

Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, as a means of further developing a sound legal basis for such activities,

Considering that special rules should also govern activities in the use of all natural resources and substances of the Moon and other celestial bodies,

1. *Takes note* of the draft treaty concerning the Moon submitted to the General Assembly by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;⁶

2. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Sub-Committee to consider, as a matter of priority, the question of the elaboration of a draft international treaty concerning the Moon in accordance with the recommendations contained in paragraph 38 of the report of the Committee⁷ and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session.

*1998th plenary meeting,
29 November 1971.*

2825 (XXVI). General and complete disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2661 B (XXV) of 7 December 1970,

Noting with appreciation the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency,⁸

Noting with satisfaction the success of the International Atomic Energy Agency in drawing up detailed guidelines for the structure and content of agreements between the Agency and States required in connexion with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Noting that the procedures embodied in such agreements are applicable to all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle and are to be concentrated on those stages involving the production, processing, use or storage of nuclear material from which nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices could readily be made,

Noting from the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency that detailed safeguards procedures with respect to nuclear enrichment plants, including those employing new techniques of uranium enrichment, have still to be elaborated and applied,

1. *Expresses its confidence* in the ability of the International Atomic Energy Agency to meet, without delay, the obligations likely to be placed upon it in respect of the application of safeguards to nuclear material in all types of civil nuclear facilities, including uranium enrichment plants;

2. *Requests* the International Atomic Energy Agency to include in its annual report to the General Assembly full information on the progress of its work on the application of safeguards in connexion with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including safeguards on nuclear material in uranium enrichment plants using both existing and new techniques.

*2022nd plenary meeting,
16 December 1971.*

⁶ *Ibid.*, Twenty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 92, document A/8391, annex.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/8420).

⁸ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Annual Report, 1 July 1970-30 June 1971* (Vienna, July 1971); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/8384).

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 and 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969,

Further recalling its resolution 2661 C (XXV) of 7 December 1970, in which it urged the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to make more intensive efforts to bring about a faster pace towards the achievement of disarmament measures, expressed its appreciation of the important and constructive documents and views submitted at the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, and recommended to the Conference that it take into account in its further work and its negotiations the comprehensive programme of disarmament⁹ as well as other documents presented on the same subject,

Considering that it has declared the decade of the 1970s as the Disarmament Decade,

Taking into account the proposals, suggestions and views put forward in the General Assembly and in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

1. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the United Nations in the fundamental goal of the attainment of general and complete disarmament;

2. *Urges* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, at its next session, to resume its efforts on the question of general and complete disarmament along the lines set forth in General Assembly resolution 2661 C (XXV);

3. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session on the results of these efforts.

*2022nd plenary meeting,
16 December 1971.*

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1149 (XII) of 14 November 1957 on collective action to inform and enlighten the peoples of the world as to the dangers of the armaments race, and particularly as to the destructive effects of modern weapons,

Recalling its resolution 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it declared the decade of the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade and requested the Secretary-General and Governments to publicize the Decade by all appropriate means at their disposal,

Recalling its resolution 2661 C (XXV) of 7 December 1970 which dealt, *inter alia*, with the comprehensive programme of disarmament,¹⁰

Considering that public opinion should be adequately informed about the problems of the arms race and of disarmament so that it might bring its influence to bear on the strengthening of disarmament efforts,

1. *Affirms* the value of holding conferences of experts and scientists from various countries on the problems of the arms race and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its support* for the practice of requesting the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of consultant experts, authoritative reports on concrete questions relating to the arms race and disarmament;

⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes*, agenda items 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 93 and 94, document A/8191.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

3. *Declares* that progress would be promoted towards general and complete disarmament if universities and academic institutes in all countries were to establish continuing courses and seminars to study problems of the arms race;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and to the attention of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with a view to its wide publication and dissemination.

*2022nd plenary meeting,
16 December 1971.*

2826 (XXVI). Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970,

Convinced of the importance and urgency of eliminating from the arsenals of States, through effective measures, such dangerous weapons of mass destruction as those using chemical or bacteriological (biological) agents,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament dated 6 October 1971,¹¹ and being appreciative of its work on the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, annexed to the report,

Recognizing the important significance of 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 1925,¹² and conscious also of the contribution which the said Protocol has already made, and continues to make, to mitigating the horrors of war,

Noting that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction provides for the parties to reaffirm their adherence to the principles and objectives of that Protocol and to call upon all States to comply strictly with them,

Further noting that nothing in the Convention shall be interpreted as in any way limiting or detracting from the obligations assumed by any State under the Geneva Protocol,

Determined, for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins being used as weapons,

Recognizing that an agreement on the prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons represents a first possible step towards the achievement of agreement on effective measures also for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons,

Noting that the Convention contains an affirmation of the recognized objective of effective prohibition of chemical weapons and, to this end, an undertaking

to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of their development, production and stockpiling and for their destruction, and on appropriate measures concerning equipment and means of delivery specifically designed for the production or use of chemical agents for weapons purposes,

Convinced that the implementation of measures in the field of disarmament should release substantial additional resources, which should promote economic and social development, particularly in the developing countries,

Convinced that the Convention will contribute to the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Commends* the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the depositary Governments to open the Convention for signature and ratification at the earliest possible date;

3. *Expresses the hope* for the widest possible adherence to the Convention.

*2022nd plenary meeting,
16 December 1971.*

ANNEX

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The States Parties to this Convention,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament, including the prohibition and elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction, and convinced that the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their elimination, through effective measures, will facilitate the achievement of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recognizing the important significance of 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, and conscious also of the contribution which the said Protocol has already made, and continues to make, to mitigating the horrors of war,

Reaffirming their adherence to the principles and objectives of that Protocol and calling upon all States to comply strictly with them,

Recalling that the General Assembly of the United Nations has repeatedly condemned all actions contrary to the principles and objectives of the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925,

Desiring to contribute to the strengthening of confidence between peoples and the general improvement of the international atmosphere,

Desiring also to contribute to the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced of the importance and urgency of eliminating from the arsenals of States, through effective measures, such dangerous weapons of mass destruction as those using chemical or bacteriological (biological) agents,

Recognizing that an agreement on the prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons represents a first possible step towards the achievement of agreement on effective measures also for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and determined to continue negotiations to that end,

¹¹ *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1971, document DC/234.*

¹² League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, 1929, No. 2138.