



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
12 January 2012

Sixty-sixth session  
Agenda item 98 (s)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 2 December 2011

[on the report of the First Committee (A/66/412)]

### **66/50. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 65/62 of 8 December 2010,

*Recognizing* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

*Deeply concerned* by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

*Cognizant* of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

*Recalling* the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling also* the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material<sup>2</sup> by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

*Noting* the support expressed in the final document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,<sup>3</sup> for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

*Noting also* that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the need for international cooperation in

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

<sup>3</sup> See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.



combating it, and that the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism has been launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America,

*Noting further* the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 12 and 13 April 2010 in Washington, D.C.,

*Noting* the holding of the High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security, in New York on 22 September 2011,

*Acknowledging* the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,<sup>4</sup>

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-fifth regular session,<sup>5</sup>

*Taking note also* of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005<sup>6</sup> and the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,<sup>7</sup>

*Taking note further* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 65/62,<sup>8</sup>

*Mindful* of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

*Emphasizing* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;
2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;<sup>1</sup>
3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;
4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

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<sup>4</sup> See A/59/361.

<sup>5</sup> See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-fifth Regular Session, 19–23 September 2011* (GC(55)/RES/DEC(2011)).

<sup>6</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>8</sup> A/66/115 and Add.1.

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”.

*71st plenary meeting  
2 December 2011*