

Having examined the comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects³⁶ carried out under the auspices of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Qualified Governmental Experts for the Study of the Question of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 3261-F (XXIX) of 9 December 1974,

Having also examined the comments made by States members of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament regarding that study,³⁷ the text of which is annexed to the special report in which the Conference transmitted the study to the General Assembly,³⁵

Bearing in mind that, without prejudice to the results that may be obtained through any further examination of this matter, from the analysis of the contents of the special report it is already possible at this time to draw certain incontrovertible conclusions,

Noting that from among those conclusions it would seem advisable to stress the necessity that the General Assembly define the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone and the scope of the principal obligations of the nuclear-weapon States towards such zones and towards the States included therein,

Convinced that in so doing it will strengthen the new efforts recently undertaken and the realizations already achieved for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Solemnly adopts the following declaration:

I. *Definition of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone*

1. A "nuclear-weapon-free zone" shall, as a general rule, be deemed to be any zone, recognized as such by the General Assembly of the United Nations, which any group of States, in the free exercise of their sovereignty, has established by virtue of a treaty or convention whereby:

(a) The statute of total absence of nuclear weapons to which the zone shall be subject, including the procedure for the delimitation of the zone, is defined;

(b) An international system of verification and control is established to guarantee compliance with the obligations deriving from that statute.

II. *Definition of the principal obligations of the nuclear-weapon States towards nuclear-weapon-free zones and towards the States included therein*

2. In every case of a nuclear-weapon-free zone that has been recognized as such by the General Assembly, all nuclear-weapon States shall undertake or reaffirm, in a solemn international instrument having full legally binding force, such as a treaty, a convention or a protocol, the following obligations:

(a) To respect in all its parts the statute of total absence of nuclear weapons defined in the treaty or convention which serves as the constitutive instrument of the zone;

(b) To refrain from contributing in any way to the performance in the territories forming part of the zone of acts which involve a violation of the aforesaid treaty or convention;

(c) To refrain from using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against the States included in the zone.

III. *Scope of the definitions*

3. The above definitions in no way impair the resolutions which the General Assembly has adopted or may adopt with regard to specific cases of nuclear-weapon-free zones nor the rights emanating for the Member States from such resolutions.

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

3473 (XXX). Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3262 (XXIX) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967 and 3262 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 concerning the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco)³⁸ and its Additional Protocol I,

Taking into account that certain territories lying within the zone of application of that Treaty which are not sovereign political entities are nevertheless in a position to receive the benefits deriving from the Treaty through its Additional Protocol I to which the States that *de jure* or *de facto* are internationally responsible for those territories may become parties,

Recalling with satisfaction that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of the Netherlands became parties to Additional Protocol I in 1969 and 1971, respectively,

1. *Again urges* France and the United States of America to sign and ratify Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) as soon as possible, in order that the peoples of the territories in question may receive the benefits which derive from the Treaty and which consist mainly in removing the danger of nuclear attack and sparing the squandering of resources on the production of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the two States to which the above appeal is addressed and to inform the General Assembly at its thirty-second session of any measure adopted by those States;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-second session an item entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3473 (XXX) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

3474 (XXX). Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, in which it overwhelmingly commended the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

³⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068, p. 326.

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council and the General Assembly,³⁹ and the replies contained therein, on the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recognizing, on the basis of the above-mentioned reports, that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East enjoys wide support in the region,

Mindful of the prevailing political situation in the region and of the potential danger emanating therefrom, which would be further aggravated by the introduction of nuclear weapons in the area,

Conscious, therefore, of the need to keep the countries of the region from becoming involved in a ruinous nuclear arms race,

Taking note of the comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects,⁴⁰ prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Qualified Governmental Experts pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3261 F (XXIX) of 9 December 1974,

Recalling its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, in which it expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons⁴¹ by both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States,

1. *Expresses the opinion* that the Member States with which the Secretary-General has consulted through his notes verbales of 19 March 1975 and 13 June 1975 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3263 (XXIX) should exert efforts towards the realization of the objective of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

2. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a means of promoting this objective;

3. *Recommends* that the Member States referred to in paragraph 1 above, pending the establishment of the nuclear-weapon-free zone under an effective system of safeguards, should:

(a) Proclaim solemnly and immediately their intention to refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices, and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons, in their territory or the territory under their control, by any third party;

(b) Refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from any other action that would facilitate the acquisition, testing or use of such weapons, or would be in any other way detrimental to the objective of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region under an effective system of safeguards;

4. *Recommends* to the nuclear-weapon States to refrain from any action contrary to the purpose of the present resolution and the objective of establishing, in the region of the Middle East, a nuclear-weapon-free

zone under an effective system of safeguards and to extend their co-operation to the States of the region in their efforts to promote this objective;

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

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

3475 (XXX). Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other hostile purposes, which are incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 3264 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to proceed as soon as possible to achieving agreement on the text of a convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment for military and other hostile purposes,

Convinced that the conclusion of such a convention would serve to spare mankind from the potential dangers of the use of environmental modification techniques for military and other hostile purposes, and thereby contribute to strengthening peace and averting the threat of war,

Convinced also that such a convention should not affect the use of environmental modification techniques for peaceful purposes, which should contribute to the preservation and improvement of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations,

Taking into account the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament⁴² as it relates to this question,

Noting with satisfaction that the delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America submitted at the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament identical drafts of a convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques⁴³ and that other delegations offered suggestions and preliminary observations regarding those drafts,

1. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations, bearing in mind existing proposals and suggestions as well as relevant discussion by the General Assembly, with a view to reaching early agreement, if possible during the 1976 session of the Conference, on the text of a convention on the prohibition of military or other hostile use of environmental modification techniques, and to submit a special report on the results achieved for consideration by the Assembly at its thirty-first session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents relating to the discussion by the General Assembly at its thirtieth session of the item entitled "Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other hostile purposes, which are incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health";

³⁹ *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirtieth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1975*, documents S/11778 and Add.1-3 and *ibid.*, *Supplement for October, November and December 1975*, document S/11778/Add.4; A/10221 and Add.1 and 2.

⁴⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 27A (A/10027/Add.1)*, annex I.

⁴¹ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

⁴² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/10027)*.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, annex II, documents CCD/471 and CCD/472.