XII

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send certified copies thereof to all signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, opened for signature at New York on 14 January 1975.

3254 (XXIX). Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 3093 B (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973 it requested the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of qualified consultant experts appointed by him, a report on the reduction of the military budgets of the States permanent members of the Security Council, which should also cover other States with a major economic and military potential, and on the utilization of a part of the funds thus saved to provide international assistance to developing countries,

Having examined the report of the Group of Consultant Experts on the Reduction of Military Budgets, transmitted to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General on 14 October 1974,¹⁴

Noting that Governments have not had the time necessary to study that report with the attention and care which the important and complex questions covered in it merit,

Considering, therefore, that it would be advisable to postpone any assessment by the General Assembly regarding the substance of those questions,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and to the Group of Consultant Experts, as well as to the Governments and international organizations which rendered assistance in the preparation of the report requested by the General Assembly in resolution 3093 B (XXVIII);

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the report to be issued as a United Nations publication and widely distributed;

3. Invites all States to communicate to the Secretary-General, before 30 June 1975, their views and suggestions on all those points they deem pertinent with regard to the matters covered in the report, including the following:

(a) Meaning and scope of a definition of "military budgets" which has the greatest probability of receiving general acceptance;

(b) Feasible and adequate procedures so that the United Nations may establish a system of standardized military budgets of the States envisaged in resolution 3093 B (XXVIII);

(c) Per cent reduction advisable for the States permanent members of the Security Council, bearing in mind that a 10 per cent reduction has been proposed;

¹⁴ A/9770.

(d) Definition of what should be understood by "other States with a major economic and military potential";

(e) Per cent reduction advisable for those States;

(f) Part of the resources released through the reduction of military budgets which should be allotted to international assistance for developing countries;

(g) International system or mechanism, within the framework of the United Nations, which should be employed in order to achieve the best distribution and utilization of the additional assistance allotted to the developing countries, taking into account the goals set for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to distribute as a document of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly, not later than 1 August 1975, a report containing a compilation, by countries, of the views and suggestions requested in the present resolution and a tabulation of the same according to the matters covered therein, particularly regarding the seven points specified in paragraph 3 above;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirtieth session an item entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3254 (XXIX): report of the Secretary-General".

2309th plenary meeting
9 December 1974

3255 (XXIX). Napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in resolution 2932 A (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, it welcomed the report of the Secretary-General entitled *Napalm and Other Incendiary Weapons and All Aspects of Their Possible Use*¹⁵ and expressed its conviction that the widespread use of many weapons and the emergence of new methods of warfare that cause unnecessary suffering or are indiscriminate call urgently for renewed efforts by Governments to seek, through legal means, the prohibition of the use of such weapons and of indiscriminate and cruel methods of warfare and, if possible through measures of disarmament, the elimination of specific, especially cruel or indiscriminate weapons,

Recalling that, in resolution 3076 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, it took note of the comments submitted by Governments¹⁶ on the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General and of the widespread wish that intergovernmental action should be taken with a view to reaching agreement on the prohibition or restriction of use of these weapons,

Recalling further that by the same resolution the General Assembly pointed to the extensive factual report prepared under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross entitled *Weapons That May Cause Unnecessary Suffering or Have Indiscriminate Effects*,¹⁷ covering, *inter alia*, high-velocity projectiles, blast and fragmentation weapons, time-delay weapons and incendiary weapons, and endorsed the

¹⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.73.I.3.

¹⁶ A/9207 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

¹⁷ International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, 1973.

conclusion of the report that intergovernmental review and action regarding weapons of these kinds was called for,

Recalling, lastly, that by resolution 3076 (XXVIII) the General Assembly considered that prohibitions or restrictions of the use of such weapons should be examined without delay and that positive results in this regard were likely to facilitate substantive disarmament negotiations with a view to the elimination of production, stockpiling and proliferation of the weapons in question, which should be the ultimate objective, and invited the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts to consider the question of the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons, as well as other specific conventional weapons which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects, and to seek agreement on rules prohibiting or restricting the use of such weapons,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the first session of the Diplomatic Conference relevant to napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use¹⁸ and the report of the Conference of Government Experts, held at Lucerne, Switzerland, from 24 September to 18 October 1974, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, to study in depth the question of the prohibition or limitation of the use of conventional weapons that may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects,

Mindful of the fact that much suffering of civilian populations and combatants may be avoided if general agreement can be attained on the prohibition or restriction of the use of specific conventional weapons which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects,

Welcoming the active work of the Diplomatic Conference and the Conference of Government Experts concerning the question of the prohibition or restriction of the use of specific conventional weapons,

Noting that this work, which has comprised an examination of important categories of conventional weapons, has resulted not only in a better understanding of the significance of earlier studies of this subject but in the emergence of new valuable data and suggestions and proposals for possible restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons,

Aware of the complexity of the issues raised by such suggestions and proposals and the recognized need to examine thoroughly all data now available and to undertake some further investigations, which may permit Governments to reach well-founded conclusions,

Conscious of the need for broad agreement on any prohibitions or restrictions which may be contemplated and of the need for a further expert discussion to this end,

Taking note with appreciation of the expressed readiness of the International Committee of the Red Cross to convoke another Conference of Government Experts, which would receive and consider new information and focus on such conventional weapons as have been, or may become, the subject of proposed bans or restrictions of use and would study the possibility, content and form of such proposed bans or restrictions,

1. *Urges* all Governments to examine the considerable body of facts which is now available on the matter and to compile without delay such supplementary data as may be required by them to focus upon specific proposals for prohibitions or restrictions;

2. *Appeals* to all Governments to co-operate in the clarification of the issues and to consider in a constructive spirit and with a sense of urgency all proposals and suggestions which have been or may be advanced on the matter;

3. *Invites* the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts to continue its consideration of the question of the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons, as well as other specific conventional weapons which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects, and its search for agreement on possible rules prohibiting or restricting the use of such weapons and, in this context, also to consider the results of the first Conference of Government Experts and the programme of work which a second Conference of Government Experts might follow;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, who has been invited to attend the Diplomatic Conference as an observer, to report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session on aspects of the work of the Conference relevant to the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirtieth session the item entitled "Napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use".

2309th plenary meeting
9 December 1974

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use¹⁸ and the report of the Conference of Government Experts, held under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which contains a study in depth of the question of the prohibition or limitation of the use of conventional weapons that may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects,

Recalling its resolution 2932 A (XXVII) of 29 November 1972 and 3076 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973 on this question,

Recalling the conclusion of the International Conference on Human Rights, held at Teheran in 1968,¹⁹ that napalm bombing is among the methods and means of warfare that erode human rights,

Emphasizing the consensus of the Conference of Government Experts that severe burn wounds are probably the most painful type of wound and frequently remain so for long periods of time and that they may result in permanent disability, including physical, functional, cosmetic, social and psychological disability,

Deeply disturbed at the continuing use of napalm and other incendiary weapons,

¹⁹ See *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), chap. III, resolution XXIII.

¹⁸ A/9726.

1. *Condemns* the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons in armed conflicts in circumstances where it may affect human beings or may cause damage to the environment and/or natural resources;

2. *Urges* all States to refrain from the production, stockpiling, proliferation and use of such weapons, pending the conclusion of agreements on the prohibition of these weapons;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the specialized agencies and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General all information about the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons in armed conflicts;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on this subject, based on information received under paragraph 3 of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

2309th plenary meeting
9 December 1974

3256 (XXIX). Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2933 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972 and 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973,

Convinced that the process of détente in the world is conducive to the implementation of further disarmament measures and of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Stressing the contribution that early agreement on the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction would make to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recalling that it has repeatedly condemned all actions that are contrary to the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,²⁰

Reaffirming the need for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of that Protocol,

Convinced that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction²¹ constitutes an important step towards agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from the arsenals of all States,

Recalling, in this connexion, the undertaking contained in article IX of the Convention to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and for their destruction,

²⁰ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138, p. 65.

²¹ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,²²

Noting that draft conventions on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction as well as many other working documents, proposals and suggestions have been submitted to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

Desiring to contribute to the successful conclusion of negotiations on effective measures for the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction,

1. *Reaffirms* the objective of reaching agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from the arsenals of all States;

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to facilitate agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

3. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations as a matter of high priority, bearing in mind existing proposals, with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction;

4. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, with a view to its entry into force and effective implementation at an early date;

5. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to accede to or ratify the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, in the course of 1975 in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of its signing, and calls anew for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives contained therein;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents of the First Committee relating to questions connected with the problem of chemical weapons and chemical methods of warfare;

7. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

2309th plenary meeting
9 December 1974

3257 (XXIX). Urgent need for cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and conclusion of a treaty designed to achieve a comprehensive test ban

The General Assembly,

Gravely disturbed at the continuance of nuclear weapon testing since the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly,

²² A/9708-DC/237. For the printed text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/9627)*.