

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.

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-first session an item entitled "Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament".

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

3476 (XXX). Declaration and establishment of a nuclear-free zone in South Asia

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3265 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, in which the General Assembly, while recognizing, *inter alia*, that the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones could promote the cause of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, considered that the initiative for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in an appropriate region of Asia should come from the States of the region concerned, taking into account its special features and geographical extent,

Noting with appreciation the comprehensive study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects,⁴⁴ which has been prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Qualified Governmental Experts under the auspices of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

Having considered the basic principle unanimously accepted by the experts that, wherever appropriate conditions for a nuclear-weapon-free zone exist, the initiative for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone should come from States within the region concerned, and participation must be voluntary,

Decides to give due consideration to any proposal for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in an appropriate region of Asia, after it has been developed and matured among the interested States within the region concerned.

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, in which it endorsed, in principle, the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Noting the note by the Secretary-General,⁴⁵

Further noting that, in the introduction to his report on the work of the Organization, the Secretary-General has urged the interested countries of the different regions to consult together with a view to the establishment of additional nuclear-free zones,⁴⁶

1. *Urges* the States of South Asia to continue their efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, as recommended by the General Assembly in resolution 3265 B (XXIX);

2. *Further urges* those States to refrain from any action contrary to the objective of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 27A (A/10027/Add.1), annex I.

⁴⁵ A/10325.

⁴⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 1A* (A/10001/Add.1), sect. VIII.

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

2437th plenary meeting
11 December 1975

3477 (XXX). Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the South Pacific

The General Assembly,

Conscious of the urgent need for agreement on measures to achieve the goal of general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the continuance of the nuclear arms race are among the greatest threats to world peace and the survival of mankind,

Noting that article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons⁴⁷ acknowledges the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Noting further the declaration of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons that the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the initiative and with the agreement of the directly concerned States of the zone, represents an effective means of curbing the spread of nuclear weapons and could contribute significantly to the security of those States,⁴⁸

Endorsing the declaration of the Review Conference that the co-operation of the nuclear-weapon States is necessary for the maximum effectiveness of any treaty arrangements for establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone,⁴⁹

Recalling, in particular, the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa,⁵⁰ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964, and the notable progress achieved by the Latin American States towards the denuclearization of their region,

Noting, in addition, that the Heads of Government of the independent or self-governing States members of the South Pacific Forum emphasized in their communiqué of 3 July 1975 the importance of keeping the South Pacific region free from the risk of nuclear contamination and of involvement in a nuclear conflict and commended the idea of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the South Pacific as a means of achieving that aim,

1. *Endorses* the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the South Pacific;

2. *Invites* the countries concerned to carry forward consultations about ways and means of realizing this objective;

3. *Expresses the hope* that all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, will co-operate fully in achieving the objectives of the present resolution;

⁴⁷ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.

⁴⁸ See A/C.1/1068, annex I, p. 9.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 105, document A/5975.*