

States possessing nuclear weapons, in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".

103rd plenary meeting
20 December 1983

38/187. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

A

PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 75 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁰⁹ the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states that the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represents one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

Referring to the unanimous and categorical reaffirmation by all Member States at the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, of the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,¹¹²

Convinced of the need for the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, which would significantly contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recalling its resolutions 36/96 B of 9 December 1981 and 37/98 A of 13 December 1982,

Expressing profound concern at the intended production and deployment of binary chemical weapons,

Taking into consideration the decision by the Committee on Disarmament on the mandate for the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons, as well as the work of this Group during the session of the Committee on Disarmament in 1983,¹¹³

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate negotiations,

Aware that the qualitative improvement and development of chemical weapons complicate ongoing negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons,

Taking note of proposals on the creation of chemical-weapon-free zones aimed at facilitating the complete prohibition of chemical weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of the speediest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

¹¹² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, document A/S-12/32, para. 62.

¹¹³ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27*, para. 79.

¹¹⁴ From 7 February 1984, the date of commencement of its annual session, the Committee on Disarmament is to be known as the "Conference on

2. *Appeals* to all States to facilitate in every possible way the conclusion of such a convention;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament¹¹⁴ to intensify the negotiations in the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons in fulfilment of its present mandate, to achieve accord on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest possible date and, for this purpose, to proceed immediately to drafting such a convention for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

4. *Reaffirms its call* to all States to refrain from any action that could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons and specifically to refrain from the production and deployment of binary and other new types of chemical weapons, as well as from stationing chemical weapons on the territory of other States.

103rd plenary meeting
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B

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and to their destruction,

Reaffirming the necessity of strict observance by all States of 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 1925,¹¹⁵ and of the adherence by all States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972,¹¹⁶

Having considered the report of the Committee on Disarmament, which includes, *inter alia*, the report of its *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons,¹¹³

Considering it necessary that all efforts be exerted for the resumption and successful conclusion of negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Committee on Disarmament during its session in 1983 regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and, in particular, appreciates the work of its *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons and the progress achieved therein;

2. *Expresses its regret* that an agreement on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament,¹¹⁴ as a matter of high priority, to intensify, during its session in 1984, the negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives with a view to the final elaboration of a convention at the earliest

Disarmament" (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/38/27)*, para. 21).

¹¹⁵ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

¹¹⁶ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

possible date, and to re-establish its *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons for this purpose;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

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C

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL)
WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions 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 1925,¹¹⁵

Recalling also its resolution 37/98 D of 13 December 1982,

1. *Takes note* of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 37/98 D;¹¹⁷

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue his action to this end and, in particular, to complete during 1984, with the assistance of the Group of Consultant Experts established by him, the task entrusted to him under the terms of paragraph 7 of resolution 37/98 D and to submit his report on the work of the Group;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly regularly informed on the implementation of resolution 37/98 D.

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20 December 1983

38/188. General and complete disarmament

A

STUDY ON CONVENTIONAL DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions in which, *inter alia*, it approved the carrying out of a study on all aspects of the conventional arms race and on disarmament relating to conventional weapons and armed forces, to be undertaken by the Secretary-General with the assistance of a group of qualified experts appointed by him on a balanced geographical basis,

Recalling the discussions at the 1981 and 1982 substantive sessions of the Disarmament Commission on the general approach to the study and its structure and scope, which resulted in the establishment of agreed guidelines for the study,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General¹¹⁸ to which is annexed a letter from the Chairman of the Group of Experts on All Aspects of the Conventional Arms Race and on Disarmament relating to Conventional Weapons and Armed Forces informing the Secretary-General that, owing to the very wide area embraced by the study and the sensitivity and complexity of the

issues involved, the Group of Experts needs further time in order to complete its work;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the study and to submit the final report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

103rd plenary meeting
20 December 1983

B

REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY
ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE EMPLACEMENT OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION ON THE SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN
FLOOR AND IN THE SUBSOIL THEREOF

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2660 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, in which it commended the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof,

Convinced that the Treaty constitutes a step towards the exclusion of the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof from the arms race,

Recalling that the States parties to the Treaty met at Geneva from 12 to 23 September 1983 to review the operation of the Treaty with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Treaty were being realized,

Noting with satisfaction that the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof concluded that the obligations assumed under the Treaty had been faithfully observed by the States parties,¹¹⁹

Noting that in its Final Declaration the Review Conference affirmed its belief that universal adherence to the Treaty would enhance international peace and security,¹¹⁹

Noting furthermore that the States parties to the Treaty reaffirmed their strong support for and continued dedication to the principles and objectives of the Treaty, as well as their commitment to implement effectively its provisions,

Recognizing that in the Final Declaration the States parties to the Treaty reaffirmed the commitment undertaken in article V to continue negotiations in good faith concerning further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof,

1. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the positive assessment by the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof of the effectiveness of the Treaty since its entry into force, as reflected in its Final Declaration;

2. *Reiterates* its expressed hope for the widest possible adherence to the Treaty;

3. *Affirms* its strong interest in avoiding an arms race in nuclear weapons or any other types of weapons of mass

¹¹⁷ A/38/435.

¹¹⁸ A/38/437.

¹¹⁹ See *Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof*, Final Document (SBT/CONF.II.20) (Geneva, 1983), Part II.