

Recalling further the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,⁷⁹

Reaffirming its conviction that concrete action for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Recalling its decision, taken at the thirty-fourth session in resolution 34/80 B, to convene a Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo during 1981,

Recalling further its decision, taken at the thirty-fifth session in resolution 35/150, to make every effort, in consideration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area, particularly recent developments, as well as the progress made in the harmonization of views, to finalize, in accordance with its normal methods of work, all preparations for the Conference, including the date for its convening,

Recalling the exchange of varied views in the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean in 1982⁸⁰ and noting that, while some progress has been made, a number of issues remain to be resolved,

Noting the exchange of views on the adverse political and security climate in the region,⁸⁰

Noting also that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has failed to reach consensus on the date for the convening, during 1983, of the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo,

Convinced that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean area, conceived in the context of their confrontation, gives urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

Considering that all other foreign military presence in the area, whenever it is contrary to the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and the purposes and principles of the Charter, further gives greater urgency to the need to take practical steps towards the early achievement of the objectives of the Declaration,

Considering also that the creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean requires the active participation of and full co-operation among the littoral and hinterland States, the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users to ensure conditions of peace and security based on the purposes and principles of the Charter as well as the general principles of international law,

Considering further that the creation of a zone of peace requires co-operation and agreement among the States of the region to ensure conditions of peace and security within the area, as envisaged in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the littoral and hinterland States,

Calling for the renewal of genuinely constructive efforts through the exercise of the political will necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

Deeply concerned at the danger posed by the grave and ominous developments in the area and the resulting sharp deterioration of peace, security and stability which particularly seriously affect the littoral and hinterland States, as well as international peace and security,

Convinced that the continued deterioration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area is an important

consideration bearing on the question of the early convening of the Conference and that the easing of tension in the area would enhance the prospect of success being achieved by the Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean⁸¹ and the exchange of views in the Committee;

2. *Regrets* that the *Ad Hoc* Committee has failed to reach consensus on the finalization of the date for the convening in 1983 of the Conference on the Indian Ocean, and takes note of the views expressed relating to the need for the convening of the Conference in the first half of 1984;

3. *Emphasizes* its decision to convene the Conference at Colombo as a necessary step for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, adopted in 1971;

4. *Emphasizes also*, in pursuance of that decision and in consideration of the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean area, its decision to request the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue its efforts for the necessary harmonization of views on the remaining issues related to the convening of the Conference;

5. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue its work on the necessary harmonization of views on the relevant issues, including those set forth in paragraph 4 above, and to make every effort to accomplish the necessary preparatory work for the Conference, including consideration of its convening not later than the first half of 1984;

6. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions;

7. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to hold three further sessions in 1983 of a duration of two weeks each, with the possibility of holding a fourth session to be considered as required;

8. *Requests* the Chairman of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to continue his consultations on the participation in the work of the Committee by States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Committee, with the aim of resolving this matter at the earliest possible date;

9. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session a full report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the *Ad Hoc* Committee, including the provision of summary records.

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13 December 1982

37/97. World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977, 33/69 of 14 December 1978, 34/81 of 11 December 1979, 35/151 of 12 December 1980 and 36/91 of 9 December 1981,

Reiterating its conviction that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

⁷⁹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/34/45 and Corr.1)

⁸⁰ Ibid., Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/37/29), para. 6

⁸¹ Ibid., Supplement No. 29 (A/37/29).

Stressing anew its conviction that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could provide the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking note of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference,⁸²

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁸³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of its Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened, with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling further that although the General Assembly, at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, did not make any recommendations on the question of a world disarmament conference, in its report to the General Assembly, the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Twelfth Special Session recommended that the items on the agenda on which the Assembly had not reached decisions should be taken up at its thirty-seventh session for further consideration,⁸⁴

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that in its report to the General Assembly the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated, *inter alia*, the following:

“Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 64 of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Twelfth Special Session, should take up the question at its thirty-seventh regular session for its further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of the said resolution”;⁸⁵

2. *Renews* the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

3. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons, in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any possible relevant proposals and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the *Ad Hoc* Committee to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled “World Disarmament Conference”.

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⁸² *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 28 (A/37/28).

⁸³ Resolution S-10/2.

⁸⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, document A/S-12/32, para. 64.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/37/28), para. 17.

37/98. Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

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PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 75 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁸³ the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it is stated that the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction represents one of the most urgent measures of disarmament,

Recalling the unanimous and categorical reaffirmation by all Member States, at the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, of the validity of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,⁸⁶

Convinced of the need for the earliest conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, which would significantly contribute to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recalling its resolution 36/96 B of 9 December 1981,

Expressing profound concern at the production and deployment of binary chemical weapons,

Taking into consideration the decision by the Committee on Disarmament on the new mandate for the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons, as well as the work of the Group during the session of the Committee in 1982,⁸⁷

Regretting that the bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America have been suspended since 1980 and have not been resumed,

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate negotiations,

Aware that the qualitative improvement and development of chemical weapons complicate ongoing negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons,

Taking note of the proposals on the creation of chemical-weapon-free zones aimed at facilitating the complete prohibition of chemical weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of the earliest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

2. *Appeals* to all States to facilitate in every possible way the conclusion of such a convention;

3. *Urges* the Committee on Disarmament to intensify the negotiations in the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Chemical Weapons on the basis of its new mandate to achieve accord on a chemical weapons convention at the earliest possible date;

4. *Calls upon* the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to resume at the earliest possible date their bilateral negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons and to submit their joint proposal to the Committee on Disarmament;

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, document A/S-12/32, para. 62.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/37/27 and Corr. 1), para. 75.