

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 1990,⁶⁹ 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";⁷⁰

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;

⁶⁹ See A/45/568.

⁷⁰ A/45/568.