

3. Any State Party to this Convention which has reason to believe that any other State Party is acting in breach of obligations deriving from the provisions of the Convention may lodge a complaint with the Security Council of the United Nations. Such a complaint should include all relevant information as well as all possible evidence supporting its validity.

4. Each State Party to this Convention undertakes to co-operate in carrying out any investigation which the Security Council may initiate, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, on the basis of the complaint received by the Council. The Security Council shall inform the States Parties of the results of the investigation.

5. Each State Party to this Convention undertakes to provide or support assistance, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, to any State Party which so requests, if the Security Council decides that such Party has been harmed or is likely to be harmed as a result of violation of the Convention.

ARTICLE VI

1. Any State Party to this Convention may propose amendments to the Convention. The text of any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Depositary, who shall promptly circulate it to all States Parties.

2. An amendment shall enter into force for all States Parties to this Convention which have accepted it, upon the deposit with the Depositary of instruments of acceptance by a majority of States Parties. Thereafter it shall enter into force for any remaining State Party on the date of deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

ARTICLE VII

This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

ARTICLE VIII

1. Five years after the entry into force of this Convention, a conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall be convened by the Depositary at Geneva, Switzerland. The conference shall review the operation of the Convention with a view to ensuring that its purposes and provisions are being realized, and shall in particular examine the effectiveness of the provisions of paragraph 1 of article I in eliminating the dangers of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques.

2. At intervals of not less than five years thereafter, a majority of the States Parties to this Convention may obtain, by submitting a proposal to this effect to the Depositary, the convening of a conference with the same objectives.

3. If no conference has been convened pursuant to paragraph 2 of this article within ten years following the conclusion of a previous conference, the Depositary shall solicit the views of all States Parties to this Convention concerning the convening of such a conference. If one third or ten of the States Parties, whichever number is less, respond affirmatively, the Depositary shall take immediate steps to convene the conference.

ARTICLE IX

1. This Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. This Convention shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty Governments in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

4. For those States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited after the entry into force of this Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The Depositary shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of

deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession and the date of the entry into force of this Convention and of any amendments thereto, as well as of the receipt of other notices.

6. This Convention shall be registered by the Depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

ARTICLE X

This Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send duly certified copies thereof to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.

DONE at . . . , on the . . . day of . . . , . . .³⁰

Annex to the Convention

Consultative Committee of Experts

1. The Consultative Committee of Experts shall undertake to make appropriate findings of fact and provide expert views relevant to any problem raised pursuant to paragraph 1 of article V of this Convention by the State Party requesting the convening of the Committee.

2. The work of the Consultative Committee of Experts shall be organized in such a way as to permit it to perform the functions set forth in paragraph 1 of this annex. The Committee shall decide procedural questions relative to the organization of its work, where possible by consensus, but otherwise by a majority of those present and voting. There shall be no voting on matters of substance.

3. The Depositary or his representative shall serve as the Chairman of the Committee.

4. Each expert may be assisted at meetings by one or more advisers.

5. Each expert shall have the right, through the Chairman, to request from States, and from international organizations, such information and assistance as the expert considers desirable for the accomplishment of the Committee's work.

31/73. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 3476 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975 concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Reiterating its conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures which can contribute most effectively to halting the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promoting progress towards nuclear disarmament as a step towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control, with the ultimate goal of total destruction of all nuclear weapons and their means of delivery,

Bearing in mind the comprehensive study prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Qualified Governmental Experts for the Study of the Question of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones,³¹

Believing that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, as in other regions, will

³⁰ The Convention was opened for signature at Geneva on 18 May 1977.

³¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 27A (A/10027/Add.1), annex I.*

strengthen the security of the States of the region against nuclear threat or attack,

Noting the affirmation by the States of South Asia not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social advancement of their peoples,

Recalling that in the above-mentioned resolutions the General Assembly had called upon the States of the South Asian region and such other neighbouring non-nuclear-weapon States as might be interested to initiate, without delay, necessary consultations with a view to establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone and urged them, in the interim, to refrain from any action contrary to the achievement of the objectives of such a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Recalling that in resolution 3265 B (XXIX) the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to convene a meeting for the purpose of the above-mentioned consultations to render such assistance as might be required,

1. *Reaffirms* its endorsement in principle of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

2. *Urges once again* the States of South Asia and such other neighbouring non-nuclear-weapon States as may be interested to continue to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to refrain, in the meantime, from any action contrary to this objective;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render such assistance as may be required to promote the above efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia".

*96th plenary meeting
10 December 1976*

31/74. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3479 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to proceed as soon as possible to work out the text of an agreement on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Being convinced of the importance of concluding an agreement to prevent the use of scientific and technological progress for the development of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction,

Taking into account the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament with regard to this question,³²

Taking note of the discussion at the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament of the question of the

prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Taking into account the suggestions and relevant documents submitted to the General Assembly on this subject at its thirty-first session,

1. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue the negotiations, with the assistance of qualified governmental experts, aimed at working out the text of an agreement on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons and to submit a report on the results achieved for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents relating to the discussion of this item by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament".

*96th plenary meeting
10 December 1976*

31/75. Implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the danger of nuclear warfare remains a grave threat to the survival of mankind,

Convinced that the prevention of any further proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices remains a vital element in efforts to avert nuclear warfare,

Convinced that the promotion of this objective will be furthered by more rapid progress towards the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and the initiation of effective measures of nuclear disarmament,

Further convinced that the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time would constitute an important step in these efforts,

Noting that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,²⁷ to which about one hundred States are parties, implies a balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of all States parties to the Treaty, nuclear-weapon as well as non-nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling that the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons met at Geneva from 5 to 30 May 1975 to review the operation of the Treaty with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Treaty were being realized,

Further recalling that the Final Document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons³³ includes, *inter alia*, a Final Declaration and a number of interpretative statements in connexion with the Final Declaration,

³² *Ibid.*, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/31/27), paras. 178-198.

³³ See A/C.1/31/4.