their undertakings to seek to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time and to continue negotiations to this end;

- 5. Urges also all States that have not yet done so to adhere to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water and, meanwhile, to refrain from testing in the environments covered by that Treaty;
- 6. Reiterates its appeal to all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to initiate immediately the multilateral negotiation of a treaty for the prohibition of all nuclear-weapon tests and to exert their best endeavours in order that the Conference may transmit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session the complete draft of such a treaty;
- 7. Calls upon the States depositaries of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, by virtue of their special responsibilities under those two Treaties and as a provisional measure, to bring to a halt without delay all nuclear-test explosions, either through a trilaterally agreed moratorium or through three unilateral moratoria;
- 8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Cessation of all test explosions of nuclear weapons".

97th plenary meeting 15 December 1983

38/63. Urgent need for a comprehensive nucleartest-ban treaty

The General Assembly,

Convinced of the urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty capable of attracting the widest possible international support and adherence,

Reaffirming its conviction that an end to nuclear-weapon testing by all States in all environments would be a major step towards ending the qualitative improvement, development and proliferation of nuclear weapons, a means of relieving the deep apprehension concerning the harmful consequences of radioactive contamination for the health of present and future generations and a measure of the utmost importance in bringing the nuclear-arms race to an

Recalling that the parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water3 undertook not to carry out any nuclearweapon-test explosion, or any other nuclear explosion, in the environments covered by that Treaty, and that in that Treaty and in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons⁴ the parties expressed their determination to continue negotiations to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time.

Recalling also its previous resolutions on this subject,

Taking into account that part of the report of the Committee on Disarmament concerning consideration of the item entitled "Nuclear-test ban" during its session in 1983.6

Noting, in particular, that Sweden submitted to the Committee on Disarmament a draft treaty banning any

nuclear-weapon-test explosion in any environment 7 which took into account both the report on the trilateral negotiations submitted to the Committee in 19808 and the basic provisions of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1982, 9

Recognizing the important role of the Conference on Disarmament⁵ in the negotiation of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty.

Recognizing the importance to such a treaty of the work assigned by the Committee on Disarmament to the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events on a global network of stations for the exchange of seismological data.

Recalling paragraph 31 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 10 relating to verification of disarmament and arms control agreements, which stated that the form and modalities of the verification to be provided for in any specific agreement depend on, and should be determined by, the purposes, scope and nature of the agreement,

- 1. Reiterates its profound concern that, despite the express wishes of the majority of Member States, nuclearweapon testing continues:
- 2. Reaffirms its conviction that a treaty to achieve the prohibition of all nuclear-test explosions by all States for all time is a matter of the greatest importance;
- 3. Expresses the conviction that such a treaty would constitute a vital element for the success of efforts to halt and reverse the nuclear-arms race and the qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons, and to prevent the expansion of existing nuclear arsenals and the spread of nuclear weapons to additional countries:
- Notes that the Committee on Disarmament, in the exercise of its responsibilities as the multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, re-established at its session in 1983 an Ad Hoc Working Group under item 1 of its agenda, entitled "Nuclear-test ban", and that the Ad Hoc Working Group considered the issues under its mandate;
- Also notes that the Committee on Disarmament agreed that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group on a Nuclear-Test Ban may thereafter be revised as decided by the Committee, which will consider this question with appropriate urgency, 11 and that the Committee discussed the matter;
 - Requests the Conference on Disarmament:
- To resume its examination of issues relating to a comprehensive test ban, with a view to the negotiation of a treaty on the subject and, in accordance with that part of the report of the Committee concerning this item, to take up the question of a revised mandate for the Ad Hoc Working Group during its 1984 session;
- (b) To determine, in the context of its negotiations on such a treaty, the institutional and administrative arrangements necessary for establishing, testing and operating an international seismic monitoring network as part of an effective verification system;
- (c) To initiate investigation of other international measures to improve verification arrangements under such a treaty, including an international network to monitor atmospheric radioactivity;

⁶ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-cighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/38/27), sect. III.A.
7 See CD/421/Appendix II/Vol. II, document CD/381.
8 See CD/139/Appendix II/Vol. II, document CD/130.
9 Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda items 39 to 57, 133, 136, 138 and 139. document A/37/243.

¹⁰ Resolution S-10/2

¹¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/38/27), para. 10.

- 7. Urges all members of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to cooperate with the Conference in fulfilling these tasks;
- 8. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to report on progress to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;
- 9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty".

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38/64. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 of 9 December 1981 and 37/75 of 9 December 1982 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, in particular paragraph 63 (d), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 10

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the abovementioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will 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 on their territory by any third party, to agree to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate.

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing further the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous to build on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 12

1. Urges all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective,

invites the States concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; 13

- 2. Calls upon all States of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;
- 3. Invites those States, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with the relevant paragraph of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;
- 4. Further invites those States, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;
- 5. Invites the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and spirit of the present resolution:
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution:
- 7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-ninth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

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38/65. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3476 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/73 of 10 December 1976, 32/83 of 12 December 1977, 33/65 of 14 December 1978, 34/78 of 11 December 1979, 35/148 of 12 December 1980, 36/88 of 9 December 1981 and 37/76 of 9 December 1982 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 the objectives of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of a nuclear-weaponfree zone in South Asia, as in other regions, will strengthen the security of the States of the region against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the declarations issued at the highest level by Governments of South Asian States reaffirming their undertaking 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 it called upon the States of the South Asian region, and such other neighbouring non-nuclear-weapon States as might be interested, 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,

Further recalling that, in its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX), 31/73 and 32/83, it requested the Secretary-General to

¹² A/38/197.

¹³ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.