

ward to its report thereon in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

12. *Requests* the specialized agencies to provide the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work, including particular problems in the fields within their competence relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of paragraph 73 of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to consider strengthening the Outer Space Affairs Division of the Secretariat;

14. *Notes* the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to hold the twentieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at Vienna in 1977 and accepts that invitation with appreciation;

15. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work, as set out in the present and previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*57th plenary meeting
8 November 1976*

31/9. Conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations⁷

The General Assembly,

Recalling the principle proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations that States shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force,

Noting with satisfaction that the principle of the non-use of force or the threat of force has been incorporated into a number of bilateral and multilateral international instruments, treaties, agreements and declarations, including resolutions adopted by the United Nations,

Noting the need for universal and effective application of this principle in international relations and for assistance by the United Nations in this endeavour,

Having considered the item entitled "Conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations",

Taking note of the draft World Treaty on the Non-Use of Force in International Relations⁸ submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

1. *Invites* Member States to examine further the above-mentioned draft World Treaty on the Non-Use of Force in International Relations as well as other proposals and statements made during the consideration of the item entitled "Conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations";

2. *Requests* Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions on this subject not later than 1 June 1977;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on the communications received by him pursuant to paragraph 2 above;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session the item entitled "Conclusion

of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations".

*57th plenary meeting
8 November 1976*

31/64. Incendiary and other specific conventional weapons which may be the subject of prohibitions or restrictions of use for humanitarian reasons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the suffering of civilian populations and combatants could be significantly reduced if general agreement can be attained on the prohibition or restriction for humanitarian reasons of the use of specific conventional weapons, including any which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

Mindful that positive results as regards the non-use or restriction of use for humanitarian reasons of specific conventional weapons would serve, in addition, as encouragement in the broader field of disarmament and might facilitate subsequent agreement on the elimination of such weapons which were completely banned for use,

Recalling that the issue of prohibitions or restrictions for humanitarian reasons of the use of specific conventional weapons has been the subject of serious and substantive discussion for a number of years, notably at the sessions of the Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons held, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, at Lucerne from 24 September to 18 October 1974⁹ and at Lugano from 28 January to 26 February 1976,¹⁰ and at three sessions of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts and in the General Assembly since 1971,

Noting that the discussions and proposals regarding the prohibition or restriction for humanitarian reasons of the use of certain weapons have focused on napalm and other incendiary weapons, on indiscriminate methods of using land mines, on perfidious weapons and weapons which rely for their effect upon fragments invisible on X-ray, on certain types of small calibre projectile which may be especially injurious and on certain blast and fragmentation weapons,

Noting that the issue will come before the fourth session of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts, to be held at Geneva from 17 March to 10 June 1977,

Convinced that the work of the fourth session of the Diplomatic Conference should be inspired by a sense of urgency and the wish to attain concrete results which was stressed in the appeal by the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976,¹¹

⁹ For the report of the first session, see *Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons* (International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, 1975).

¹⁰ For the report of the second session, see *Conference of Government Experts on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons* (International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, 1976).

¹¹ See A/31/197, annex IV, sect. A, resolution 12.

⁷ See also sect. I above, foot-note 11, and sect. X.B.7 below, decision 31/410.

⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 124, document A/31/243, annex.

concerning particularly the prohibition of the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the work of the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts as regards the work of the Conference relevant to the present resolution;¹²

2. *Invites* the Diplomatic Conference to accelerate its consideration of the use of specific conventional weapons, including any which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects, and to do its utmost to agree for humanitarian reasons on possible rules prohibiting or restricting the use of such weapons;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, who has been invited to attend the Diplomatic Conference as an observer, to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session on aspects of the work of the Diplomatic Conference relevant to the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session the item entitled "Incendiary and other specific conventional weapons which may be the subject of prohibitions or restrictions of use for humanitarian reasons".

96th plenary meeting
10 December 1976

31/65. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2933 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3256 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 3465 (XXX) of 11 December 1975,

Convinced that the process of international détente is conducive to the implementation of further disarmament measures and of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Reaffirming the 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 1925,¹³

Convinced that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction¹⁴ constitutes an important step towards early agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from arsenals of all States,

Recalling in that connexion the undertaking contained in article IX of the Convention to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of the devel-

opment, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction,

Stressing the importance of early agreement on the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, which would contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Noting the risk of continued development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons in the absence of such agreement,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,¹⁵

Noting that drafts of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,¹⁶ as well as other working documents, proposals and suggestions, have been submitted to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and constitute valuable contributions to reaching appropriate agreement,

Noting also the comments addressed to this problem and relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session,

Noting further that intensified efforts in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament have led to increased understanding in identifying practical approaches towards the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons, and their destruction, including definition of the agents to be banned,

Recognizing the importance of developing methods for providing adequate assurance of compliance with effective measures for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons, including methods of verifying the destruction of stockpiles of such weapons,

Having in mind that agreement on the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction should not impede the utilization of science and technology for the economic development of States,

Desiring to contribute to a successful conclusion of the negotiations on effective and strict measures for the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction,

1. *Reaffirms* the objective of reaching early agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from arsenals of all States;

2. *Urges again* all States to make every effort to facilitate early agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

3. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations as a matter of high priority, taking into account the existing proposals,

¹⁵ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/31/27).

¹⁶ See Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1972, document DC/235, annex B, document CCD/361; Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/9627), annex II, document CCD/420; *ibid.*, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/10027), annex II, document CCD/452; and *ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/31/27), annex III, document CCD/512.

¹² A/9726, A/10222, A/31/146.

¹³ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

¹⁴ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.