

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session an item entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields".

*81st plenary meeting
9 December 1992*

47/45. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/152 O of 16 December 1985, 41/86 Q of 4 December 1986, 42/42 F of 30 November 1987, 43/81 B of 7 December 1988 and 45/65 of 4 December 1990,

Noting that the critical importance of verification of and compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements is universally recognized,

Stressing that the issue of verification of and compliance with arms limitation and disarmament agreements is a matter of concern to all nations,

Recognizing that the United Nations, in accordance with its role and responsibilities established under the Charter, can make a significant contribution in the field of verification, in particular of multilateral agreements,

Affirming its continued support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,¹⁴

Noting that recent developments in international relations have underscored the continuing importance of effective verification of existing and future arms limitation and disarmament agreements, and that some of these developments have significant effects on the role of the United Nations in the field of verification, which require careful and ongoing examination,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General¹⁵ pursuant to the statement of 31 January 1992 adopted at the conclusion of the first meeting held by the Security Council at the level of Heads of State and Government, containing his analysis and recommendations on ways of strengthening and making more efficient, within the framework and provisions of the Charter, the capacity of the United Nations for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping and post-conflict peace-building,

Taking note also of the Final Declaration of the Third 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 on 27 September 1991,¹⁶ and the activities of the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts on verification,

Welcoming the conclusion of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,⁴ which contains an unprecedented regime of verification,

Recalling that in resolution 45/65 it requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on actions taken by Member States and by the United Nations Secretariat to implement the recommendations contained in the concluding chapter of the report of the Group of Qualified Governmental Experts to Undertake a Study on the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification,¹⁷

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General¹⁸ on actions to implement the recommendations in the in-depth study on the role of the United Nations in the field of verification;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to give active consideration to the recommendations contained in the concluding chapter of the study and to assist the Secretary-General in their implementation where appropriate;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the study on the role of the United Nations in the field of verification and in view of significant developments in international relations since that study, to seek the views of Member States on:

(a) Additional actions that might be taken to implement the recommendations contained in the study;

(b) How the verification of arms limitation and disarmament agreements can facilitate United Nations activities with respect to preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping and post-conflict peace-building;

(c) Additional actions with respect to the role of the United Nations in the field of verification, including further studies by the United Nations on this subject;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

*81st plenary meeting
9 December 1992*

47/46. Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/106 of 15 December 1989, 45/50 of 4 December 1990 and 46/28 of 6 December 1991,

Reiterating its conviction that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is the highest-priority measure for the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and for the achievement of the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the central role of the United Nations in the field of nuclear disarmament and in particular in the cessation of all nuclear-test explosions, as well as the persistent efforts of non-governmental organizations in the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty,

Conscious of the growing environmental concerns throughout the world and of the past and potential negative effects of nuclear testing on the environment,

Recalling its resolution 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, in which it noted with approval the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water,¹⁹ signed on 5 August 1963, and requested the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament²⁰ to continue with a sense of urgency its negotiations to achieve the objectives set forth in the preamble to the Treaty,

Recalling also that more than one third of the parties to the Treaty requested the Depositary Governments to con-

vene a conference to consider an amendment that would convert the Treaty into a comprehensive test-ban treaty,

Recalling further that a substantive session of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water was held in New York from 7 to 18 January 1991,

Reiterating its conviction that the Amendment Conference will facilitate the attainment of the objectives set forth in the Treaty and thus serve to strengthen it,

Noting with satisfaction the unilateral nuclear-test moratoria announced by several nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its recommendation that arrangements be made to ensure that intensive efforts continue, under the auspices of the Amendment Conference, until a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is achieved,

Recalling also the decision adopted by the Amendment Conference²¹ to the effect that, since further work needed to be undertaken on certain aspects of a comprehensive test-ban treaty, especially those with regard to verification of compliance and possible sanctions against non-compliance, the President of the Conference should conduct consultations with a view to achieving progress on those issues and to resuming the work of the Conference at an appropriate time,

Welcoming the ongoing consultations being conducted by the President of the Amendment Conference,

1. *Notes* the ongoing consultations being conducted by the President of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water and the special meeting of States parties of a brief duration to be held in New York in the second quarter of 1993 to review the developments on the issue of nuclear testing, with a view to examining the feasibility of resuming the work of the Amendment Conference later that year;

2. *Calls upon* all parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water to participate in, and to contribute to the success of, the Amendment Conference for the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test ban at an early date, as an indispensable measure towards implementation of their undertakings in the preamble to the Treaty;

3. *Urges* all States, especially those nuclear-weapon States which have not yet done so, to adhere to the Treaty;

4. *Recommends* that arrangements should be made to ensure the fullest possible participation of non-governmental organizations in the Amendment Conference;

5. *Reiterates its conviction* that, pending the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, the nuclear-weapon States should suspend all nuclear-test explosions through an agreed moratorium or unilateral moratoria;

6. *Stresses once again* the importance of ensuring adequate coordination among the various negotiating forums dealing with a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water".

81st plenary meeting
9 December 1992

47/47. Comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling previous resolutions that identify the complete cessation of nuclear-weapon tests and a comprehensive test ban as one of the priority objectives in the field of disarmament,

Convinced that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Welcoming the improved relationship between the Russian Federation and the United States of America and their consequent announcements of significant measures, including unilateral steps, which could signal the reversal of the nuclear-arms race,

Welcoming also the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed on 31 July 1991, and the signing of a protocol to this Treaty in which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America undertake to give effect to the Treaty,

Welcoming further the Joint Understanding of 17 June 1992 between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on further reductions in their strategic offensive arms,

Welcoming the decision taken by France to suspend its testing of nuclear weapons for 1992,

Endorsing the call made by France and by the Russian Federation on the other nuclear Powers to suspend their nuclear tests,

Welcoming also in addition the recent decision of the United States of America to implement a testing moratorium accompanied by a plan for achieving a multi-lateral, comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming further the decision of the Russian Federation to extend its earlier-announced nuclear-testing moratorium,

Convinced that an end to nuclear testing by all States in all environments for all time is an essential step in order to prevent the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear weapons and their further proliferation and to contribute, along with other concurrent efforts to reduce nuclear arms, to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons,

Noting the concerns expressed about the environmental and health risks associated with underground nuclear testing, as brought out in the Expert Study on Questions Related to a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in CD/1167 of 14 August 1992, which noted, *inter alia*, the environmental benefits and economic savings to be derived from a complete ban on nuclear testing,

Convinced also that the most effective way to achieve an end to nuclear testing is through the conclusion, at an early date, of a verifiable, comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty that will attract the adherence of all States,

Taking into account the undertakings by the original parties to the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water¹⁹ to seek to achieve the early discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, and also noting the reiteration of this commitment in the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,²²