

entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

*98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976*

31/189. General and complete disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2602 A (XXIV) of 16 December 1969 relating to the initiation of bilateral negotiations between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the limitation of offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2932 B (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3184 A and C (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3261 C (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 3484 C (XXX) of 12 December 1975,

Bearing in mind that the above-mentioned Governments agreed on 21 June 1973 to make serious efforts to work out and sign in 1974 the agreement on more complete measures on the limitation of strategic offensive arms called for in the interim agreement of 26 May 1972, and that on the same occasion they expressed their intention to carry out the subsequent reduction of such arms,

Conscious of the fact that the interim agreement referred to above will expire next year,

Noting that, as a result of the discussions held at the highest level in November 1974 also between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, both sides reaffirmed their intention to conclude an agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms to last until 31 December 1985 inclusive,

Noting also that at the same meeting it was agreed to set ceilings both on the strategic offensive nuclear-delivery vehicles as well as on such of those vehicles as may be equipped with multiple independently targetable warheads, and that both sides stated that favourable prospects existed for completing the work on the new agreement in 1975 and stressed that it would include provisions for further negotiations beginning no later than 1980-1981 on the question of further limitations and possible reductions of strategic arms in the period after 1985,

Noting further the information submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America,⁴⁰

Reiterating its opinion that disarmament negotiations move very slowly in comparison to the obvious perils posed by the enormous arsenals of nuclear weapons,

1. *Regrets* the absence of positive results during the last three years of the bilateral negotiations between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the limitation of their strategic nuclear-weapon systems;

2. *Expresses its concern* for the very high ceilings of nuclear arms set for themselves by both States, for the total absence of qualitative limitations of such arms, for the protracted time-table contemplated for the ne-

gotiation of further limitations and possible reductions of the nuclear arsenals and for the situation thus created;

3. *Urges anew* the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to broaden the scope and accelerate the pace of their strategic nuclear arms limitation talks, and stresses once again the necessity and urgency of reaching agreement on important qualitative limitations and substantial reductions of their strategic nuclear-weapon systems as a positive step towards nuclear disarmament;

4. *Reiterates* its previous invitation to both Governments to keep the General Assembly informed in good time of the progress and results of their negotiations.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

B

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the continuation of the arms race endangers international peace and security and also diverts vast resources urgently needed for economic and social development,

Convinced that peace can be secured through the implementation of disarmament measures, particularly of nuclear disarmament, conducive to the realization of the final objective, namely, general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Reaffirming that disarmament is one of the essential objectives of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976, called for a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and made specific suggestions in this regard in its Political Declaration and its resolution on disarmament,⁴¹

1. *Decides* to convene a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, to be held in New York in May/June 1978;

2. *Further decides* to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, composed of fifty-four Member States appointed by the President of the Assembly on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, with the mandate of examining all relevant questions relating to the special session, including its agenda, and of submitting to the Assembly at its thirty-second session appropriate recommendations thereon;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the agenda and all other relevant questions relating to the special session of the General Assembly not later than 15 April 1977;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the replies of Member States pursuant to paragraph 3 above to the Preparatory Committee and to render it all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information, relevant documents and summary records;

5. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to meet for a short organizational session of not longer than one week, before 31 March 1977, *inter alia* to set the dates for its substantive sessions;

⁴⁰ See A/31/125.

⁴¹ See A/31/197, annex I, sect. XVII; and annex IV, sect. A, resolution 12.

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session an item entitled: "Special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament".

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

C

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race and the threat to mankind due to the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that only nuclear disarmament resulting in the complete elimination of nuclear weapons will assure perfect security in the nuclear era,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to devise effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recalling its resolution 3261 G (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, in which it recommended that Member States should consider in all appropriate forums, without loss of time, the question of strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting that the non-nuclear-weapon States have called for assurances from nuclear-weapon Powers that they will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against them,

Deeply concerned over any possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in any contingency,

1. *Requests* the nuclear-weapon States, as a first step towards a complete ban on the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, to consider undertaking, without prejudice to their obligations arising from treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the nuclear security arrangements of some nuclear-weapon Powers;

2. *Decides* to review at its thirty-second session the progress made on the question of strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

D

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, in which it commended the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons⁴² and expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to that Treaty,

Noting that one hundred States now are parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Noting further that the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons have accepted the principle of safeguards on all their peaceful nuclear activities,

Recognizing that the accelerated spread and development of peaceful applications of nuclear energy may, in the absence of an effective and comprehensive safeguards system, increase the danger of proliferation of nuclear weapons or equivalent nuclear explosive capabilities,

Noting that the objectives of the International Atomic Energy Agency, as defined in its statute, are to promote the peaceful applications of nuclear energy while ensuring that they are not used in such a way as to further any military purpose,

Underlining the important role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in implementing international non-proliferation policies in connexion with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and noting in this context the communication from Finland concerning the strengthening of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on a comprehensive basis,⁴³

Recognizing the necessity of continued international co-operation in the application and improvement of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on peaceful nuclear activities,

1. *Recognizes* that States accepting effective non-proliferation restraints have a right to enjoy fully the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and underlines the importance of increased efforts in this field, particularly for the needs of the developing areas of the world;

2. *Requests* the International Atomic Energy Agency to give special attention to its programme of work in the non-proliferation area, including its efforts in facilitating peaceful nuclear co-operation and increasing assistance to the developing areas of the world within an effective and comprehensive safeguards system;

3. *Further requests* the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue its studies on the questions of multinational fuel cycle centres and an international régime for plutonium storage as effective means to promote the interests of the non-proliferation régime;

4. *Calls upon* the International Atomic Energy Agency to give careful consideration to all relevant suggestions aiming at strengthening the safeguards régime that have been presented to the Agency;

5. *Requests* the International Atomic Energy Agency to report on the progress of its work on this question to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

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The President of the General Assembly subsequently informed the Secretary-General⁴⁴ that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution B above, he had appointed the members of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament.

As a result, the Preparatory Committee is composed of the following Member States: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA,

⁴³ A/C.1/31/6.

⁴⁴ See A/31/475.

⁴² Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

AUSTRIA, BAHAMAS, BANGLADESH, BELGIUM, BENIN, BRAZIL, BURUNDI, CANADA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF, GUYANA, HUNGARY, INDIA, IRAN, IRAQ, ITALY, JAPAN, LIBERIA, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MALAYSIA, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, ROMANIA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA.

31/190. World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975,

Reiterating its conviction that all 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 belief that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could promote the realization of such

aims and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate this attainment,

Noting the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference,⁴⁵

Noting further that in its resolution 31/189 B of 21 December 1976 the General Assembly decided to convene a special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons in order to remain currently informed of their respective attitudes, as well as to consider any relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee and, for this purpose, to meet briefly and submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, in accordance with its established procedure;

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

*106th plenary meeting
21 December 1976*

⁴⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/31/28).*