

military expenditures are now being received from a number of Member States,

*Considering* that a wider participation in the reporting system of States from different geographic regions and representing different budgeting systems would promote its further refinement and would, by contributing to greater openness in military matters, increase confidence between States,

*Noting*, in this connection, the proposal to convene an international conference on military expenditures,

*Recalling* its resolution 37/95 B of 13 December 1982, in which it requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of qualified experts and with the voluntary co-operation of States, to undertake the task of constructing price indices and purchasing-power parities for the military expenditures of participating States,

*Considering* that a wide participation in this exercise is essential for achieving the most useful results possible,

*Noting* that in the progress report of the Secretary-General<sup>103</sup> the Group of Experts on the Reduction of Military Budgets established that a direct contact between its members and the voluntarily participating Member States is vital for the work of the Group,

*Emphasizing* that all the above-mentioned activities and initiatives, as well as other ongoing activities within the United Nations relating to the reduction of military budgets, should have the fundamental objective of facilitating future negotiations aimed at the conclusion of international agreements on the reduction of military expenditures,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>104</sup> containing the replies received in 1983 from Member States in the framework of the above-mentioned reporting system and with the submitted data arranged by the Secretariat according to statistical practice, and of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>105</sup> containing views and suggestions of States on practical means of promoting the wider participation of States in the international system of standardized reporting of military expenditures;

2. *Stresses* the need to increase the number of reporting States with a view to the broadest possible participation of States from different geographic regions and representing different budgeting systems;

3. *Reiterates its recommendation* that all Member States should report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General, using the reporting instrument, their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available;

4. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Secretary-General<sup>103</sup> on the ongoing exercise undertaken in pursuance of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 37/95 B;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to all Member States to participate in the above-mentioned exercise;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Group of Experts on the Reduction of Military Budgets with sufficient financial and other resources to carry out its complex tasks as outlined in the progress report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets".

*103rd plenary meeting  
20 December 1983*

### **38/185. 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 and 37/96 of 13 December 1982, and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling further* the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,<sup>106</sup>

*Reaffirming its conviction* that concrete action for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security,

*Recalling* its decision, taken at its thirty-fourth session in resolution 34/80 B, to convene a Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo during 1981,

*Recalling also* its decision to make every effort, in consideration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area and progress made in the harmonization of views, to finalize, in accordance with its normal methods of work, all preparations for the Conference, including the dates for its convening,

*Recalling further* its decision, taken at the thirty-seventh session in resolution 37/96, concerning the consideration of the convening of the Conference not later than the first half of 1984,

*Recalling* the exchange of views in the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean in 1983,

*Noting* the exchange of views on the adverse political and security climate in the region,

*Noting further* the various documents before the *Ad Hoc* Committee,

*Convinced* that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean area, conceived in the context of their confrontation, gives urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

*Considering* that any other foreign military presence in the area, whenever it is contrary to the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, gives greater urgency to the need to take practical steps towards the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration,

*Considering also* that the creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean requires the active participation of and full co-operation among the littoral and hinterland States, the permanent members of the Security Council and the

<sup>103</sup> A/38/354 and Corr.1.

<sup>104</sup> A/38/434.

<sup>105</sup> A/38/353 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

<sup>106</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/34/45 and Corr.1).*

major maritime users to ensure conditions of peace and security based on the purposes and principles of the Charter, as well as on the general principles of international law,

*Considering further* that the creation of a zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the littoral and hinterland States,

*Calling for* the renewal of genuinely constructive efforts through the exercise of the political will necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

*Deeply concerned* at the danger posed by the grave and ominous developments in the area and the resulting sharp deterioration of peace, security and stability which particularly seriously affect the littoral and hinterland States, as well as international peace and security,

*Convinced* that the continued deterioration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area is an important consideration bearing on the question of the urgent convening of the Conference and that the easing of tension in the area would enhance the prospect of success being achieved by the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean<sup>107</sup> and the exchange of views in the Committee;

2. *Regrets* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has failed to reach consensus on the finalization of dates for the convening, during 1984, of the Conference on the Indian Ocean;

3. *Emphasizes* its decision to convene the Conference at Colombo as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

4. *Takes note* of the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee during 1983;

5. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to make decisive efforts in 1984 to complete preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean, in consideration of the political and security climate in the region and with a view to enabling the opening of the Conference at Colombo in the first half of 1985, it being understood that such preparatory work would comprise organizational matters, including the provisional agenda for the Conference, rules of procedure, documentation and consideration of appropriate arrangements for any international agreement that may ultimately be reached for the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, and substantive issues;

6. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee at the same time to make determined efforts in 1984 for the necessary harmonization of views on the remaining relevant issues;

7. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions and requests the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

8. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold three further sessions in 1984 of a duration of two weeks each, with the possibility of holding a fourth session to be considered as required;

9. *Requests* the Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue his consultations on the participation in the work

of the Committee by States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Committee, with the aim of resolving this matter at the earliest possible date;

10. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session a full report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the provision of summary records.

103rd plenary meeting  
20 December 1983

### 38/186. World Disarmament Conference

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977, 33/69 of 14 December 1978, 34/81 of 11 December 1979, 35/151 of 12 December 1980, 36/91 of 9 December 1981 and 37/97 of 13 December 1982,

*Reiterating its conviction* that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

*Stressing anew its conviction* that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could provide the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

*Taking note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference,<sup>108</sup>

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>109</sup> it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

*Recalling also* that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,<sup>110</sup> the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened, with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that in its report to the General Assembly the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated, *inter alia*, the following:

“Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly should take up the question at its thirty-eighth regular session for further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of that resolution, and resolution 37/97, also adopted by consensus”;<sup>111</sup>

2. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

3. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue to maintain close contact with the representatives of the

<sup>107</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/38/29).

<sup>108</sup> *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28).

<sup>109</sup> Resolution S-10/2.

<sup>110</sup> Resolution 35/46, annex.

<sup>111</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28), para. 14.