

3. *Notes* that the process of establishing national expert panels by Member States has already begun;

4. *Encourages* Member States to participate by communicating their views to the Secretary-General, and invites them to establish panels at the national level to monitor and evaluate developments;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security".

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

B

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Considering that science and technology can profoundly contribute to solving the problems of mankind, especially to promoting its social and economic development,

Noting the interest of the international community in the peaceful uses of scientific and technological achievements,

Recognizing the vast possibilities that scientific and technological progress offers for supporting disarmament negotiations and implementing their results, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on arms limitation and disarmament as well as conversion of military industry to civilian production,

Welcoming respective activities undertaken so far in this area by States and national and international scientific and technological institutions,

Taking into account that scientifically and technologically more advanced States bear a special responsibility for disseminating information on and promoting the application of science and technology in the field of disarmament,

Considering the need for an intensification and extension of such activities, as well as international co-operation, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes, *inter alia*, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on arms limitation and disarmament, application of technologies for improved means of verification and conversion of military industry to civilian production,

1. *Takes note* of national and international activities to use scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify and extend such activities, to develop international co-operation in this area and to keep the United Nations informed about progress in this field;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session an item entitled "Science and technology for disarmament".

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

44/119. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it declared the decade of the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade and requested, *inter alia*, the then Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to work out "a comprehensive programme, dealing with all aspects of the problem of the cessation of the arms race and general and complete disarmament under effective international control, which would provide the Conference with a guideline to chart the course of its further work and its negotiations",

Recalling also its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, by which it adopted the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, which, *inter alia*, called for the elaboration of the comprehensive programme of disarmament with the utmost urgency,

Recalling further its resolution 43/78 K of 7 December 1988, in which it noted the agreement of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament of the Conference on Disarmament to "resume its work at the outset of the 1989 session of the Conference with the firm intention of completing the elaboration of the programme for its submission to the General Assembly, at the latest at its forty-fourth session",

Having examined the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament concerning its work during the 1989 session of the Conference on Disarmament,⁹⁹ which is an integral part of the report of the Conference,

Recognizing the efforts of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament and the substantial progress achieved thus far,

Conscious of the need to continue the work on the comprehensive programme of disarmament, building on the texts already agreed to, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues and thus concluding negotiations on it,

Recalling its resolution 43/78 L of 7 December 1988, in which it declared the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade,

Considering that the conclusion of the elaboration of the comprehensive programme of disarmament would constitute an important contribution to the success of the Third Disarmament Decade and to the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to consider, at the beginning of its 1991 session, the resumption of the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament with the aim of resolving the outstanding issues in order to conclude the elaboration of the programme;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Comprehensive programme of disarmament".

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

⁹⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), para. 100.*

B

NON-USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND PREVENTION
OF NUCLEAR WAR

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with paragraph 20 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁷ the first special session devoted to disarmament, effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war have the highest priority and that this commitment was reaffirmed by the Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document, it is stated that all States, in particular nuclear-weapon States, should consider as soon as possible various proposals designed to secure the avoidance of the use of nuclear weapons, the prevention of nuclear war and related objectives, where possible through international agreement, and thereby ensure that the survival of mankind is not endangered,

Recalling further that at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament, it was generally recognized that the prevention of nuclear war was of utmost concern and that specific efforts, bilateral, regional or multilateral, should be vigorously pursued and measures should be strengthened to reduce and ultimately eliminate the risk of nuclear war,

Reaffirming that the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament and for undertaking measures aimed at preventing the outbreak of nuclear war, and that in the task of achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament all the nuclear-weapon States, in particular those among them which possess the most important nuclear arsenals, bear a special responsibility,

Stressing that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Welcoming the entry into force and implementation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles¹⁴ as a first valuable step towards the reduction of nuclear weapons, as well as measures taken by the two States to reduce the risk of nuclear war, including the establishment and operation of nuclear risk reduction centres,

Expressing the hope that further measures will be undertaken to reduce and ultimately eliminate the risk of nuclear war,

Taking note of ideas directed to that end, including the suggestion to consider the establishment of a multilateral nuclear alert centre to reduce the risk of fatal misinterpretation of unintentional nuclear launchings,

Noting that, in its final document on international security and disarmament,⁷ the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, stressed the need for the conclusion of an international agreement prohibiting all use of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming recent progress in the field of disarmament, including the beginning at Vienna of new negotiations on conventional armed forces and on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe,

Emphasizing that, for the sake of international peace and security, military concepts and doctrines must be of a strictly defensive character.

1. *Considers* that the solemn declarations by two nuclear-weapon States made or reiterated at the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, concerning their respective obligations not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, offer an important avenue to decrease the danger of nuclear war;

2. *Expresses the hope* that those nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so will consider making similar declarations with respect to not being the first to use nuclear weapons;

3. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on the item in its agenda concerning prevention of nuclear war and to consider, *inter alia*, the elaboration of an international instrument of a legally binding character laying down the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

C

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The General Assembly,

Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission,³⁵

Emphasizing again the importance of an effective follow-up to the relevant recommendations and decisions contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁷ the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Taking into account the relevant sections of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁹³ the second special session devoted to disarmament,

Also taking into account widespread views expressed during the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth special session,

Recalling its resolutions 33/71 H of 14 December 1978, 34/83 H of 11 December 1979, 35/152 F of 12 December 1980, 36/92 B of 9 December 1981, 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, 38/183 E of 20 December 1983, 39/148 R of 17 December 1984, 40/152 F of 16 December 1985, 41/86 E of 4 December 1986, 42/42 G of 30 November 1987 and 43/78 A of 7 December 1988,

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission;

2. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission has yet to conclude its consideration of some items on its agenda, but notes also with appreciation the progress achieved on some of these;

3. *Recalls* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues.

leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Stresses* the importance for the Disarmament Commission to work on the basis of a relevant agenda of disarmament topics, thereby enabling the Commission to concentrate its efforts and thus optimize its progress on specific subjects in accordance with resolution 37/78 H;

5. *Notes also* that consultations have been held on the question of ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission in the field of disarmament;

6. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the results of those consultations on ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission, as annexed to the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations, at its 1990 substantive session, on the outstanding items on its agenda, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly as well as the results of its 1989 substantive session;

8. *Also requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1990 and to submit a substantive report, containing specific recommendations on the items included in its agenda, to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁴⁷ together with all the official records of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

ANNEX

Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission

1. *Mandate*

The Disarmament Commission reaffirms its mandate contained in paragraph 118 (a) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁷ the first special session devoted to disarmament (hereinafter referred to as the "Final Document")

2. *Decision-making method*

The decision-making method described in paragraph 118 (b) of the Final Document should be maintained

3. *Agenda items*

1. The Disarmament Commission could have a general agenda and a working agenda for each substantive session. The working agenda should be agreed at the Commission's organizational session.

2. For each session, the working agenda should be limited to a maximum of four substantive items for in-depth consideration

3. From 1991, no subject should, in principle, be maintained on the working agenda for more than three consecutive years. At each session, the Commission should review, for possible reconsideration, any subject that had been suspended.

4. If no agreement can be reached on a specific agenda item, the report of the Commission should contain a joint statement or a Chairman's summary of the proceedings to reflect views or positions of different delegations, particularly in the case of those agenda items to be suspended for a period of time.

5. At its 1990 session, the Commission should make every effort to conclude all its agenda items, except the new substantive items.

4. *Subsidiary bodies*

1. At each annual session, the Disarmament Commission should not establish more than four subsidiary bodies for its substantive agenda items. The allocation of the agenda items to the four subsidiary bodies and the appointment of chairmen for these subsidiary bodies should be decided at the organizational session of the Commission, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

2. The chairmanship of subsidiary bodies should, in principle, be rotated each year; however, at its organizational session, the Commission may decide to extend the term of office of any chairman in the interest of effective work and the speedy conclusion of an item.

5. *Duration of the substantive session*

1. The Disarmament Commission should meet for a period not exceeding four weeks for in-depth deliberations on substantive items.

2. The duration of each substantive session, in accordance with the established practice, should be flexible and could be shortened. In order to utilize efficiently the conference-servicing resources available, the Commission should decide the duration of each substantive session at its organizational session.

6. *Organization of work of the session*

1. Each session may have a general debate on agenda items in the plenary meetings, not exceeding three days' duration.

2. Except in the case of new items, there should be no general exchange of views in the subsidiary bodies. The general exchange of views on new items should not exceed two meetings.

3. Subsidiary bodies could begin their work in parallel with the general exchange of views in the plenary meetings.

4. No more than two official meetings should be held simultaneously. This restriction, however, would not apply to informal consultations

5. The meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be provided with full meeting services.

6. All the officers of the Commission should be elected at its organizational session.

7. *Consultations*

The Chairman of the Disarmament Commission should conduct consultations on matters relating to the work of the Commission, in particular on its working agenda, year round, especially during the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly.

D

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/83 B of 11 December 1979, 35/152 J of 12 December 1980, 36/92 F of 9 December 1981, 37/78 G of 9 December 1982, 38/183 I of 20 December 1983, 39/148 N of 17 December 1984, 40/152 M of 16 December 1985, 41/86 M of 4 December 1986, 42/42 L of 30 November 1987 and 43/78 M of 7 December 1988,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁴⁷

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating body on disarmament,

should play the central role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Expressing its regret that the Conference on Disarmament was not able in 1989 either to establish *ad hoc* committees or to commence negotiations on the nuclear issues on its agenda,

Expressing its expectation that the Conference on Disarmament, in view of the positive current processes in some important fields of disarmament, would be in a position to reach concrete agreements on disarmament issues to which the United Nations has assigned the greatest priority and urgency and which have been under consideration for a number of years,

Considering that it is more than ever imperative in the present circumstances to give an additional impetus to negotiations on disarmament at all levels and to achieve genuine progress in the immediate future,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that further progress has been made in the negotiations on the elaboration of a draft convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction, and urges the Conference on Disarmament to intensify further its work with a view to completing negotiations on such a draft convention as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its work, to further its mandate more earnestly through substantive negotiations, within the framework of *ad hoc* committees as the most appropriate mechanism, and to adopt concrete measures on the specific priority issues of disarmament on its agenda, in accordance with the Programme of Action set forth in section III of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;¹⁷

4. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to provide negotiating mandates to *ad hoc* committees on all agenda items, in keeping with the fundamental role of the Conference as identified in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

E

CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR-ARMS RACE AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

The General Assembly,

Believing that all nations have a vital interest in negotiations on nuclear disarmament because the existence of nuclear weapons jeopardizes the vital security interests of both nuclear and non-nuclear-weapon States alike,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 E and F of 7 December 1988,

Recalling also that the international community, through the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session

of the General Assembly,¹⁷ has agreed that the nuclear-arms race, far from contributing to the strengthening of the security of all States, increases the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war,

Welcoming the reaffirmation by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, in its final document on international security and disarmament,⁷ that nuclear disarmament is a process in which all nations should participate, and its view that the ongoing process of disarmament could be accelerated and its coverage widened through the common endeavour of the entire international community,

Taking into account that all nuclear-weapon States, in particular those with the most important nuclear arsenals, bear a special responsibility for the fulfilment of the task of achieving the goals of nuclear disarmament,

Convinced that the prevention of nuclear war and the reduction of the risk of nuclear war are matters of the highest priority and of vital interest to all people of the world.

Encouraged by the continued recognition by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

Aware of the fact that the prevention of nuclear war and the reduction of the risk of nuclear war are inextricably linked with the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament, and that consequently they should be viewed in their interrelationship as essential elements of a process of general and complete disarmament,

Convinced that all avenues should be explored to ensure that progress is made in these two vital fields, and also convinced of the imperative need to take constructive multilateral action to complement and reinforce the bilateral process under way,

1. *Reaffirms* that multilateral and bilateral negotiations on nuclear questions should complement and facilitate each other;

2. *Believes* that efforts should be intensified in order to initiate multilateral negotiations in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

3. *Reiterates* that, in view of the importance of the matter, it is equally necessary to devise suitable steps to expedite effective action for the prevention of nuclear war;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to establish *ad hoc* committees at the beginning of its 1990 session on both the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war with adequate mandates in order to allow a structured and practical analysis of how the Conference on Disarmament can best contribute to progress on these two urgent matters;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on its consideration of those subjects;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the items entitled "Cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament" and "Prevention of nuclear war"

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

F

SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE TREATY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3477 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, in which it endorsed the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the South Pacific and invited the countries concerned to carry forward consultations about ways and means of realizing that objective,

Recalling also article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,⁵ which acknowledges the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to assure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Bearing in mind paragraph 60 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,¹⁷ the first special session devoted to disarmament, which states that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure,

Noting the adoption on 6 August 1985 by the heads of Government of the independent or self-governing members of the South Pacific Forum, meeting at Rarotonga, of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty¹⁰⁰ (also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga), and their adoption on 8 August 1986 of three Protocols to the Treaty,

Noting also that the Treaty entered into force upon the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, on 11 December 1986,

Recognizing that the Treaty reflects the particular circumstances of the South Pacific region,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that eleven members of the South Pacific Forum have now ratified the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty and that China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have adhered to Protocols 2 and 3 of the Treaty;

2. *Notes also* that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America have stated that none of their practices and activities within the Treaty area are inconsistent with the Treaty or its Protocols;

3. *Commends* the Treaty and its Protocols for the consideration of all Member States.

81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989

G

DISARMAMENT WEEK

The General Assembly,

Noting that there have been important developments of late in the areas of arms limitation and disarmament efforts which provide a sense of encouragement and hope for a more secure world,

Noting at the same time that, despite the positive developments, the arms race still poses a grave threat to world peace and security,

Stressing the vital importance of eliminating the threat of nuclear and conventional war, ending the nuclear and conventional arms race and bringing about disarmament,

Emphasizing anew the need for and the importance of world public opinion in support of halting and reversing the global arms race in all its aspects,

Taking into account the aspirations of the world public to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on Earth,

Noting with satisfaction the broad and active support by Governments and international and national organizations of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament, regarding the proclamation of the week starting 24 October, the day of the foundation of the United Nations, as a week devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament,¹⁰¹

Recalling the recommendations concerning the World Disarmament Campaign contained in annex V to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, in particular the recommendation that Disarmament Week should continue to be widely observed,¹⁰²

Noting the support for the further observance of Disarmament Week expressed by Member States at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

Recognizing the significance of the annual observance of Disarmament Week, including by the United Nations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General¹⁰³ on the follow-up measures undertaken by States, governmental and non-governmental organizations in holding Disarmament Week;

2. *Commends* all States, international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations for their active support for and participation in Disarmament Week,

3. *Invites* all States that so desire, in carrying out appropriate measures at the local level on the occasion of Disarmament Week, to take into account the elements of the model programme for Disarmament Week prepared by the Secretary-General;¹⁰⁴

4. *Invites* Governments to continue, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/71 D of 14 December 1978, to inform the Secretary-General of activities undertaken to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week;

5. *Invites* international and national non-governmental organizations to continue to take an active part in Disarmament Week and to inform the Secretary-General of the activities undertaken;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to use the United Nations information organs as widely as possible to promote better understanding among the world public of disarmament problems and the objectives of Disarmament Week;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 33/71 D, to submit to the Gen-

¹⁰¹ Resolution S-10/2, para. 102.

¹⁰² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Ann. Xes*, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32, annex V, para. 12

¹⁰³ A/44/446 and Add. 1 and 2

¹⁰⁴ A/34/436

¹⁰⁰ See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII

eral Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

H

DECLARATION OF THE 1990s AS THE THIRD DISARMAMENT DECADE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it declared the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 34/75 of 11 December 1979, in which it directed the Disarmament Commission to prepare elements of a draft resolution entitled "Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade" for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session for consideration and adoption,

Bearing in mind that the Second Disarmament Decade declared by its resolution 35/46 is coming to an end,

Recalling further its resolution 43/78 L of 7 December 1988, in which it decided to declare the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations in the attainment of disarmament,

Noting the progress in the disarmament talks between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America and its positive impact on the attainment of global peace and security,

Desirous of maintaining the current momentum in the disarmament process,

Convinced that a third disarmament decade will accelerate the disarmament process,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Disarmament Commission at its 1989 session on the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade;¹⁰⁵

2. *Directs* the Disarmament Commission, at its 1990 substantive session, to finalize the preparation of elements of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade" and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session for consideration and adoption;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance to the Disarmament Commission in implementing the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

*81st plenary meeting
15 December 1989*

44/120. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions

2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 33/68 of 14 December 1978, 34/80 A and B of 11 December 1979, 35/150 of 12 December 1980, 36/90 of 9 December 1981, 37/96 of 13 December 1982, 38/185 of 20 December 1983, 39/149 of 17 December 1984, 40/153 of 16 December 1985, 41/87 of 4 December 1986, 42/43 of 30 November 1987, 43/79 of 7 December 1988 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that the establishment of zones of peace in various regions of the world under appropriate conditions, to be clearly defined and determined freely by the States concerned in the zone, taking into account the characteristics of the zone and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in conformity with international law, can contribute to strengthening the security of States within such zones and to international peace and security as a whole,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,¹⁰⁶

Noting that the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean, during its preparatory session in July 1989,¹⁰⁷ commemorated the tenth anniversary of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, which took place on 13 July 1979,

Recalling further paragraph 22 of the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989,⁷

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, as well as to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States of the region,

Convinced that agreement on such action should be facilitated by encouraging developments in international relations that could have beneficial effects on the region,

Also 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,

Considering 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,

Noting with appreciation the offer made by the Government of Sri Lanka to host the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo, from 2 to 13 July 1990,

Regretting that it is not possible to hold the Conference in 1990, as scheduled, in spite of the generous offer of the Government of Sri Lanka,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean;¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

¹⁰⁷ A/AC.159/SR.357; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/44/29)*, sect. II.C.

¹⁰⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/44/29)*.

¹⁰⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/44/42)*, para. 49.