

major maritime users to ensure conditions of peace and security based on the purposes and principles of the Charter, as well as on the general principles of international law,

Considering further that the creation of a zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the littoral and hinterland States,

Calling for the renewal of genuinely constructive efforts through the exercise of the political will necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

Deeply concerned at the danger posed by the grave and ominous developments in the area and the resulting sharp deterioration of peace, security and stability which particularly seriously affect the littoral and hinterland States, as well as international peace and security,

Convinced that the continued deterioration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area is an important consideration bearing on the question of the urgent convening of the Conference and that the easing of tension in the area would enhance the prospect of success being achieved by the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean¹⁰⁷ and the exchange of views in the Committee;

2. *Regrets* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has failed to reach consensus on the finalization of dates for the convening, during 1984, of the Conference on the Indian Ocean;

3. *Emphasizes* its decision to convene the Conference at Colombo as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

4. *Takes note* of the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee during 1983;

5. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to make decisive efforts in 1984 to complete preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean, in consideration of the political and security climate in the region and with a view to enabling the opening of the Conference at Colombo in the first half of 1985, it being understood that such preparatory work would comprise organizational matters, including the provisional agenda for the Conference, rules of procedure, documentation and consideration of appropriate arrangements for any international agreement that may ultimately be reached for the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, and substantive issues;

6. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee at the same time to make determined efforts in 1984 for the necessary harmonization of views on the remaining relevant issues;

7. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions and requests the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

8. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold three further sessions in 1984 of a duration of two weeks each, with the possibility of holding a fourth session to be considered as required;

9. *Requests* the Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue his consultations on the participation in the work

of the Committee by States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Committee, with the aim of resolving this matter at the earliest possible date;

10. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session a full report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the provision of summary records.

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38/186. World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977, 33/69 of 14 December 1978, 34/81 of 11 December 1979, 35/151 of 12 December 1980, 36/91 of 9 December 1981 and 37/97 of 13 December 1982,

Reiterating its conviction that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

Stressing anew its conviction that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could provide the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking note of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference,¹⁰⁸

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁰⁹ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,¹¹⁰ the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened, with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that in its report to the General Assembly the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated, *inter alia*, the following:

“Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly should take up the question at its thirty-eighth regular session for further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of that resolution, and resolution 37/97, also adopted by consensus”;¹¹¹

2. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

3. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue to maintain close contact with the representatives of the

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/38/29).

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28).

¹⁰⁹ Resolution S-10/2.

¹¹⁰ Resolution 35/46, annex.

¹¹¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28), para. 14.

States possessing nuclear weapons, in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".

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38/187. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

A

PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 75 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁰⁹ the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states that the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represents one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

Referring to the unanimous and categorical reaffirmation by all Member States at the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, of the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,¹¹²

Convinced of the need for the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, which would significantly contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recalling its resolutions 36/96 B of 9 December 1981 and 37/98 A of 13 December 1982,

Expressing profound concern at the intended production and deployment of binary chemical weapons,

Taking into consideration the decision by the Committee on Disarmament on the mandate for the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons, as well as the work of this Group during the session of the Committee on Disarmament in 1983,¹¹³

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate negotiations,

Aware that the qualitative improvement and development of chemical weapons complicate ongoing negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons,

Taking note of proposals on the creation of chemical-weapon-free zones aimed at facilitating the complete prohibition of chemical weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of the speediest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

2. *Appeals* to all States to facilitate in every possible way the conclusion of such a convention;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament¹¹⁴ to intensify the negotiations in the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons in fulfilment of its present mandate, to achieve accord on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest possible date and, for this purpose, to proceed immediately to drafting such a convention for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

4. *Reaffirms its call* to all States to refrain from any action that could impede negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons and specifically to refrain from the production and deployment of binary and other new types of chemical weapons, as well as from stationing chemical weapons on the territory of other States.

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B

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 to their destruction,

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 1925,¹¹⁵ 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 1972,¹¹⁶

Having considered the report of the Committee on Disarmament, which includes, *inter alia*, the report of its *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons,¹¹³

Considering it necessary that all efforts be exerted for the resumption and successful conclusion of negotiations on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Committee on Disarmament during its session in 1983 regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and, in particular, appreciates the work of its *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons and the progress achieved therein;

2. *Expresses its regret* that an agreement on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction has not yet been elaborated;

3. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament,¹¹⁴ as a matter of high priority, to intensify, during its session in 1984, the negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, taking into account all existing proposals and future initiatives with a view to the final elaboration of a convention at the earliest

¹¹² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, document A/S-12/32, para. 62.*

¹¹³ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27, para. 79.*

¹¹⁴ From 7 February 1984, the date of commencement of its annual session, the Committee on Disarmament is to be known as the "Conference on

Disarmament" (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/38/27), para. 21*).

¹¹⁵ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.

¹¹⁶ Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.