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ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Report of the Secretary-General

1. On 15 December 1983, the General Assembly adopted resolution 38/64, the operative part of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Urges all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

"2. Calls upon all States of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards;

"3. Invites those States, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with the relevant paragraph of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

* A/39/150.

"4. Invites further those States, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

"5. Invites the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and spirit of the present resolution;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled 'Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East'."

2. The Secretary-General recalls that the General Assembly adopted the resolution without a vote, which underlines the general support for its provisions. He considers that its subject-matter is of continuing interest.

3. The Secretary-General is of the opinion that, since the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would contribute to the improvement of the situation in the area, further efforts to that end should be made.
