

should give consideration to the use of these facilities for appropriate space research activities;

8. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that, upon notification of the United Nations by the Government of Argentina that the Mar Chiquita station near Mar del Plata is operative, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, should appoint a small group of scientists, drawn from States which are members of the Committee and are familiar with space research and facilities, to visit the station in Argentina and report to the Committee on its eligibility for United Nations sponsorship, in accordance with the basic principles endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 1802 (XVII) of 14 December 1962;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of a number of Member States to keep the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space fully informed of their activities and invites other Member States to do so;

10. *Notes with appreciation* that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1721 B (XVI) of 20 December 1961, the Secretary-General continues to maintain a public registry of objects launched into orbit or beyond on the basis of information furnished by Member States;

11. *Requests* the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to examine the particular problems which arise or which may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence and which should in their opinion be brought to the attention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and to report thereon to the Committee for its consideration, as indicated in paragraph 2 (b) of the present resolution;

12. *Invites* the specialized agencies concerned and the International Atomic Energy Agency to furnish the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space;

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

*1750th plenary meeting,
20 December 1968.*

2454 (XXIII). Question of general and complete disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the recommendations contained in its resolution 2162 B (XXI) of 5 December 1966 calling for 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 1925,⁷ condemning all actions contrary to those objectives and inviting all States to accede to that Protocol,

Considering that the possibility of the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons constitutes a serious threat to mankind,

⁷ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

Believing that the people of the world should be made aware of the consequences of the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament which recommended that the Secretary-General should appoint a group of experts to study the effects of the possible use of such weapons,⁸

Noting the interest in a report on various aspects of the problem of chemical, bacteriological and other biological weapons which has been expressed by many Governments and the welcome given to the recommendation of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session,⁹

Believing that such a study would provide a valuable contribution to the consideration by the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament of the problems connected with chemical and bacteriological weapons,

Recalling the value of the report of the Secretary-General on the effects of the possible use of nuclear weapons,¹⁰

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a concise report in accordance with the proposal contained in paragraph 32 of the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session and in accordance with the recommendation of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament contained in paragraph 26 of its report;

2. *Recommends* that the report should be based on accessible material and prepared with the assistance of qualified consultant experts appointed by the Secretary-General, taking into account the views expressed and the suggestions made during the discussion of this item at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, national and international scientific institutions and organizations to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report;

4. *Requests* that the report be transmitted to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, the Security Council and the General Assembly at an early date, if possible by 1 July 1969, and to the Governments of Member States in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

5. *Recommends* that Governments should give the report wide distribution in their respective languages, through various media of communication, so as to acquaint public opinion with its contents;

6. *Reiterates* its call for 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

⁸ See *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1967 and 1968*, document DC/231, para. 26.

⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 1A (A/7201/Add.1)*, para. 32.

¹⁰ *Effects of the Possible Use of Nuclear Weapons and the Security and Economic Implications for States of the Acquisition and Further Development of These Weapons* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.IX.1).

Methods of Warfare signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and invites all States to accede to that Protocol.

1750th plenary meeting,
20 December 1968.

B

The General Assembly,

Considering that one of the main purposes of the United Nations is to save mankind from the scourge of war,

Convinced that the armaments race, in particular the nuclear arms race, constitutes a threat to peace,

Believing that it is imperative to exert further efforts towards reaching agreement on general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Noting with satisfaction the agreement of the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the United States of America to enter into bilateral discussions on the limitation and reduction of both offensive strategic nuclear-weapon delivery systems and systems of defence against ballistic missiles,

Having received the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,¹¹ to which are annexed documents presented by the delegations of the eight non-aligned members of the Committee¹² and by Italy,¹³ Sweden,¹⁴ the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,¹⁵ the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland¹⁶ and the United States of America,¹⁷

Noting the memorandum of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics dated 1 July 1968 concerning urgent measures to stop the arms race and achieve disarmament¹⁸ and other proposals for collateral measures which have been submitted at the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,

Recalling its resolutions 1767 (XVII) of 21 November 1962, 1908 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2031 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 2162 C (XXI) of 5 December 1966 and 2344 (XXII) and 2342 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

1. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to make renewed efforts towards achieving substantial progress in reaching agreement on the question of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, and urgently to analyse the plans already under consideration and others that might be put forward to see how in particular rapid progress could be made in the field of nuclear disarmament;

2. Further requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to continue its urgent efforts to negotiate collateral measures of disarmament;

3. Decides to refer to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament all documents and records of the meetings of the First Committee concerning all matters related to the disarmament question;

¹¹ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1967 and 1968, document DC/231.

¹² Ibid., annex I, section 10.

¹³ Ibid., section 9.

¹⁴ Ibid., section 6.

¹⁵ Ibid., section 3.

¹⁶ Ibid., sections 5, 7 and 8.

¹⁷ Ibid., section 4.

¹⁸ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda items 27, 28, 29, 94 and 96, document A/7134.

4. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to resume its work as early as possible and to report to the General Assembly, as appropriate, on the progress achieved.

1750th plenary meeting,
20 December 1968.

2455 (XXIII). Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,¹⁹

Recalling its resolutions 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 2163 (XXI) of 5 December 1966 and 2343 (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

Recalling further the joint memorandum on a comprehensive test ban treaty submitted on 26 August 1968 by Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic and annexed to the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,²⁰

Noting with regret the fact that all States have not yet adhered to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,²¹

Noting with increasing concern that nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere and underground are continuing,

Taking into account the existing possibilities of establishing, through international co-operation, a voluntary exchange of seismic data so as to create a better scientific basis for a national evaluation of seismic events,

Recognizing the importance of seismology in the verification of the observance of a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests,

Noting in this connexion that experts from various countries, including four nuclear-weapon States, have recently met unofficially to exchange views and hold discussions in regard to the adequacy of seismic methods for monitoring underground explosions, and the hope expressed that such discussions would be continued,

1. Urges all States which have not done so to adhere without further delay to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water;

2. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments;

3. Expresses the hope that States will contribute to an effective international exchange of seismic data;

4. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to take up as a matter of urgency the elaboration of a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests and to report to the General Assembly on this matter at its twenty-fourth session.

1750th plenary meeting,
20 December 1968.

¹⁹ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1967 and 1968, document DC/231.

²⁰ Ibid., annex I, section 10.

²¹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480 (1963), No. 6964.