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CONCLUSION OF A TREATY ON THE COMPLETE AND GENERAL
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of General Assembly resolution 31/89 of 14 December read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

...

"1. Again calls upon all nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3478 (XXX), to proceed as soon as possible with negotiations on the conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests with the participation of non-nuclear-weapon States;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to render such assistance as may be necessary for the negotiations and to transmit to the group referred to in paragraph 1 above all documents relating to the consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session of the item entitled "Conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests."

2. The group of 26 non-nuclear-weapon States nominated by the President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly to participate in these negotiations met on 2 May 1977 for informal consultations. In this connexion the Secretary-General received a communication, dated 3 June, from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations, which was circulated as a General Assembly document (A/32/113).

3. The nuclear-weapon States were contacted by the Secretariat and the indications received corresponded to the positions as communicated in the letter of 8 April 1976 from the President of the General Assembly to the Secretary-General (A/10509).

4. Negotiations as envisaged in paragraph 1 of resolution 31/89 have hitherto not taken place. The Secretary-General, however, notes with satisfaction that the nuclear-weapon-States which are parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, 1/ namely the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, informed the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament of the negotiations on the subject of a test ban which they have undertaken since July 1977. 2/

5. The Secretary-General presents this information to the General Assembly for any action it may wish to take in connexion with this item.

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480, No. 6964, p. 43.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/32/27), vol. I, paras. 63-70.