

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

#### 45/60. Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, it unanimously stressed the importance of both qualitative and quantitative measures in the process of disarmament,

*Noting with concern* the potential in technological advances for application to military purposes, which could lead to more sophisticated weapons and new weapon systems,

*Recognizing* that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

*Stressing* the interests of the international community in the subject and the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on the security environment and on the process of arms limitation and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

*Emphasizing* that the proposal contained in its resolution 43/77 A of 7 December 1988 is without prejudice to research and development efforts being undertaken for peaceful purposes,

*Noting* the results of the United Nations conference on New Trends in Science and Technology: Implications for International Peace and Security, held at Sendai, Japan, from 16 to 19 April 1990,<sup>69</sup> and recognizing, in this regard, the need for the scientific and policy communities to work together in dealing with the complex implications of technological change,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security";<sup>70</sup>

2. *Fully agrees* that:

(a) The international community needs to position itself better to follow the nature and direction of technological change;

(b) The United Nations can serve as a catalyst and a clearing-house for ideas for this purpose;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to follow scientific and technological developments in order to make an assessment of emerging "new technologies" and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a framework for technology assessment guided, *inter alia*, by the criteria suggested in his report;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security".

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

#### 45/61. Science and technology for disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* that science and technology can profoundly contribute to solving the problems of mankind, especially to promoting its social and economic development,

*Noting* the interest of the international community in disarmament-related applications of scientific and technological achievements,

*Recognizing* the contributions that may be offered by scientific and technological progress for implementing arms control and disarmament agreements, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification and of compliance, by parties, with agreements on arms control and disarmament as well as of weapons disposal,

*Welcoming* related international activities undertaken so far in this area,

*Considering* the need for intensified international co-operation, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on arms control and disarmament, application of technologies for improved means of verification and weapons disposal,

*Noting* the United Nations conference on New Trends in Science and Technology: Implications for International Peace and Security, held at Sendai, Japan, in April 1990, and the United Nations conference on Conversion: Economic Adjustments in an Era of Arms Reductions, held in Moscow in August 1990, which contributed to promoting international co-operation in this field,

1. *Welcomes* national and international activities to use scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to intensify and extend such activities and to keep the United Nations informed about progress in this field;

3. *Invites* all Member States and relevant international organizations to develop international co-operation in this area, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification and of compliance, by parties, with agreements on arms control and disarmament and application of technologies for improved means of verification and for weapons disposal;

4. *Recommends* that the United Nations should give appropriate attention to the collection and dissemination of information on scientific and technological developments in these fields;

<sup>69</sup> See A/45/568.

<sup>70</sup> A/45/568.

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Science and technology for disarmament".

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

**45/62. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session**

**A**

**DECLARATION OF THE 1990S AS THE  
THIRD DISARMAMENT DECADE**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it declared the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,

*Recalling also* its resolution 34/75 of 11 December 1979, in which it directed the Disarmament Commission to prepare elements of a draft resolution entitled "Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade" for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session for consideration and adoption,

*Bearing in mind* that the Second Disarmament Decade declared by its resolution 35/46 has come to an end,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 43/78 L of 7 December 1988, in which it decided to declare the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade,

*Recalling further* its resolution 44/119 H of 15 December 1989, in which it directed the Disarmament Commission, at its 1990 substantive session, to finalize the preparation of elements of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade" and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session for consideration and adoption,

*Reaffirming also* the responsibility of the United Nations in the attainment of disarmament,

*Noting* the progress in the arms limitation and disarmament talks between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, as well as other general recent positive developments in international relations and their positive impact on the attainment of global peace and security,

*Desirous* of maintaining the current momentum in the disarmament process,

*Convinced* that a third disarmament decade will accelerate the disarmament process,

1. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the work of the Disarmament Commission at its 1990 session, at which it successfully concluded a draft Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade;<sup>71</sup>

2. *Adopts* the text of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade adopted by the Disarmament Commission, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Declares* the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade;

<sup>71</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/45/42)*, para. 35.

4. *Calls upon* all States to support the objectives of the Decade and to pursue the activities elaborated in the Declaration of the Third Disarmament Decade;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report as and when necessary to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade.

*54th plenary meeting  
4 December 1990*

**ANNEX**

**Declaration of the 1990s as the Third  
Disarmament Decade**

1. The present Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade is addressed to the global community and deals with the hopes and aspirations of people for lasting peace and security.

2. After a period of heightened tensions, the latter part of the decade of the 1980s saw a noticeable improvement in the way many States conducted their relations with one another. Despite this favourable trend, the specific goals of the Second Disarmament Decade were not fully realized.

3. In a world of growing interdependence, it is essential for the international community to stimulate and deepen awareness of the common interests of the global society and of the universal interest in achieving disarmament and strengthening international peace and security. The challenges facing the international community today are enormous. Accordingly, the solution of these difficult and complex issues will require the political will of States in conducting dialogue and negotiations and in promoting international co-operation, including confidence-building measures aimed at reducing tensions and the risk of military confrontation among States, bearing in mind specific conditions prevailing in the region concerned. It will also require acknowledgement of the profound interrelationship of questions relating to disarmament, social and economic development and environmental protection.

4. The international community stands on common ground in determining to make progress in the 1990s by resolutely pursuing disarmament along with other efforts necessary for attaining genuine peace and security. As members of the international community, we have identified the following common goals. In the nuclear field, we must continue urgently to seek early reductions in, and the eventual elimination of, nuclear weapons and work towards a comprehensive nuclear-test ban. To achieve the objective of non-proliferation in all its aspects, all States are encouraged to make every effort further to strengthen the non-proliferation régime and other measures to halt and prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The aim of the international community should be to promote co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy on a non-discriminatory basis and under agreed and appropriate international safeguards. The prevention of an arms race in outer space remains an important area to be further addressed. Many States also see the need to address naval confidence-building measures and disarmament issues. In the conventional field, we must seek reductions in arms and armed forces in all areas of the world and, in particular, where levels of concentrations of armaments are highest. In this regard, we urgently seek the successful conclusion of the negotiations on conventional forces in Europe. We aim for continued consideration of arms transfers in all their aspects. In the chemical field, we must work for the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction. The international community also calls for strict compliance with 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.<sup>34</sup> As further steps forward, openness and transparency on all appropriate military matters should be developed, the scope and techniques of verification advanced, the use of science and technology for peaceful purposes promoted and non-military threats to security addressed. All other initiatives to halt and reverse the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, in both its qualitative and quantitative aspects deserve careful consideration. Such initiatives include the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and the creation of zones of peace under appro-