

ventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects”.

*94th plenary meeting  
3 December 1986*

**41/51. Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* of the need to take effective measures for the strengthening of the security of States, and prompted by the desire shared by all nations to eliminate war and prevent nuclear conflagration,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* that effective measures to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can constitute a positive contribution to the prevention of the spread of such weapons,

*Noting with satisfaction* the determination of non-nuclear-weapon States in various parts of the world to prevent nuclear weapons from being introduced into their territories and to ensure the complete absence of such weapons in their respective regions, including through the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and being anxious to encourage and contribute to the attainment of this objective,

*Desirous* of promoting the implementation of paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>9</sup> the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* its numerous resolutions on this subject, as well as the relevant part of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament<sup>14</sup> submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,<sup>15</sup> the second special session devoted to disarmament,

*Noting* that the Conference on Disarmament considered in 1986 the item entitled “Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”, as reflected in its report,<sup>16</sup> and that disappointment was expressed at the lack of progress on that item,

*Noting further* that this consideration revealed the existence of a general readiness to continue a substantive dialogue on the issue,

*Recalling* the proposals submitted on this subject to the General Assembly and in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention, and the widespread international support for the conclusion of such a convention,

*Welcoming once again* the solemn declarations made by some nuclear-weapon States concerning non-first use of nuclear weapons, and convinced that if all nuclear-weapon States were to assume obligations not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, that would be tantamount in practice to banning the use of nuclear weapons against all States, including all non-nuclear-weapon States,

*Considering* that the non-nuclear-weapon States having no nuclear weapons on their territories have every right to receive reliable international legal guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms once again* the urgent need to reach agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and to find a common approach acceptable to all, which could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

2. *Considers* that the Conference on Disarmament should continue to explore ways and means of overcoming the difficulties encountered in carrying out negotiations on this question;

3. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to continue active consideration on this subject, including through the re-establishment of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons as soon as practicable, at its 1987 session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled “Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”.

*94th plenary meeting  
3 December 1986*

**41/52. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

*Convinced* that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Deeply concerned* at the continuing escalation of the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Taking into account* the principle of the non-use of force or threat of force enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Deeply concerned* about the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the

<sup>14</sup> The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

<sup>15</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly. Twelfth Special Session. Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2)*, sect. III.C.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, *Forty-first Session. Supplement No. 27 (A/41/27)*, sect. III.F.

security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter.

*Recognizing* that effective measures to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can constitute a positive contribution to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3261 G (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 31/189 C of 21 December 1976,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,<sup>9</sup> in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Desirous* of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,

*Recalling* its resolutions 33/72 B of 14 December 1978, 34/85 of 11 December 1979, 35/155 of 12 December 1980, 36/95 of 9 December 1981, 37/81 of 9 December 1982, 38/68 of 15 December 1983, 39/58 of 12 December 1984 and 40/86 of 12 December 1985,

*Further recalling* paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, *inter alia*, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament<sup>14</sup> urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its *Ad Hoc* Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>17</sup> with a view to reaching agreement on this item,

*Noting* the proposals submitted under this item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

*Taking note* of the decision of the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986,<sup>18</sup> as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference reiterated in the Final Communiqué of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez, Morocco, from 6 to 10 January 1986,<sup>19</sup> calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to reach an urgent agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Further noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the

idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties as regards evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to demonstrate the political will necessary to reach agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula which could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts should be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including in particular those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, should be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament should actively continue negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

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3 December 1986

#### 41/53. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

*The General Assembly,*

*Inspired* by the great prospects opening up before mankind as a result of man's entry into outer space,

*Recognizing* the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Reaffirming* that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind,

*Reaffirming further* the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes,

*Recalling* that the States parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,<sup>20</sup> have undertaken, in article III, to carry on activities in the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and understanding,

*Reaffirming*, in particular, article IV of the above-mentioned Treaty, which stipulates that States parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weap-

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/40/27 and Corr.1), sect. III.F.

<sup>18</sup> See A/41/697-S/18392, annex, sect. I, para. 49.

<sup>19</sup> See A/41/326-S/18049, annex I.

<sup>20</sup> Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.