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Agenda item 61

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Report of the First CommitteeRapporteur : Mr. Kazimierz TOMASZEWSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) waaponer report of the Conference on Disarmament" ~~was included~~ in the provisional ~~agenda of the~~ forty-oacond session in accordance with General Aeeembly resolutions 41/58 B, C and D of 3 December 1986.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1987, the **General Assembly**, on the recommendation of ~~the~~ General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the **First Committee**.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 October, the ~~Firec~~ Committee decided to hold a general debate on the ~~disarmament items~~ allocated to it, namely, ~~items~~ 48 to 69, followed by ~~statements on specific disarmament agenda items and a~~ continuation of the general debate, as necessary. The deliberationa on ~~those items~~ took place between the 3rd and the 31st meetings, from 12 October to 3 November (see A/C.1/42/PV.3-31).
4. On connection with item 61, the **First Committee** had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament, 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Aeeembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/42/27).

(b) Letter dated 19 January 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/93-9/18620) ;

(c) Letter dated 17 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/132-5/10701) ;

(d) Letter dated 5 March 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/167-6/18741) ;

(e) Letter dated 30 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the concluding documents of the regular session of the Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, held in Moscow on 24 and 25 March 1987 (A/42/189-S/18768) ;

(f) Letter dated 13 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/219-S/18799) ;

(g) Letter dated 13 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/220-S/18800) ;

(h) Letter dated 14 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/222-S/18802) ;

(i) Letter dated 15 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/231-S/18816) ;

(j) Letter dated 21 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/237-S/18819) ;

(k) Letter dated 21 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/238-S/18820) ;

(l) Letter dated 27 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/253-S/18825) ;

(m) Letter dated 27 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/255-S/18828) ;

(n) Letter dated 28 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/257-S/18829) ;

(o) Letter dated 30 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressee to the Secretary-General (A/42/263-S/18837) ;

(p) Letter dated 4 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/269-S/18044) ;

(q) Letter dated 7 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/279-S/18851) ;

(r) Letter dated 7 May 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressee to the Secretary-General (A/42/280-S/18853) ;

(s) Letter dated 8 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/282-S/18855) ;

(t) Letter dated 11 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressee to the Secretary-General (A/42/286-S/18859) ;

(u) Letter dated 11 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/287-S/18860) ;

(v) Letter dated 15 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressee to the Secretary-General (A/42/294-S/18866 and Cor r. 1) ;

(w) Letter dated 21 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressee to the Secretary-General (A/42/306-S/18878) ;

(x) Letter dated 29 May 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the communique and documents adopted at the session of the Political Consultative Committee of the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, held at Berlin at 28 and 29 May 1987 (A/42/313-S/18888) ;

(y) Letter dated 2 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a. i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/315-S/18890) ;

(z) Letter dated 10 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/334-S/18910) ;

(aa) Letter dated 17 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/350-S/18928) ;

(bb) Letter dated 23 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/360-S/18941) ;

(cc) Letter dated 25 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/366-S/18947) ;

(dd) Letter dated 29 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/370-S/18952) ;

(ee) Letter dated 29 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/371-S/18953) ;

(ff) Letter dated 29 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/373-S/18955) ;

(gg) Letter dated 30 June 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/375-S/18956) ;

(hh) Letter dated 6 July 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/382-S/18966) ;

(ii) Letter dated 7 July 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/384-S/18967) ;

(jj) Letter dated 13 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/397-S/18973) ;

(kk) Letter dated 15 July 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/402-S/18979) ;

(ll) Letter dated 16 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/405-S/18984) ;

(mm) Letter dated 15 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final statement of the fifth session of the InterAction Council, held at Kuala Lumpur from 19 to 21 April 1987 (A/42/407);

(nn) Letter dated 17 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/408-S/18986);

(oo) Letter dated 23 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/415-S/18992);

(pp) Letter dated 29 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/426-9/19006);

(qq) Letter dated 3 August 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/443-S/19019);

(rr) Letter dated 10 August 1987 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/42/467-S/19029);

(on) Letter dated 23 October 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and the Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-second session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 7 October 1987 (A/42/681);

(tt) Letter dated 2 November 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué and the document entitled "Towards Increasing the Effectiveness of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva" issued at the session of the Committee of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Warsaw Treaty held at Prague on 28 and 29 October 1987 (A/42/708 and Corr.1).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.32 and Rev.1

5. On 27 October, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, and Viet-Nam submitted a draft resolution entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons" (A/C.1/42/L.32).

6. On 30 October, the sponsors submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/42/L.32, Rev.1), which was later also sponsored by Bulgaria and Indonesia. The revised draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Canada at the 34th meeting, on 6 November, and contained the following change: in operative paragraph 2, the words "complete and effective prohibition of the development, production," were inserted before the word "stockpiling".

7. At its 41st meeting, on 12 November, the Committee adapted draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.32/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution A).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.34

8. On 27 October 1987, the Islamic Republic of Iran submitted a draft resolution entitled "Chemical weapons" (A/C.1/42/L.34). The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the urgent necessity of strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives 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, 2/

"Bearing in mind that the use of chemical weapons has been condemned as incompatible with the accepted norm of civilization,

"Noting with concern reports that chemical weapons have been used, as well as indications of their emergence in an increasing number of national arsenals,

"Disturbed by the dangerous escalation in the use of chemical weapons in recent years, in violation of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 as well as other universally accepted norms of international humanitarian law, posing a threat to International peace and security and to the rule of law,

"Seriously alarmed by the reports that chemical weapons have been used against civilian populations,

"Expressing concern over the increasing risk that chemical weapons may be resorted to again,

"Conscious of the urgent necessity for taking international measures to prevent the further use of chemical weapons,

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2/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

"Noting with appreciation the work of the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons during its session in 1987 3/ regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and the progress achieved in negotiations,

"1. Reaffirms the need for strict observance of existing international obligations regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons stipulated in the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and other relevant international instruments;

"2. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to accelerate its negotiations on a multilateral convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction;

"3. Calls upon all States, pending the elaboration of such a convention, to co-operate in efforts to prevent the use of chemical weapons and in efforts to establish the facts in cases of reports of such use and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action on the basis of the procedures available to him for investigating the allegations of use of chemical weapons and to keep under scrutiny international conflicts with a view to taking appropriate measures in order to prevent and halt the use of chemical weapons;

"5. Condemns unequivocally any actions that violate the provisions of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 prohibiting the use of chemical weapons."

9. At the request of the sponsor, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.34.

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.41

10. On 27 October, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zaire submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" (A/C.1/42/L.41), which was later also sponsored by Ireland, Liberia and Poland. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Austria at the 35th meeting, on 6 November.

11. At its 41st meeting, on 12 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.41 without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution B).

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.67 and Rev. 1 and Rev. 1/Corr. 1

12. On 27 October, Australia submitted a draft resolution entitled "Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention" (A/C.1/42/L.67).

13. On 9 November, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, the German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Zaire submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/42/L.67/Rev. 1 and Rev. 1/Corr. 1), which was later also sponsored by Bulgaria. The revised draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Australia at the 37th meeting, on 9 November, and contained the following changes:

(a) A new second preambular paragraph was added, reading:

"Recalling further the necessity for adherence by all States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972";

(b) A new third preambular paragraph was added, reading:

"Reiterating its concern over reports that chemical weapons have been used and over indications of their emergence in an increasing number of national arsenals, as well as over the growing risk that they may be used again";

(c) In the original second preambular paragraph, now the fourth preambular paragraph, in the third line, the words "acquisition" and "transfer" were deleted, before the words "chemical weapons". The word "all" was inserted, and after the words "chemical weapons" the words "and on their destruction" were inserted;

(d) In the original third preambular paragraph, now the fifth preambular paragraph, the word "Convinced" was replaced by the words "Noting also";

(e) In operative paragraph 1, the words "and condemns all actions that violate this obligation" were added at the end of the paragraph;

(f) A new operative paragraph 2 was added, reading:

"2. Urges all States to be guided in their national policies by the need to curb the spread of chemical weapons"

and the subsequent paragraphs were renumbered accordingly)

(g) In the original operative paragraph 3, now operative paragraph 4, the words "activities, including" were deleted.

14. In connection with draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.67/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1 the Secretary-General submitted a statement on its programme budget implications (A/C.1/42/L.85).

15. At its 41st meeting, on 12 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.67/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1 without a vote (see para.18, draft resolution C).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.71

16. On 27 October 1987, Australia, Belgium, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Zaire submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons" (A/C.1/42/L.71), which was later also sponsored by France, Philippines, Rwanda and Sri Lanka. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 41/58 C of 3 December 1986,

"Reaffirming the urgent necessity of strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives 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 19 June 1925, 4/ and of the adherence by all States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972, 5/

"Reiterating its concern over reports that chemical weapons have been used and over indications of their emergence in an increasing number of national arsenals, as well as over the growing risk that they may be used again,

4/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2153, p. 65.

5/ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

"Noting international efforts to strengthen relevant international prohibitions, including efforts to develop appropriate fact-finding mechanisms,

"Recalling its resolution 41/59 J of 3 December 1996, in which, inter alia, it pointed out the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements on arms limitation and disarmament,

"Reaffirming its dedication to protecting mankind from chemical and biological warfare,

"1. Calls for compliance with existing international obligations regarding prohibitions on chemical and biological weapons, and condemns all actions that contravene those obligations

"2. Strongly endorses the ongoing efforts to ensure the most effective prohibitions possible on chemical and biological weapons;

"3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to pursue vigorously and accelerate its negotiations on a multilateral convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and on their destruction;

Calls upon all States, pending the elaboration of such a convention, to co-operate in efforts to prevent the use of chemical weapons and in efforts to establish the facts in cases of reports of such use, and to be guided in their national policies by the need to curb the spread of chemical weapons."

17. At the request of the sponsors, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C. 1/42/L. 71.

III, RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

18. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

A

Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and of their destruction,

Reaffirming the urgent necessity of strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives 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, 6/ and of the adherence by all States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972, 7/

Taking note of the Final Document of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by consensus on 26 September 1986, 8/ and in Particular of article IX of its Final Declaration, 9/

Having considered the report of: the Conference on Disarmament, 10/ which incorporates, inter alia, the report of its Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, 11/ and noting that following the precedents set over the past three years, consultations are continuing during the inter-sessional period, thus increasing the time devoted to negotiations,

Convinced of the necessity that all efforts be exerted for the continuation and successful conclusion of negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

Noting the oral and other discussions, including the ongoing exchange of views between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America in the framework of the multilateral negotiations, on issues related to the prohibition of chemical weapons,

Noting further with appreciation the efforts made at all levels by States to facilitate the earliest conclusion of a convention and, in particular, the concrete steps designed to promote confidence and to contribute directly to that goal,

6/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

7/ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

8/ BWC/CONF. I II/ 3/ I.

9/ Ibid., part II.

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/42/27).

11/ Ibid., para. 79.

Wishing to encourage Member States to take further initiatives to promote confidence and openness in the negotiations and to provide further information to facilitate prompt resolution of outstanding issues, thus contributing to an early agreement of the convention for the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. Take note with satisfaction of the work of the Conference on Disarmament during its 1987 session regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and, in particular, appreciate the progress in the work of its AU Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons on that question and the tangible results recorded in its report;

2. Expresses again none the less its regret and concern that notwithstanding the progress made in 1987, a convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;

3. Urges again the Conference on Disarmament, as a matter of high priority, to intensify, during its 1988 session, the negotiations on such a convention and to reinforce further its efforts by, inter alia, increasing the time during the year that it devotes to such negotiations, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives, with a view to the final elaboration of a convention at the earliest possible date, and to re-establish its AU Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons for this purpose with the mandate to be agreed upon by the Conference on Disarmament at the beginning of the reconvening of the Conference in 1988;

4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the results of its negotiations.

B

Second Review Conference of the Parties to the 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 2826 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, in which it commended the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to the Convention,

Recalling its resolution 39/65 D of 12 December 1984, in which it noted that, at the request of a majority of States parties to the Convention, a second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention would be held in 1986,

Recalling that the States parties to the Convention met at Geneva from 8 to 26 September 1986 to review the operation of the Convention with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble to and the provisions of the Convention, including the provisions concerning negotiations on chemical weapons, were being realized,

Recalling also its resolution 41/58 A of 3 December 1986, in which it, inter alia, noted with appreciation that on 26 September 1986, the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction adopted by consensus a Final Declaration, 9/

Noting with satisfaction that, at the time of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention, there were more than a hundred States parties to the Convention, including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

1. Notes with appreciation that, in accordance with the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, an Ad Hoc Meeting of Scientific and Technical Experts from States parties to the Convention was held at Geneva from 11 March to 15 April 1987, which adopted by consensus a report 12/ finalizing the modalities for the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration, thus enabling States parties to follow a standardized procedure;

2. Notes that the Ad Hoc Meeting of Scientific and Technical Experts From States parties to the Convention agreed in its report that the first exchange of information and data should take place not later than 15 October 1987 and that thereafter information to be given on an annual basis should be provided through the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat not later than 15 April;

3. Notes with satisfaction that the first such exchange of information and data has commenced;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the relevant parts of the Final Declaration;

5. Calls upon all signatory States that have not ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so without delay, and also calls upon those States which have not yet signed the Convention to join the States parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention and to international confidence.

C

Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions 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, 6/ and other relevant rules of customary international law,

Recalling further the **necessity** of the **adherence** by all **States** to the **Convention** on the Prohibition of the **Development, Production** and Stockpiling of **Bacteriological** (Biological) and **Toxin Weapons** and on Their **Destruction**, **signed** in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972, 7/

Reiterating its concern over reports that chemical weapons have been used and over indications of their **emergence** in an increasing number of national **arsenals**, **as well as** over the growing risk that they may be used again,

Noting with satisfaction that the Conference on Disarmament **is actively engaged** in negotiating a **convention** on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on **their** destruction, 13/ including detailed provisions for the on-site verification of compliance with the convention, and **expressing its support** for the early and **successful conclusion** of those negotiations,

Noting also that prompt and impartial investigation of reports of possible use of chemical and bacteriological weapons would further enhance the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the Secretary-General and noting the procedures available to him in support of the principles and objectives of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

1. Renews its call to all **States** to **observe strictly** the principles and objectives of the 1925 Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War Of **Asphyxiating, Poisonous** or Other Gases, and of **Bacteriological Methods** of Warfare, and **condemns** all actions that violate this obligation;

2. Urges all States to be guided in their national policies by the need to curb the spread of chemical weapons;

13/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement . 27 (A/42/27), sect. III.D.

3. Recognizes the need, upon the entry into force of a chemical weapons convention, to review the modalities available to the Secretary-General for the investigation of reports of the possible use of chemical weapons;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out investigations in response to reports that may be brought to his attention by any Member State concerning the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons that may constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol or other relevant rules Of customary international law in order to ascertain the facts of the matter, and to report promptly the results of any such investigation to all Member States;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of qualified experts provided by interested Member States, to develop further technical guidelines and procedures available to him for the timely and efficient investigation of such reports of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General, in meeting the objectives set forth in paragraph 4 above, to compile and maintain lists of qualified experts provided by Member States whose services could be made available at short notice to undertake such investigations, and of laboratories with the capability to undertake testing for the presence of agents the use of which is prohibited¹

7. Further requests the Secretary-General, in meeting the objectives of paragraph 4 above ;

(a) To appoint experts to undertake investigation of the reported activities;

(b) Where appropriate, to make the necessary arrangements for experts to collect and examine evidence and to undertake such testing as may be required;

(c) To seek, in any such investigation, assistance as appropriate from Member States and the relevant international organizations;

8. Requests Member States and the relevant international organizations to co-operate fully with the Secretary-General in the above-mentioned work;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.
