

## 62. Strengthening of the United Nations system<sup>3</sup>

At its forty-ninth session, in 1995, in the course of its consideration of the item entitled “Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization”, the General Assembly decided to establish the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations system and to include the item entitled “Strengthening of the United Nations system” in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session (resolution 49/252).

The Working Group met during the fiftieth and fifty-first sessions of the General Assembly. The Assembly adopted the recommendations of the Working Group as contained in the annex to resolution 51/241 and decided that the Working Group had completed its work as mandated in resolution 49/252 (resolution 51/241).

Following the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of its decision 1996/267, by which the Council recommended that the General Assembly examine the question of participation of non-governmental organizations in all areas of the United Nations, the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration and action by the Assembly at its fifty-third session, a report on arrangements and practices for the interaction of non-governmental organizations in all activities of the United Nations system (decision 52/453).

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/53/170), decided to request the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States, members of specialized agencies, observers and intergovernmental organizations, as well as the views of non-governmental organizations from all regions, on his report, and to submit a further report to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account the submissions received (decision 53/452).

At its fifty-third session in June 1999, the General Assembly decided that the fifty-fourth session of the Assembly would close on Tuesday, 5 September 2000, in the morning, and that the fifty-fifth session of the Assembly would open on Tuesday, 5 September 2000, in the afternoon; and also decided that the Millennium Summit would begin on Wednesday, 6 September 2000 (resolution 53/239).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>98</sup> the General Assembly decided to retain the item on the agenda of that session (decision 54/465).

No advance documentation is expected.

## 63. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly<sup>3</sup>

The item, which was included in the agenda of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, in 1991, had originally been proposed for inclusion in the draft agenda of that session by the President of the Assembly at its forty-fifth session (see decision 45/461).

The General Assembly considered the question at its forty-sixth to forty-eighth sessions and fifty-second session (resolutions 46/77, 47/233 and 48/264 and decision 52/479).

<sup>98</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda items 59 and 8):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on views of Member States, members of the specialized agencies, observers, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations from all regions on the report of the Secretary-General on arrangements and practices for the interaction of non-governmental organizations in all activities of the United Nations system (A/54/329);
- (b) Decision 54/465;
- (c) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.88.

At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly continued its consideration of the question and decided to retain the item on the agenda of that session (decision 53/465).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>99</sup> the General Assembly decided to retain the item on the agenda of that session (decision 54/465).

No advance documentation is expected.

#### **64. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields<sup>3</sup>**

At its forty-fifth session, in 1990, the General Assembly decided to reconvene in a resumed session for an in-depth consideration and negotiations of proposals for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields (resolution 45/177). At its resumed forty-fifth session, the Assembly adopted the text contained in the annex to its resolution 45/264, including the basic principles and guidelines, goals and measures, as well as issues to be addressed in the future, for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields; and requested the Secretary-General to submit an annual progress report to the General Assembly, starting with its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the result of the restructuring and revitalization process in the economic, social and related fields (resolution 45/264).

The General Assembly also considered the item at its forty-sixth to fiftieth sessions (resolution 46/235, decision 47/467, resolution 48/162, decision 49/411 and resolution 50/227).

At its fifty-first to fifty-fourth<sup>100</sup> sessions, the General Assembly decided to retain the item on the agenda of those sessions (decisions 51/462, 52/459, 53/465 and 54/465).

*Document:* Report of the Secretary-General (resolutions 45/264, 50/227 and 52/12 B and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/1 and 1999/51), A/55/180-E/2000/67 and Corr.1.

#### **65. Question of Cyprus<sup>3</sup>**

Various aspects of the question of Cyprus have been dealt with by the United Nations, particularly by the Security Council and the General Assembly, since 1963.

In March 1964, the Security Council established the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and instituted a mediation effort to promote an agreed settlement of the problem (resolution 186 (1964)). The mandate of the Force has subsequently been extended by the Council, usually for a period of six months. The latest report of the Secretary-General to the Council on the United Nations operation in Cyprus was issued on 26 May 2000 (S/2000/496).

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<sup>99</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 8):

- (a) Decision 54/465;
- (b) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.88.

<sup>100</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda items 61 and 8):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/54/115-E/1999/59;
- (b) Decision 54/465;
- (c) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.88.

At its twenty-ninth session, in 1974, the General Assembly called upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus and to refrain from all acts and interventions directed against it; and urged the speedy withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Cyprus (resolution 3212 (XXIX)). Since 1975, the Security Council has periodically requested the Secretary-General to undertake missions of good offices to facilitate comprehensive negotiations and to keep it informed of the progress made.

At its thirtieth to thirty-fourth and thirty-seventh sessions, the General Assembly considered the item (resolutions 3395 (XXX), 31/12, 32/15, 33/15, 34/30 and 37/253 and decisions 31/403, 32/404, 33/402, 34/408 and 37/455).

At its thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth and thirty-eighth to fifty-third sessions, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the draft agenda of its subsequent session (decisions 35/428, 36/463, 38/458, 39/464, 40/481, 41/472, 42/465, 43/464, 44/471, 45/458, 46/474, 47/467, 48/476, 48/505, 49/502, 50/494, 51/479, 52/495 and 53/493).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>101</sup> the General Assembly decided to retain the item on the agenda of that session (decision 54/465).

No advance documentation is expected.

## 66. Reduction of military budgets

The question of the reduction of military budgets was included in the agenda of the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in 1973, at the request of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/9191). At that session, the Assembly recommended that all States permanent members of the Security Council should reduce their military budgets by 10 per cent from the 1973 level during the following financial year; appealed to those States to allot 10 per cent of the funds thus released for assistance to developing countries; and established a Special Committee on the Distribution of Funds Released as a Result of the Reduction of Military Budgets (resolution 3093 A (XXVIII)) (resolution 3093 B (XXVIII)).

The General Assembly continued to consider the question at its twenty-ninth to thirty-second, tenth special, thirty-third to thirty-sixth, twelfth special, thirty-seventh to forty-fourth, forty-sixth to forty-ninth and fifty-first sessions (resolutions 3245 (XXIX), 3463 (XXX), 31/87, 32/85, S-10/2, para. 89, 33/67, 34/83 F, 35/142 A and B, 36/82 A, S-12/24, 37/95 A and B, 38/184 B, 39/64 A and B, 40/91 A and B, 41/57, 42/36, 43/73, 44/114 A and B and 46/25, decision 47/418, and resolutions 48/62, 49/66, 51/38, 52/32, 53/72 and 54/43).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>102</sup> the General Assembly recommended the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of

<sup>101</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 8):

- (a) Decision 54/465;
- (b) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.88.

<sup>102</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 64):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/54/298;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/551;
- (c) Resolution 54/43;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

the region concerned; welcomed the continuation by the Secretary-General of consultations with relevant international bodies with a view to ascertaining the requirements for adjusting the present instrument to encourage wider participation; expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing Member States with a report on the outcome of those consultations, as well as for his intention to organize international and regional symposia and training seminars in the coming biennium, and noted his intention to encourage, *inter alia*, the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system; called upon all Member States to report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data were available; encouraged relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarity among reporting systems and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations; requested the Secretary-General: (a) to continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the reporting system, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures; (b) to promote international and regional symposia and training seminars to explain the purpose of the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and to give relevant technical instructions; and (c) to circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States; and also requested the Secretary-General to continue consultations with relevant international bodies, within existing resources, with a view to ascertaining the requirements for adjusting the present instrument to encourage wider participation (resolution 54/43).

*Documents:* Reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions 35/142 B and 54/43).

## 67. Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States

The item entitled "Maintenance of international security" was included in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in 1993, pursuant to resolution 47/60 B of 9 December 1992.

The General Assembly considered the item at its forty-eighth, fiftieth and fifty-second sessions (resolutions 48/84 A and B, decision 49/428, resolutions 50/80 A and B and 52/48).

At its fifty-second session,<sup>103</sup> the General Assembly noted with interest the views of some States on the development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States, contained in the report of the Secretary-General; emphasized the importance for all Balkan States to promote mutual cooperation in all fields and, *inter alia*, in trade and other forms of economic cooperation, transport and telecommunications, protection of the environment, advancement of democratic processes, promotion of human rights and development of cultural and sports relations; called upon all Balkan States to endeavour to promote good-neighbourly relations and continually to undertake unilateral and joint activities, including

<sup>103</sup> References for the fifty-second session (agenda item 81):

- (a) Report by the Secretary-General: A/52/373;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/52/610;
- (c) Resolution 52/48;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/52/PV.3-12 and 15-24;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/52/PV.67.

confidence-building measures as appropriate, in particular within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; also called upon all Balkan States and interested States outside the region to participate actively in and support the negotiations foreseen in annex 1 B, article V, of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a view to reaching early results; called upon the relevant international organizations and competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the ongoing process of development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States, and invited them to inform the Secretary-General of their activities and of their views on the subject; stressed that the closer engagement of Balkan States in cooperation agreements on the European continent would favourably influence the political and economic situation in the region, as well as the good-neighbourly relations among all Balkan States; urged normalization of the relations among all States of the Balkan region; affirmed the need for strict compliance with the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity or political independence, the inviolability of international borders and non-intervention in matters that were essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State; stressed the urgency of the realization of the aim of the Balkans to become a region of peace, stability, security, cooperation and sustained economic development; requested the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Member States, particularly those from the Balkan region, and of the relevant international organizations and competent bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, on the development of good-neighbourly relations in the region and on measures aimed at the creation of peace, stability, security, cooperation and sustained economic development in the Balkan region, and to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by Member States on the subject; and decided to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the subject at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 52/48).

*Document:* Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 52/48).

## **68. Maintenance of international security:**

- (a) Prevention of the violent disintegration of States**
- (b) Stability and development of South-Eastern Europe**

The item entitled “Maintenance of international security” was included in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in 1993, pursuant to resolution 47/60 B of 9 December 1992. The Assembly considered the item at that session and at its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions (resolution 48/84 A, decision 49/428 and resolution 50/80 A and B).

At its fifty-first session, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled “The maintenance of international security — prevention of the violent disintegration of States” (resolution 51/55).

At its fifty-third session,<sup>104</sup> the General Assembly called upon all States, the relevant international organizations and competent organs of the United Nations to continue to take

<sup>104</sup> References for the fifty-third session (agenda item 64):

- (a) Note by the Secretary-General: A/53/333;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/53/577;
- (c) Resolution 53/71;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/53/PV.3-12 and 14-31;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/53/PV.79.

measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security, and to help prevent conflicts which could lead to the violent disintegration of States; stressed the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States to the solution of problems among States, to preventing the violent disintegration of States and to promoting international cooperation in accordance with the Charter; called upon all States to solve their disputes with other States by peaceful means in accordance with the Charter; affirmed the need for strict compliance with the principle of the inviolability of international borders; also affirmed the need for strict compliance with the principle of the territorial integrity of any State; stressed the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing bilateral conflicts endangering the maintenance of international peace and security; and requested all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the maintenance of international security — prevention of the violent disintegration of States (resolution 53/71).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>105</sup> the General Assembly, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security”, adopted a resolution entitled “Maintenance of international security — stability and development of South-Eastern Europe”, in which it affirmed the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation, economic development, observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe; called upon all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, and all concerned international organizations, to support the efforts of South-Eastern European States to overcome the negative effects of the Kosovo crisis and to enable them to pursue sustainable development and integration of their economies into the European and global economy; affirmed the need for full observance of the Charter of the United Nations and for strict compliance with the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity and inviolability of international borders of any State; urged the normalization of relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe and the strengthening of their mutual cooperation on the basis of respect of international law and agreements and within the principle of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect; stressed the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States, the solution of problems among States and the promotion of international cooperation in accordance with the Charter; called upon all States to solve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter; called upon all States, the relevant international organizations and competent organs of the United Nations to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts which could lead to the violent disintegration of States; stressed the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing bilateral conflicts endangering the maintenance of international peace and security, and noted with satisfaction, in that regard, the establishment of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe, the headquarters of which, located at Plovdiv, Bulgaria, had become operational; emphasized the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures; stressed that closer engagement of the South-Eastern European States

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<sup>105</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 84):

- (a) Report of the First Committee: A/54/571;
- (b) Resolution 54/62;
- (c) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (d) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

in furthering cooperation on the European continent would favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as the good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States; called upon all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the resolution; and decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled “Maintenance of international security — stability and development of South-Eastern Europe” (resolution 54/62).

*Documents:* Reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions 53/71 and 54/62).

## **69. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security**

The General Assembly considered this question at its forty-fourth session, in 1989, under the item entitled “Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security” (resolution 44/118 A), and at its forty-fifth and forty-seventh to fiftieth sessions under the same item (resolutions 45/60, 47/43, 48/66, 49/67 and 50/62). At its fiftieth session, the Assembly decided that an item entitled “The role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament” should be included in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session (resolution 50/62). At its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions, the Assembly continued the consideration of this item (resolutions 51/39 and 52/33).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>106</sup> the General Assembly called upon Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security; invited all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions: (a) general appreciation of the issues of information security; (b) definition of basic notions related to information security, including unauthorized interference with or misuse of information and telecommunications systems and information resources; and (c) advisability of developing international principles that would enhance the security of global information and telecommunications systems and help to combat information terrorism and criminality; and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/49).

## **70. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament**

The General Assembly considered this question at its forty-fourth session, 1989, under the item entitled “Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security” (resolution 44/118 A), and at its forty-fifth and forty-seventh to fiftieth sessions under the same item (resolutions 45/60, 47/43, 48/66, 49/67 and 50/62). At its fiftieth session, the Assembly decided that an item entitled “The role of science and technology

<sup>106</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 71):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/54/213;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/558;
- (c) Resolution 54/49;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27.
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

in the context of international security and disarmament” should be included in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session (resolution 50/62). At its fifty-first to fifty-third sessions, the Assembly continued the consideration of this item (resolutions 51/39, 52/33 and 53/73).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>107</sup> the General Assembly invited Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States; urged Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non-discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications; took note of the report, including its addendum, submitted by the Secretary-General; and encouraged United Nations bodies to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes (resolution 54/50).

No advance documentation is expected.

## **71. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East**

This item was included in the agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly, in 1974, at the request of Iran, later joined by Egypt (A/9693 and Add.1-3).

The General Assembly continued to consider this question at its thirtieth to thirty-second, tenth special session, and thirty-third to fifty-third sessions (resolutions 3474 (XXX), 31/71, 32/82, S-10/2, para. 63 (d), 33/64, 34/77, 35/147, 36/87 B, 37/75, 38/64, 39/54, 40/82, 41/48, 42/28, 43/65, 44/108, 45/52, 46/30, 47/48, 48/71, 49/71, 50/66, 51/41, 52/34 and 53/74).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>108</sup> the General Assembly urged 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 that objective, invited the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; called upon all countries of the region that had not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards; took note of resolution GC(43)RES/23, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference of IAEA at its forty-third regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; invited all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone

<sup>107</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 72):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/54/167 and Add.1;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/559;
- (c) Resolution 54/50;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/53/PV.69.

<sup>108</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 73):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/54/190 and Add.1;
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/560;
- (c) Resolution 54/51;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (d) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council; also invited those countries, 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; invited 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 ran counter to both the letter and the spirit of the resolution; took note of the report of the Secretary-General; invited all parties to consider the appropriate means that might contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East; requested the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report (A/45/435) or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East; and also requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 54/51).

*Document:* Report of the Secretary-General (resolution 54/51).

## **72. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons**

The item entitled “Conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States” was included in the agenda of the thirty-third session of the General Assembly, in 1978, at the request of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/33/241).

The General Assembly considered the question at each session from the thirty-third to the fifty-third (resolutions 33/72 B, 34/85, 35/155, 36/95, 37/81, 38/68, 39/58, 40/86, 41/52, 42/32, 43/69, 44/111, 45/54, 46/32, 47/50, 48/73, 49/73, 50/68, 51/43, 52/36 and 53/75).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>109</sup> the General Assembly appealed to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character; recommended that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties; and recommended also that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

<sup>109</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 74):

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament: Supplement No. 27 (A/54/27);
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/561;
- (c) Resolution 54/52;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective (resolution 54/52).

*Document:* Report of the Conference on Disarmament, Supplement No. 27 (A/55/27).

### **73. Prevention of an arms race in outer space**

This item was included in the agenda of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, in 1981, at the request of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/36/192).

The General Assembly considered the question at each session from the thirty-sixth to the fifty-third (resolutions 36/99, 37/83, 38/70, 39/59, 40/87, 41/53, 42/33, 43/70, 44/112, 45/55 A and B, 46/33, 47/51, 48/74 A, 49/74, 50/69, 51/44, 52/37 and 53/76).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>110</sup> the General Assembly emphasized the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space; called upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation; reiterated that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, had the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects; invited the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992 and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during the 2000 session of the Conference on Disarmament; recognized, in that respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space; and urged States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work (resolution 54/53).

*Document:* Report of the Conference on Disarmament, Supplement No. 27 (A/55/27).

### **74. General and complete disarmament**

- (a) **Notification of nuclear tests**
- (b) **Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia**
- (c) **Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status**
- (d) **Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol**

<sup>110</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 75):

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament: Supplement No. 27 (A/54/27);
- (b) Report of the First Committee: A/54/562;
- (c) Resolution 54/53;
- (d) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (e) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.69.

- (e) **Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems**
- (f) **Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**
- (g) **Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction**
- (h) **Missiles**
- (i) **Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda**
- (j) **Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures**
- (k) **Transparency in armaments**
- (l) **Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them**
- (m) **Reducing nuclear danger**
- (n) **Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas**
- (o) **Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels**
- (p) **Regional disarmament**
- (q) **Nuclear disarmament**
- (r) **Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons***
- (s) **Illicit traffic in small arms**
- (t) **Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control**
- (u) **Relationship between disarmament and development**
- (v) **Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament**
- (w) **Small arms**

The item entitled “General and complete disarmament” was included in the agenda of the fourteenth session of the General Assembly, in 1959, at the request of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/4218). It has since been placed on the agenda of every session.

At its sixteenth to fifty-third sessions, the General Assembly continued its consideration of the item (see resolutions 1722(XVI), 1767 (XVII), 1884 (XVIII), 2031 (XX), 2162 (XXI), 2342 (XXII), 2454 (XXIII), 2602 (XXIV), 2661 (XXV), 2825 (XXVI), 2932 A and B (XXVII), 3184 A to C (XXVIII), 3261 A to G (XXIX), 30/84 A to E (XXX), 31/189 B, 32/87 A to G, 33/91 A to I, 34/87 A to F, 35/156 A to K, 36/97 A to L, 37/99 A to K, 38/188 A to J and decision 38/447, resolutions 39/151 A to J, 40/94 A to O, 41/59 A to O, 42/38 A to O and decision 42/407, resolutions 43/75 A to T and decision 43/422, resolutions 44/116 A to U and decision 44/432, resolutions 45/58 A to P and decisions 45/415 to 45/418, resolutions 46/36 A to L and decisions 46/412 and 46/413, resolutions 47/52 A to L and decisions 47/419 and 47/420, resolutions 48/75 A to L and 49/75 A to P and decision 49/427, resolutions 50/70 A to R and decision 50/420, resolutions 51/45 A to T and decision 51/414, resolutions 52/38 A to T and 53/77 A to Z and AA).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>111</sup> the General Assembly adopted 22 resolutions and one decision under the item (resolutions 54/54 A to V and decision 54/417).

In its first resolution, entitled “Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems”, the General Assembly called for continued efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and to preserve its integrity and validity so that it remained a cornerstone in maintaining global strategic stability and world peace and in promoting further strategic nuclear arms reductions; called also for renewed efforts by each of the States parties to preserve and strengthen the Treaty through full and strict compliance; called upon the parties to the Treaty to limit the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems and refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems for the defence of the territory of their country and not to provide a base for such a defence, and not to transfer to other States or deploy outside their national territory anti-ballistic missile systems or their components limited by the Treaty; and supported further efforts by the international community towards safeguarding the inviolability and integrity of the Treaty (resolution 54/54 A).

In its second resolution, entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, stressed the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention; urged all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information, as required in article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention; invited all States that had not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more

<sup>111</sup> References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 76):

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament: Supplement No. 27 (A/54/27);
- (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission: Supplement No. 42 (A/54/42);
- (c) Reports of the Secretary-General:
  - (i) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control (A/54/163 and Add.1);
  - (ii) United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (A/54/226 and Corr.1 and Add.1-6);
  - (iii) Relationship between disarmament and development (A/54/254);
  - (iv) Convening of an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects (A/54/260 and Add.1);
  - (v) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them (A/54/309);
  - (vi) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda (A/54/372);
  - (vii) Small arms (A/54/404 and Add.1);
- (d) Notes by the Secretary-General:
  - (i) Transmitting the report of the Group of Experts on the problem of ammunition and explosives (A/54/155);
  - (ii) Transmitting the report of a consultative meeting of experts on the feasibility of undertaking a study on restricting the manufacture and trade of small arms to manufacturers and dealers authorized by States (A/54/160);
  - (iii) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* (A/54/161 and Add.1);
  - (iv) Transmitting the report prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms (A/54/258);
  - (v) Nuclear disarmament (A/54/371);
- (e) Report of the First Committee: A/54/563;
- (f) Resolutions 54/54 A, B and E to V and decision 54/417;
- (g) Meetings of the First Committee: A/C.1/54/PV.3-27;
- (h) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.69 and 80.

effective; renewed its call upon all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction; invited and encouraged all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of inter-sessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention; and requested the Secretary-General to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention at Geneva, from 11 to 15 September 2000 (resolution 54/54 B).

In its fourth resolution, entitled “Nuclear disarmament with a view to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, underlined the vital importance of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons for the preservation and strengthening of the regime anchored therein, and called upon all States parties to the Treaty to reaffirm the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty and to intensify their efforts with a view to reaching an agreement on updated objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, based on a review of the achievements since 1995 (resolution 54/54 D).

In its fifth resolution, entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, urged all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities; stressed the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities and chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomed progress to that end; and welcomed the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and efforts towards the prompt conclusion of a relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention (resolution 54/54 E).

In its sixth resolution, entitled “Missiles”, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of all Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, and to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 F).

In its seventh resolution, entitled “Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, called upon the nuclear-weapon States to make an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the speedy and total elimination of their nuclear arsenals and to engage without delay in an accelerated process of negotiations, thus achieving nuclear disarmament, to which they were committed under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; called upon the United States of America and the Russian Federation to bring the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II) into force without further delay and to commence negotiations on START III; called upon the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the necessary steps towards the seamless integration of all five nuclear-weapon States into the process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons; called upon the nuclear-weapon States to take early steps: (a) to reduce tactical nuclear weapons; (b) to examine the possibilities for and to proceed to the de-alerting and removal of nuclear

warheads from delivery vehicles; (c) to examine nuclear weapons policies and postures further; (d) to demonstrate transparency; and (e) to place all fissile material for nuclear weapons declared to be in excess of military requirements under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards; called upon those three States that were nuclear weapons capable and that had not yet acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reverse the pursuit of all nuclear weapons development; called upon those States that had not yet done so to adhere unconditionally and without delay to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; called upon those States that had not yet done so to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with IAEA and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements; called upon those States that had not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; called upon those States that had not yet done so to adhere to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material; called upon the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish the Ad Hoc Committee under item 1 of its agenda entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; also called upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish an appropriate subsidiary body to deal with nuclear disarmament; noted that the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000 would consider peace, security and disarmament; stressed the importance of the full implementation of the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and underlined the significance of the forthcoming Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; affirmed that the development of verification arrangements would be necessary; called for the conclusion of an internationally legally binding instrument; stressed that the pursuit, extension and establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones represented a significant contribution to the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world; affirmed that a nuclear-weapon-free world would ultimately require the underpinnings of a universal and multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument or a framework encompassing a mutually reinforcing set of instruments; and requested the Secretary-General to compile a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 54/54 G).

In its eighth resolution, entitled “Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures”, the General Assembly welcomed the adoption by consensus of the “Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N” at the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission; once again encouraged Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/289); welcomed the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invited the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects; and encouraged Member States to lend their support to the Secretary-General in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations (resolution 54/54 H).

In its ninth resolution, entitled “Transparency in armaments”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms to be convened in 2000 and taking into account the views submitted by Member States, to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on: (a) the early expansion of the scope of the Register; and (b) the elaboration of practical means for the development of the Register

in order to increase transparency related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to transfers of equipment and technology directly related to the development and manufacture of such weapons (resolution 54/54 I).

In its tenth resolution, entitled “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them”, the General Assembly encouraged the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to curb the illicit circulation of small arms and to collect such arms in the affected States that so requested, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the Organization of African Unity; also encouraged the setting up in the countries of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion of national commissions against the proliferation of small arms; welcomed the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at Abuja on 31 October 1998; took note of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held at Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, and welcomed the adoption at the meeting of a plan of action; expressed its full support for the appeal launched by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session for a coordinated African approach, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity, to the problems posed by the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms; also expressed its full support for the convening of an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects no later than 2001; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 54/54 J).

In its eleventh resolution, entitled “Reducing nuclear danger”, the General Assembly called for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in that context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons; requested the five nuclear-weapon States to undertake measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the resolution; called upon Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the ultimate objective of eliminating nuclear weapons; and requested the Secretary-General to seek inputs from the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters on information with regard to specific measures that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 K).

In its twelfth resolution, entitled “Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, called upon the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies; and encouraged the competent authorities of nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to such treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of those goals (resolution 54/54 L).

In its thirteenth resolution, entitled “Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”, the General Assembly decided to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels; and requested the Conference on Disarmament, as a first step, to consider the formulation of principles that could serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looked forward to a report of the Conference on that subject (resolution 54/54 M).

In its fourteenth resolution, entitled “Regional disarmament”, the General Assembly stressed that sustained efforts were needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues; affirmed that global and regional approaches to disarmament complemented each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security; called upon States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels; welcomed the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels; and supported and encouraged efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels (resolution 54/54 N).

In its fifteenth resolution, entitled “Transparency in armaments”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, called upon Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, including nil reports if appropriate; invited Member States to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the “Remarks” column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types and models; reaffirmed its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and recalled: (a) its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction; and (b) its request to the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2000, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to a decision at its fifty-fifth session; and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on progress made in implementing the resolution (resolution 54/54 O).

In its sixteenth resolution, entitled “Nuclear disarmament”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, recognized that the time was now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to undertake effective disarmament measures; also recognized that there was a genuine need to de-emphasize the role of nuclear weapons and to review and revise nuclear doctrines accordingly; urged the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems; also urged the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons; called for the conclusion, as a first step, of a universal and legally binding multilateral agreement; reiterated its calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of those weapons; urged the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves; welcomed the establishment in the Conference on Disarmament in 1998 of the Ad Hoc Committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and welcomed the establishment in 1998 of the Ad Hoc Committee on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons; expressed its regret that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 1999 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 53/77 X; reiterated its call upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis,

an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations early in 2000 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons, through a set of legal instruments, which might include a nuclear weapons convention; called for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament at an early date; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 54/54 P).

In its seventeenth resolution, entitled “Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*”, the General Assembly underlined once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there existed an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control; called once again upon all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations in 2000 leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination; and requested all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they had taken on the implementation of the resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requested the Secretary-General to apprise the Assembly of that information at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 Q).

In its eighteenth resolution, entitled “Illicit traffic in small arms”, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his broad-based consultations and to submit to the international conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects information on the magnitude and scope of illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, measures to combat illicit trafficking in and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and the role of the United Nations in collecting, collating, sharing and disseminating information on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons; encouraged Member States to promote regional and subregional initiatives and requested the Secretary-General, and States in a position to do so to assist States in taking such initiatives to address the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in affected regions; encouraged Member States in a position to do so to take appropriate national measures to destroy surplus small arms and light weapons, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons, and to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on the types and quantities destroyed; invited Member States in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance, bilaterally, regionally and through multilateral channels, such as the United Nations, in support of measures associated with combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons; and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the resolution (resolution 54/54 R).

In its nineteenth resolution, entitled “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, reaffirmed that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation; called upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development; and invited all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they had adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the resolution, and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 S).

In its twentieth resolution, entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”, the General Assembly welcomed the establishment of the Steering Group on Disarmament and Development; invited all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, by 15 April 2000, their views and proposals for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as any other views and proposals with a view to achieving the goals of the action programme; requested the Secretary-General to continue to take action for the implementation of the action programme; and also requested him to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 T).

In its twenty-first resolution, entitled “Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”, the General Assembly decided, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its objectives and agenda, to convene the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament; and requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of States Members of the United Nations on the objectives, agenda and timing of the special session and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (resolution 54/54 U).

In its twenty-second resolution, entitled “Small arms”, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, decided to convene the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in June/July 2001; also decided that the scope of the Conference should be the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects; further decided to establish a preparatory committee open to participation by all States, which would hold no fewer than three sessions, the first session to be held in New York from 28 February to 3 March 2000; decided that the specialized agencies, other relevant intergovernmental organizations and relevant entities should participate, as observers, in the Preparatory Committee, and requested the Committee to take a decision on the modalities of attendance of non-governmental organizations at its sessions; requested the Preparatory Committee to decide, at its first session, on the date and venue of the Conference in 2001 as well as on the dates and venue of its subsequent sessions; stressed the need to ensure the widest possible and effective participation in the Conference in 2001; requested the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations to the Conference on all relevant matters, including the objective, a draft agenda, draft rules of procedure and draft final documents, which would include a programme of action, and to decide on background documents to be made available in advance; invited all Member States, in particular those that had not yet done so, in response to the note verbale of the Secretary-General dated 20 January 1999, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the agenda and other relevant questions relating to the Conference; requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the report prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms pursuant to General Assembly resolution 52/38 J, as well as on the implementation of the relevant recommendations contained therein; also requested the Secretary-General to implement the relevant recommendations contained in section IV of the report; further requested the Secretary-General: (a) to carry out a study on the feasibility of restricting the manufacture and trade of small arms and light weapons to the manufacturers and dealers authorized by States, which would cover the brokering activities, particularly illicit activities, relating to small arms and light weapons, including transportation agents and financial transactions; and (b) to submit the study as one of the background documents for the Conference to be held in 2001 (resolution 54/54 V).

At its fifty-fourth session,<sup>111</sup> the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled “Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia” (decision 54/417).

*Documents:*

- (a) Report of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement No. 42 (A/55/42);
- (b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament, Supplement No. 27 (A/55/27);
- (c) Reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions 42/38 C, 53/77 D and L and 54/54 F, G, I to K and O to V).

## **75. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly**

- (a) **Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa**
- (b) **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa**
- (c) **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific**
- (d) **Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons**
- (e) **United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament**
- (f) **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean**
- (g) **United Nations Disarmament Information Programme**
- (h) **United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services**

At its twelfth special session, in 1982, the General Assembly approved the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Twelfth Special Session as the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session, in which the Committee recommended that the items on which the special session had not reached decisions should be taken up at the thirty-seventh session of the Assembly for further consideration (decision S-12/24).

At its thirty-seventh to fifty-third sessions, the General Assembly continued its consideration of the item (resolutions 37/100 A to J, 38/73 A to J, 39/63 A to K, 40/151 A to I, 41/60 A to J, 42/39 A to K, 43/76 A to H, 44/117 A to F, 45/59 A to E, 46/37 A to F, and 47/53 A to F and decision 47/421, and resolutions 48/76 A to E, 49/76 A to E, 50/71 A to E, 51/46 A to F, 52/39 A to D and 53/78 A to G).