

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969,

Further recalling its resolution 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961, by which it welcomed the joint statement of agreed principles for disarmament negotiations, submitted on 20 September 1961 by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America,⁸

Reaffirming once again the responsibility of the United Nations in the attainment of general and complete disarmament, which is the most important question facing the world today,

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

Having considered the working papers on a comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted by the Netherlands on 24 February 1970⁴ and by Italy on 19 August 1970,⁵ and the draft comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted by Mexico, Sweden and Yugoslavia on 27 August 1970⁶ to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

Having considered also the opinions expressed in the debates of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and of the First Committee concerning the question of a comprehensive programme of disarmament,

1. Urges the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to make more intensive efforts to bring about a faster pace towards the achievement of disarmament measures;

2. Expresses its appreciation of the important and constructive documents and views submitted at the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, including the working papers on a comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted by the Netherlands on 24 February 1970 and by Italy on 19 August 1970, and the draft comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted by Mexico, Sweden and Yugoslavia on 27 August 1970, and of the comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted to the General Assembly by Ireland, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Sweden and Yugoslavia on 1 December 1970;⁷

3. Recommends to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament that it take into account in its further work and its negotiations the comprehensive programme of disarmament submitted on 1 December 1970,⁷ as well as other disarmament suggestions presented or to be presented in the future.

1919th plenary meeting,
7 December 1970.

2662 (XXV). Question of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the increasing concern of the interna-

tional community over developments in the field of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons,

Recalling its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 and 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,⁸

Noting the report entitled *Chemical and Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and the Effects of Their Possible Use*,⁹ prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2454 A (XXIII), with the assistance of consultant experts, and the report of the World Health Organization's group of consultants entitled *Health Aspects of Chemical and Biological Weapons*,¹⁰

Deeply convinced that the prospects for international peace and security, as well as the achievement of the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, would be enhanced if the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) agents for purposes of war were to end and if those agents were eliminated from all military arsenals,

Conscious of the need to maintain inviolate 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 1925,¹¹ and to ensure its universal applicability,

Conscious of the urgent need for all States that have not already done so to accede to the Geneva Protocol,

1. Reaffirms its resolution 2162 B (XXI) of 5 December 1966 and calls anew for the 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. Invites all States that have not already done so to accede to or ratify the Geneva Protocol;

3. Takes note of:

(a) The revised draft Convention for the Prohibition of Biological Methods of Warfare,¹² submitted on 18 August 1970 to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) The revised draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Chemical and Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on the Destruction of Such Weapons,¹³ submitted on 23 October 1970 to the General Assembly by Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

⁸ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1970, document DC/233.

⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.69.I.24.

¹⁰ World Health Organization (Geneva, 1970).

¹¹ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

¹² Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1970, document DC/233, annex C, document CCD/255/Rev.2.

¹³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda items 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 93 and 94, document A/8136.

⁸ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 19, document A/4879.

⁴ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1970, document DC/233, annex C, document CCD/276.

⁵ Ibid., document CCD/309.

⁶ Ibid., document CCD/313.

⁷ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda items 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 93 and 94, document A/8191.

(c) The working papers, expert views and suggestions put forward in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and in the First Committee;

4. *Takes further note* of the joint memorandum on the question of chemical and bacteriological (biological) methods of warfare,¹⁴ submitted on 25 August 1970 to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament by Argentina, Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sweden, the United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia;

5. *Commends* the following basic approach, contained in the joint memorandum, for reaching an effective solution to the problem of chemical and bacteriological (biological) methods of warfare:

(a) It is urgent and important to reach agreement on the problem of chemical and bacteriological (biological) methods of warfare;

(b) Both chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons should continue to be dealt with together in taking steps towards the prohibition of their development, production and stockpiling and their effective elimination from the arsenals of all States;

(c) The issue of verification is important in the field of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons, and verification should be based on a combination of appropriate national and international measures, which would complement and supplement each other, thereby providing an acceptable system that would ensure the effective implementation of the prohibition;

6. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue its consideration of the problem of chemical and bacteriological (biological) methods of warfare, with a view to prohibiting urgently the development, production and stockpiling of those weapons and to their elimination from the arsenals of all States;

7. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to submit a report on the results achieved to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents and records of the First Committee relating to questions connected with the problem of chemical and bacteriological (biological) methods of warfare.

1919th plenary meeting,
7 December 1970.

2663 (XXV). Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests

A

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for the cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear weapon tests, including those carried out underground,

Taking into account the determination expressed by the parties in the preamble of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,¹⁵ to continue negotiations to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time,

¹⁴ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1970, document DC/233, annex C, document CCD/310.

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480 (1963), No. 6964.

Taking also into account the undertaking by the parties in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling its resolutions 2163 (XXI) of 5 December 1966, 2343 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2455 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 and 2604 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969,

Recalling further that in the above-mentioned resolutions the General Assembly expressed the hope that States would contribute to an effective international exchange of seismic data,

Noting the responses submitted up to the present date to the request for information circulated by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2604 (XXIV),¹⁶

Having considered the report submitted on 11 September 1970 by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,¹⁷ and in particular the annexes thereto concerned with facilitating the achievement of a comprehensive test ban through the international exchange of seismic data,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* of the information received thus far in response to the request made by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2604 (XXIV);

2. *Urges* Governments to consider and, wherever possible, to implement methods of improving their capability to contribute high-quality seismic data with assured international availability, taking into account the suggestions contained in the documents annexed to the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, and invites those Governments that are in a position to do so to consider lending their assistance in the improvement of worldwide seismological capabilities in order to facilitate, through the assured international availability of seismic data, the achievement of a comprehensive test ban;

3. *Invites* members of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to co-operate in further study of this issue.

1919th plenary meeting,
7 December 1970.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,¹⁷

Recalling its resolutions 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 2163 (XXI) of 5 December 1966, 2343 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2455 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 and 2604 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969,

Noting with regret that all States have not yet adhered to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,¹⁸

¹⁶ A/7967/Rev.1.

¹⁷ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1970, document DC/233.

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480 (1963), No. 6964.