

## Chapter VII

## Disarmament

In 2002, although differences among Member States persisted in various disarmament forums, progress was made regarding the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, bioterrorism, the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction and other issues.

The Conference on Disarmament, for the fourth consecutive year, remained unable to take action on its agenda items due to continuing disagreement on what would constitute a balanced programme of work. It did, however, reaffirm its commitment to work towards the approval of a programme of work, put forth in 2000 (Amorim proposal), which had envisaged the establishment of ad hoc committees with non-negotiating mandates on nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. The Disarmament Commission postponed its 2002 substantive session until 2003, as it was unable to decide on an appropriate date for the session owing to postponements and changes to the UN meetings calendar, originating from the disruption of activities caused by the terrorist attacks of September 2001 in the United States. The General Assembly, taking note in November that no consensus had been reached in the Commission on the agenda and objectives of a fourth special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament, decided to establish an open-ended working group to consider the item.

Member States, UN bodies and regional and subregional organizations undertook activities, including practical disarmament measures, such as weapons collection and destruction, to implement the Programme of Action adopted at the 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. A group of governmental experts established by the Secretary-General began studying the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit weapons. However, as problems associated with the proliferation of those weapons persisted, the Security Council stressed the need to enhance international cooperation on the issue, while the Assembly called for support to civil society organizations addressing the problem and decided to convene in 2003 the first of the biennial meetings of States, as stipulated in the Pro-

gramme of Action, to consider implementation of the Programme's provisions. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa was established to strengthen cooperation with regional organizations involved in peacemaking and peace-building, and to support regional efforts to promote peace and stability, including dealing with small arms-related problems in the region.

The threat posed by international terrorism, particularly regarding the potential acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) by terrorist organizations, continued to raise concern among Member States. Thus, the Assembly called for strengthened national measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring those weapons and their means of delivery.

The Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction concluded its work and established a new approach for combating the deliberate use of disease as a weapon.

In November, 101 States, including four nuclear-weapon States, established a voluntary and non-legally binding international code of conduct—the Hague Code of Conduct—designed to curb the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering WMDs.

In December, States parties to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects mandated the group of governmental experts established to consider the issues of explosive remnants of war, mines other than anti-personnel mines and small-calibre weapons and ammunition to negotiate in 2003 an instrument that would reduce the risks posed by those weapons.

On the bilateral level, in May, the United States and the Russian Federation signed a new treaty in Moscow: the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty, together with a Joint Declaration on a New Strategic Relationship, by which they established a new framework for future bilateral strategic arms reductions. The United States' unilateral withdrawal from the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, an-

nounced in 2001, took effect in June. The 1992 Treaty on Open Skies, adopted by members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and of the former Warsaw Pact, entered into force.

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## UN role in disarmament

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### UN machinery

Disarmament issues before the United Nations were considered mainly through the General Assembly and its First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee, the Disarmament Commission (a deliberative body) and the Conference on Disarmament (a multilateral negotiating forum, which met in Geneva).

The Department for Disarmament Affairs of the UN Secretariat continued to support the work of Member States and treaty bodies, to service the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and to administer the UN disarmament fellowship programme.

### Fourth special session on disarmament

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 D [YUN 2001, p. 468], the Secretary-General, in a June report [A/57/120], presented the views of three Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament.

The Assembly had decided, by resolution 51/45 C [YUN 1996, p. 447], to convene the special session in 1999, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its agenda and objectives; the consensus was not reached.

In 2002, the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended working group to consider, on the basis of consensus, the objectives and agenda of the special session and to make substantive recommendations thereon (see below).

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/61** without vote [agenda item 66 (i)].

#### Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998, 54/54 U of 1 December 1999, 55/33 M of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 D of 29 November 2001,

*Recalling also* that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament, which included the Declaration, Programme of Action and Machinery for Disarmament,

*Bearing in mind also* the objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Taking note* of paragraph 145 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1999 substantive session and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled "Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament",

*Desiring* to build upon the substantive exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the heads of State and Government during the United Nations Millennium Summit held in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000, in which they resolved "to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers",

*Reiterating its conviction* that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the field of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

*Emphasizing* the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General, regarding the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended working group, working on the basis of consensus, to consider the objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, taking note of the paper presented by the Chairman of Working Group II during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission as well as the reports of the Secretary-General regarding the views of Member States on the objectives,

agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the open-ended Working Group to hold an organizational session in order to set the date for its substantive sessions, and to submit a report on its work, including possible substantive recommendations, before the end of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide the open-ended Working Group with the necessary assistance and services as may be required to discharge its tasks;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

### Disarmament Commission

In 2002, the Disarmament Commission, composed of all UN Member States, decided to hold its substantive session in 2003. The decision stemmed from the Commission's inability to decide on an appropriate date for its 2002 session, as a result of postponements and changes to the UN meeting calendar originating from the disruption of activities caused by the terrorist attacks of September 2001 in the United States [YUN 2001, p. 60]. In organizational meetings held on 10 and 17 April [A/57/42] and 17 October [A/58/42], the Commission considered questions related to the organization of work and agenda items for its 2002 and 2003 substantive sessions, in accordance with the "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission", adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 44/119 C [YUN 1989, p. 35], and resolution 55/35 C [YUN 2000, p. 485]. The Commission adopted its provisional agenda items for 2003 (ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament and practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms). It asked working group chairpersons to continue intersessional consultations based on previous discussions.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/512], adopted **resolution 57/95** without vote [agenda item 68 (c)].

#### Report of the Disarmament Commission

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Disarmament Commission,

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000 and 56/26 A of 29 November 2001,

*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 adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

*Bearing in mind* its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

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

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Also reaffirms* 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. *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 Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

5. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its 2003 substantive session:

(a) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

(b) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2003, namely from 31 March to 17 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

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

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament 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, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

### Conference on Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament, a multilateral negotiating body, held a three-part session in Geneva in 2002 (21 January–29 March, 13 May–28 June and 29 July–13 September) [A/57/27].

The Conference continued to consider the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament; prevention of nuclear war; prevention of an arms race in outer space; effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons; new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons; a comprehensive programme of disarmament; and transparency in armaments.

During the session, successive Presidents of the Conference held consultations and put forward informal proposals with a view to reaching consensus on the programme of work, none of which succeeded. In an effort to break the impasse, five former Presidents (Algeria, Belgium, Chile, Colombia and Sweden) introduced a joint proposal [CD/1693], which envisaged the establishment of four ad hoc committees on negative security assurances, nuclear disarmament, a fissile material cut-off treaty and outer space, as well as the appointment of three special coordinators entrusted with consultations on new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction, a comprehensive programme of disarmament and transparency in armaments. Their effort was also to no avail. Thus, for the fourth consecutive year, the Conference was unable to agree on a work programme and did not re-establish or establish any mechanism on any of its substantive agenda items.

Nonetheless, on 14 February [CD/1667], the Conference reaffirmed its commitment to work towards the approval of a programme of work, maintaining the Amorim proposal [YUN 2000, p. 485], which had envisaged the establishment of ad hoc committees with non-negotiating mandates on nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, as a basis for further consultations taking into account all relevant proposals. The Conference appointed three Special Coordinators, on the review of its agenda (Republic of Korea), expansion of its membership (Bulgaria) and its improved and effective functioning (Sri Lanka), all of whom reported on their consultations [CD/PV.911]. The Conference requested its President and the incoming President to hold consultations during the intersessional period, with a view to beginning work early on its agenda items in 2003.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/512], adopted **resolution 57/96** without vote [agenda item 68 (d)].

#### Report of the Conference on Disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Conference on Disarmament,

*Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

*Recognizing* the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues for negotiation,

*Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

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

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2003 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all existing proposals and views presented and discussions held in the 2002 session to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 43 of its report;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

6. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

#### Department for Disarmament Affairs

The Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) continued to advise and assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of his responsibilities regarding disarmament under the Charter and General Assembly and Security Council mandates. DDA activities fell within the following areas: technical and substantive assistance to various disarmament bodies and to groups of governmental experts carrying out relevant studies; the issuance of reports received from Governments on arms transfers in seven major categories of conventional arms (Register of Conventional Arms) (see p. 527); the maintenance of databases on the status of States parties to multilateral arms regulation and disarmament agreements, and on national points of contacts and national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat

and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects [YUN 2001, p. 499], as well as on national legislation on small arms and light weapons; coordination of or participation in activities among various UN and UN-related bodies; and information dissemination, public awareness-raising and liaison with research and educational institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Pursuant to Assembly resolutions 48/218 B [YUN 1994, p. 1362] and 54/244 [YUN 1999, p. 1274], the Secretary-General, in February, transmitted a report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its inspection of DDA's programme management and administrative practices [A/56/817]. The inspection, conducted in coordination with a forthcoming triennial follow-up [E/AC.51/2002/6] on recommendations of an earlier in-depth DDA review [YUN 1999, p. 1276], resulted in an overall positive assessment and made 29 recommendations regarding the management of programme delivery and the regional dimension of DDA activities. Recommendations regarding the DDA work programme were to foster the reliability of planning, make monitoring of delivery more comprehensive and take a proactive stance in mainstreaming disarmament throughout the Organization. It was recommended to enhance the Department's Internet presence, to strengthen public outreach and to advance internal and system-wide coordination and cooperation. Measures were proposed to mobilize material support by Member States for the regional centres (see p. 547). The Secretary-General concurred with the recommendations and noted measures taken to correct the issues raised.

On 20 December, the Assembly took note of the report (**resolution 57/287 A**).

#### Multilateral disarmament agreements

As at 31 December 2002, the following numbers of States had become parties to the multilateral agreements listed below (in chronological order, with the years in which they were initially signed or opened for signature).

(Geneva) Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (1925): 132 parties  
 The Antarctic Treaty (1959): 45 parties  
 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (1963): 124 parties  
 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

(1967) [YUN 1966, p. 41, GA res. 2222(XXI), annex]: 97 parties  
 Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (1967): 39 parties  
 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1968) [YUN 1968, p. 17, GA res. 2373(XXII), annex]: 188 parties  
 Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Seabed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (1971) [YUN 1970, p. 18, GA res. 2660(XXV), annex]: 92 parties  
 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (1972) [YUN 1971, p. 19, GA res. 2826(XXVI), annex]: 147 parties  
 Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (1977) [YUN 1976, p. 45, GA res. 31/72, annex]: 69 parties  
 Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1979) [YUN 1979, p. 111, GA res. 34/68, annex]: 10 parties  
 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (1981): 90 parties  
 South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) (1985): 17 parties  
 Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty) (1990): 30 parties  
 Treaty on Open Skies (1992): 29 parties  
 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (1993): 148 parties  
 Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty) (1995): 10 parties  
 African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty) (1996): 20 parties  
 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (1996): 97 parties  
 Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (1997): 16 parties  
 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mine-Ban Convention, formerly known as Ottawa Convention) (1997): 130 parties  
 Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions (1999): 7 parties  
 Agreement on Adaptation of the CFE Treaty (1999): 2 parties

[*The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 27: 2002, Sales No. E.03.IX.1]

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## Nuclear disarmament

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### Conference on Disarmament

In 2002, the persisting deadlock over the mandate of a potential subsidiary body to deal with nuclear disarmament prevented the Conference on Disarmament from undertaking any substantive work on the issue, despite widespread concern among Member States regarding increasing prospects of nuclear weapons proliferation and nuclear terrorism. Consequently, the issue of nuclear disarmament was addressed only at plenary meetings where many delegations invoked the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) [YUN 2000, p. 487], particularly the 13 practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament. Many Western countries emphasized that negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty (see below), together with an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (see p. 505), constituted the next essential steps to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

### Fissile material

The impasse over reaching consensus on a work programme (see p. 489) in the Conference on Disarmament prevented the establishment of an ad hoc committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices; thus, the issue was addressed in plenary meetings. While Western and Eastern European countries maintained support to begin negotiations immediately on a fissile material cut-off treaty, China and the Group of 21 of the Non-Aligned Movement continued to advocate consideration of the issue within the context of a balanced work programme that accorded equal importance to other issues of priority, including the prevention of an arms race in outer space, nuclear disarmament and negative security assurances. South Africa introduced a working paper on the possible scope and requirements of the fissile material treaty [CD/1671 & Add.1]; the Netherlands organized informal meetings on banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices on 7 June [CD/1676] and 25 September [CD/1691], both in Geneva.

(For bilateral action regarding fissile material, see p. 494.)

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/80** without vote [agenda item 66].

**The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 J of 29 November 2001,

*Convinced* that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

*Recalling* the 1998 report of the Conference on Disarmament, in which, inter alia, the Conference records that, in proceeding to take a decision on this matter, that decision is without prejudice to any further decisions on the establishment of further subsidiary bodies under agenda item 1 and that intensive consultations will be pursued to seek the views of the members of the Conference on Disarmament on appropriate methods and approaches for dealing with agenda item 1, taking into consideration all proposals and views in that respect,

1. *Recalls* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, an ad hoc committee which shall negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty.

### Security assurances

The Conference on Disarmament considered the issue of security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons within the framework of discussions on its work programme. Although the Conference was unable to re-establish an ad hoc committee to consider the item (see p. 489), delegates in plenary meetings reaffirmed or further

elaborated their respective positions on the issue. A joint proposal by five former Presidents during the Conference session (see p. 489) emphasized the need for an ad hoc committee to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, which could take the form of an internationally binding instrument. Despite disagreements regarding a common approach acceptable to all, there were no objections, in principle, to the idea of such an instrument.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/508], adopted **resolution 57/56** by recorded vote (106-0-55) [agenda item 64].

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

*Convinced* that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Welcoming* the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

*Noting* that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Determined* to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

*Recognizing* that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

*Recognizing* that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous

of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

*Recalling* the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament<sup>a</sup> submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,

*Recalling also* paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

*Taking note* of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

*Taking note also* of the relevant decision of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

*Taking note further* of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolution 984(1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000 and 56/22 of 29 November 2001,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* 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;

4. *Recommends* 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 explored further in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* 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, 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;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/56:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

\*The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

### Disarmament Commission

In 2002, the Disarmament Commission postponed its substantive session to 2003 (see p. 488), when it would consider ways to achieve nuclear disarmament.

### START and other bilateral agreements and unilateral measures

On 24 May, the United States and the Russian Federation, building on the momentum created by their completion of reductions of their re-

spective nuclear arsenals to the levels required under the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I) [YUN 2001, p. 473], established a new strategic framework for further reductions of strategic offensive weapons following the signing by Presidents George W. Bush of the United States and Vladimir V. Putin of the Russian Federation of a new treaty in Moscow: the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT) [CD/1674]. Under SORT, also known as the Moscow Treaty, the parties agreed to whittle down the level of their deployed strategic nuclear warheads to between 1,700 and 2,200 by 31 December 2012, which, if implemented, would override their 1993 START II agreement for reductions to between 3,000 and 3,500 warheads [YUN 1993, p. 117]. Each party was allowed to determine the composition and structure of its strategic offensive arms, based on the established aggregate limit for the number of such warheads. The Treaty established a Bilateral Implementation Commission that would meet at least twice a year to discuss related issues, but did not contain any details about verification, except through a non-binding declaration to apply the verification provisions of START I. SORT would be subject to ratification by the constitutional procedures of each party and would enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification. It would remain in force until 31 December 2012, but could be extended or superseded earlier by a subsequent agreement, and contained an unconditional three-month withdrawal clause.

Also on 24 May, Presidents Bush and Putin signed a Joint Declaration on a New Strategic Relationship [CD/1674], under which they pledged broad-based cooperation in political, economic and strategic issues, including in preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and international terrorism, and on matters relating to missile defence. In that context, they created the Consultative Group for Strategic Security, through which they would strengthen mutual confidence, expand transparency, share information and discuss strategic issues of mutual interest.

On 14 June [A/57/92], the Russian Federation issued a statement on the legal status of START II. Citing the United States refusal to ratify START II and withdrawal from the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (see p. 504), Russia pointed out that none of the prerequisites for the entry into force of START II existed and declared itself no longer bound by international law to refrain from actions that could deprive START II of its objective and purpose.

On 16 September, the Russian Federation Minister of Atomic Energy and the United States Secretary of Energy met with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General in Vienna to review the status of the 1996 trilateral initiative, under which both States agreed to submit (weapon-origin) fissile materials released from their military programmes to IAEA verification [YUN 1996, p. 465]. They concluded that the task entrusted to the working group established to address associated technical, legal and financial issues had been completed and had demonstrated practical approaches for the verification process. Verification would begin once Russia and the United States indicated the timing, modalities and types of material they were ready to submit. There was agreement for a meeting in 2003 to review progress.

In December, the United States, in its national strategy to combat WMDs, stressed the importance of non-proliferation and threat reduction cooperation through the Group of Eight (G-8) major industrialized countries' Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction launched at Kananaskis, Canada, (26-27 June). Under the initiative, G-8 leaders committed themselves to support cooperative projects, initially in Russia, to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues, and to raise up to \$20 billion towards that end over the next 10 years.

**Reports of Secretary-General.** In September [A/57/383], pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 R [YUN 2001, p. 477] on nuclear disarmament, the Secretary-General reported on the resolution's implementation. He stated that a number of initiatives had been taken at the unilateral, bilateral and multilateral levels aimed at reducing existing nuclear arsenals and further strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Those included the SORT agreement between the United States and the Russian Federation (see p. 493), the G-8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (see above) and the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to NPT (see p. 507). The Secretary-General, stressing the need for further progress towards nuclear disarmament, regretted that the Conference on Disarmament continued to be unable to make full use of its potential as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating body, owing to persisting disagreements among Member States over a substantive work programme. He urged renewed efforts in seeking agreement on outstanding issues.

In response to Assembly resolution 56/24 C [YUN 2001, p. 478], the Secretary-General, also in

September [A/57/401], outlined activities to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (see p. 546) regarding specific measures that might significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war [YUN 2001, p. 474]. Activities included the Secretary-General's statements on the need to prevent the further proliferation of nuclear weapons and urging progress in nuclear disarmament deliberations, peaceful settlement of disputes and confidence-building measures; meetings, seminars, conferences and publications involving the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) and its regional centres (see pp. 489 and 547), including a conference on nuclear weapons and strategic stability held by Indonesia (see below) and another on the disarmament agenda for the twenty-first century (Beijing, 2-4 April), sponsored jointly by DDA and China. UN support continued for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as other initiatives by the international community to promote and advance efforts aimed at de-alerting nuclear weapons, reviewing nuclear doctrines and eliminating tactical nuclear weapons. The Secretary-General also reported on the status of the Millennium Declaration [YUN 2000, p. 49] proposal to convene an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers. Based on his consultations with Member States, he concluded that the time was not yet ripe for the consideration of interim measures leading up to the convening of such a conference.

**Communications.** In June [A/56/971], Indonesia transmitted the summary of a conference it had convened on nuclear weapons and strategic stability (Princeton, New Jersey, United States, 20-21 April), which discussed the UN role in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, international cooperation against terrorism involving WMDs and the implications of the United States nuclear posture review, which outlined the direction of its nuclear forces over the next five to 10 years and established a new triad composed of offensive nuclear and non-nuclear strike systems; active and passive defences; and a revitalized defence structure to provide new capabilities to emerging threats. Participants made proposals on the issues discussed.

In September [A/57/425], the Foreign Ministers of the New Agenda Coalition countries (Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden) reviewed developments on nuclear disarmament related to their joint initiative "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda", issued in 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 496].

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted a series of resolutions and decisions related to nuclear disarmament. The Assembly adopted **resolution 57/58** by recorded vote (120-3-42) [agenda item 66].

**Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000,

Stressing the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, a goal to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under its article VI,

Recognizing that disarmament and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the necessity of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the necessity of upholding their commitments in associated decisions and final documents agreed upon at the 2000 and 1995 Review Conferences,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996,

Noting the importance attached to the issue of reducing non-strategic nuclear weapons by the Secretary-General in his report to the Millennium Assembly,

Stressing the commitment made in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference to the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons,

Concerned that the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and in stockpile still amounts to many thousands,

Reiterating that it is the particular responsibility of the nuclear-weapon States for transparent, verifiable and irreversible reductions of nuclear weapons, leading to nuclear disarmament,

Emphasizing that further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be accorded priority and be carried out in a comprehensive manner,

1. Agrees that reductions and elimination of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be included as an integral part of the nuclear-arms reduction and disarmament process;

2. Agrees also that reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be carried out in a transparent, verifiable and irreversible manner;

3. Agrees further on the importance of preserving, reaffirming, implementing and building upon the 1991 and 1992 presidential nuclear initiatives of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics/Russian Federation on non-strategic nuclear weapons;

4. Calls upon the Russian Federation and the United States of America to formalize their presidential nuclear initiatives into legal instruments and to initiate negotiations on further effectively verifiable reductions of their non-strategic nuclear weapons;

5. Stresses the importance of special security and physical protection measures for the transport and storage of non-strategic nuclear weapons, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States in possession of such weapons to take the necessary steps in this regard;

6. Calls for further confidence-building and transparency measures to reduce the threats posed by non-strategic nuclear weapons;

7. Calls also for concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of non-strategic nuclear weapons systems;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons".

## RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/58:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* France, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 57/59** (as orally amended) by recorded vote (125-6-36) [agenda item 66 (b)].

**Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world:  
the need for a new agenda**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 53/77 Y of 4 December 1998, 54/54 G of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 C of 20 November 2000,

Convinced that the existence of nuclear weapons is a threat to the survival of humanity,

Declaring that the participation of the international community as a whole is central to the maintenance and enhancement of international peace and stability, and that international security is a collective concern requiring collective engagement,

Declaring also that internationally negotiated treaties in the field of disarmament have made a fundamental contribution to international peace and security, and that unilateral and bilateral nuclear disarmament measures complement the treaty-based multilateral approach towards nuclear disarmament,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996,

*Declaring* that any presumption of the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the nuclear-weapon States is incompatible with the integrity and sustainability of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and with the broader goal of the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Declaring also* that it is essential that the fundamental principles of transparency, verification and irreversibility should apply to all nuclear disarmament measures,

*Convinced* that the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons constitutes an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process,

*Declaring* that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is binding on the respective States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that it is imperative that all States parties be held fully accountable with respect to the strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and that the undertakings therein on nuclear disarmament have been given and that their implementation remains the imperative,

*Expressing its deep concern* that, to date, there have been few advances in the implementation of the thirteen steps agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Stressing* the importance of regular reporting in promoting confidence in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the continued failure of the Conference on Disarmament to deal with nuclear disarmament and to resume negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

*Expressing grave concern* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty has not yet entered into force,

*Expressing deep concern* that the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and stockpiled still amounts to thousands, and at the continuing possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

*Acknowledging* that reductions in the numbers of deployed strategic nuclear warheads envisaged by the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") represent a positive step in the process of nuclear de-escalation between the United States of America and the Russian Federation, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons,

*Noting* that, despite these bilateral achievements, there is no sign of efforts involving all of the five nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Expressing its deep concern* that emerging approaches to the broader role of nuclear weapons as part of security strategies could lead to the development of new types, and rationalizations for the use, of nuclear weapons,

*Expressing concern* that the development of missile defences could impact negatively on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and lead to a new arms race on earth and in outer space,

*Stressing* that no steps should be taken which would lead to the weaponization of outer space,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the continued retention of the nuclear-weapons option by those three States that have not yet acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, in particular given the effects of regional volatility on international security, and in this context, the continued regional tensions and deteriorating security situation in South Asia and the Middle East,

*Welcoming* Cuba's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

*Welcoming also* the conclusion of negotiations among the Central Asian States on a treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in that region, and underlining the importance of its entry into force as soon as possible,

*Welcoming further* the progress in the further development of nuclear-weapon-free zones in some regions and, in particular, the consolidation of that in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which the heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Taking into consideration* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all the States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,

1. *Reaffirms* that any possibility that nuclear weapons could be used represents a continued risk for humanity;

2. *Calls upon* all States to refrain from any action that could lead to a new nuclear arms race or that could impact negatively on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

3. *Also calls upon* all States to observe international treaties in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and to duly fulfil all obligations flowing from those treaties;

4. *Calls upon* all States parties to pursue, with determination and with continued vigour, the full and effective implementation of the substantial agreements reached at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the outcome of which provides the requisite blueprint to achieve nuclear disarmament;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to respect fully their existing commitments with regard to security assurances, pending the conclusion of multilaterally negotiated legally binding security assurances to all non-nuclear-weapon States parties, and agrees to prioritize this issue with a view to making recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

6. *Also calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to increase their transparency and accountability with regard to their nuclear weapons arsenals and their implementation of disarmament measures;

7. *Reaffirms* the necessity for the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to consider regular reports to be submitted by all States parties on the implementation of article VI of the Treaty as outlined in paragraph 15:12 of the 2000 Final Document, and on paragraph 4 (c) of decision 2 of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty;

8. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to implement the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons commitments to apply the principle of irreversibility by destroying their nuclear warheads in the context of strategic nuclear reductions and avoid keeping them in a state that lends itself to their possible redeployment;

9. *Agrees* on the importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

10. *Calls for* the upholding and maintenance of the moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

11. *Underlines* the urgency of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in the context of the progress in implementing the international system to monitor nuclear weapons tests under the Treaty;

12. *Agrees* that the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be accorded priority and that nuclear-weapon States must live up to their commitments in this regard;

13. *Agrees also* that reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be carried out in a transparent and irreversible manner and that the reduction and elimination of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be included in the overall arms reductions negotiations. In this context, urgent action should be taken to achieve:

(a) Further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(b) Further confidence-building and transparency measures to reduce the threats posed by non-strategic nuclear weapons;

(c) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(d) The formalizing of existing informal bilateral arrangements regarding non-strategic nuclear reductions, such as the Bush-Gorbachev declarations of 1991, into legally binding agreements;

14. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to undertake the necessary steps towards the seamless integration of all five nuclear-weapon States into a process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

15. *Agrees* that the Conference on Disarmament should establish without delay an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament;

16. *Agrees also* that the Conference on Disarmament should resume negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifi-

able treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives;

17. *Agrees further* that the Conference on Disarmament should complete the examination and updating of the mandate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects, as contained in its decision of 13 February 1992, and re-establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible;

18. *Calls upon* those three States that are not yet parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States, promptly and without condition, and to bring into force the required comprehensive safeguards agreements, together with additional protocols, consistent with the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 15 May 1997, for ensuring nuclear non-proliferation, and to reverse clearly and urgently any policies to pursue any nuclear weapons development or deployment and refrain from any action that could undermine regional and international peace and security and the efforts of the international community towards nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation;

19. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol;

20. *Reaffirms the conviction* that the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament, and supports proposals for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones where they do not yet exist, such as in the Middle East and South Asia;

21. *Calls for* the completion and implementation of the Trilateral Initiative between the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Russian Federation and the United States of America and for consideration to be given to the possible inclusion of other nuclear-weapon States;

22. *Calls upon* all nuclear-weapon States to make arrangements for the placing, as soon as practicable, of their fissile material no longer required for military purposes under International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and to make arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes in order to ensure that such material remains permanently outside military programmes;

23. *Affirms* that a nuclear-weapon-free world will ultimately require the underpinning of a universal and multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument or a framework encompassing a mutually reinforcing set of instruments;

24. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 C,

and requests him, within existing resources, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda", and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/59:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* France, India, Israel, Pakistan, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 57/68** without vote [agenda item 66].

#### **Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 53/77 Z of 4 December 1998 and other relevant resolutions,

*Welcoming* the completion of strategic arms reductions codified in the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START) by Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America,

*Agreeing* that new global challenges and threats require the building of a qualitatively new foundation for strategic relations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation,

*Noting with satisfaction* the building of the new strategic relationship between the United States of America and the Russian Federation based on the principles of mutual security, trust, openness, cooperation and predictability,

*Appreciating* the joint determination of the two countries to work together and with other nations and international organizations to promote security, economic well-being and a peaceful, prosperous free world,

*Applauding* the agreement whereby each country will reduce its strategic nuclear warheads to a number that does not exceed 1,700 to 2,200, as specified in the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"), by 31 December 2012,

*Believing* that the agreed strategic reductions advance the commitment of both the United States of

America and the Russian Federation under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Appreciating* that the United States of America and the Russian Federation will continue to work closely together, including through cooperative programmes, to ensure the security of weapons of mass destruction and missile technologies, information, expertise and material,

1. *Welcomes* the commitment of the two countries to strategic nuclear warhead reductions in the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"), signed on 24 May 2002, which is an important result of this new bilateral strategic relationship and which will help to establish more favourable conditions for actively promoting security and cooperation and enhancing international stability;

2. *Looks forward* to the entry into force of the Moscow Treaty at the earliest possible date;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the Joint Declaration signed by the United States of America and the Russian Federation in Moscow on 24 May 2002, which, inter alia, created the Consultative Group for Strategic Security, chaired by Foreign and Defence Ministers, through which the United States of America and the Russian Federation will strengthen mutual confidence, expand transparency, share information and plans and discuss strategic issues of mutual interest;

4. *Recognizes* that the Group of Eight Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, launched by leaders at the Kananaskis Summit, held at Kananaskis, Canada, on 26 and 27 June 2002, will enhance international security and safety by supporting specific cooperation projects, initially in the Russian Federation, to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues;

5. *Invites* all countries, as appropriate, to join the Group of Eight commitment to the non-proliferation principles endorsed by the Group of Eight leaders at the Kananaskis Summit aimed at preventing terrorists, or those who harbour them, from acquiring or developing nuclear, chemical, radiological and biological weapons, missiles, and related materials, equipment and technology;

6. *Invites* the United States of America and the Russian Federation to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of their strategic offensive reductions;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework".

The Assembly adopted **resolution 57/78** (as orally amended) by recorded vote (156-2-13) [agenda item 66].

#### **A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 H of 15 December 1994, 50/70 C of 12 December 1995, 51/45 G of 10 December 1996, 52/38 K of 9 December 1997, 53/77 U of 4 December 1998, 54/54 D of 1 December 1999, 55/33 R of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 N of 29 November 2001,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament mutually complement and strengthen each other,

*Reaffirming* the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and as an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, and welcoming Cuba's accession to the Treaty,

*Recognizing* the progress made by the nuclear-weapon States in the reduction of their nuclear weapons unilaterally or through their negotiations, including the completion of the reductions of strategic offensive weapons according to the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I) and the recent signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") by the United States of America and the Russian Federation, which should serve as a step for further nuclear disarmament, and the efforts for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by the international community,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

*Welcoming* the continuation of a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions since the recent nuclear tests,

*Welcoming also* the successful adoption of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and stressing the importance of implementing its conclusions,

*Welcoming further* the constructive start of the strengthened review process at the first session, held in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002, of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2005,

*Welcoming* the successful convening of a series of seminars aiming at further reinforcement of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in Latin America, Central Asia, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region, and sharing the hope that the conference to be held in Tokyo in December 2002 will further strengthen the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards system, including universalization of its safeguards agreements and the additional protocols thereto, by making utmost use of the outcomes of the aforementioned seminars,

*Encouraging* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to continue their intensive consultations in accordance with the Joint Declaration on the New Strategic Relationship between the two States,

*Welcoming* the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, convened in New York from 11 to 13 November 2001 in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty,

*Recognizing* the importance of preventing terrorists from acquiring or developing nuclear weapons or related materials, radioactive materials, equipment and technology,

*Stressing* the importance of education on disarmament and non-proliferation for future generations, and noting with satisfaction the submission of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on this issue by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty;

3. *Stresses* the central importance of the following practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and paragraphs 3 and 4 (c) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty:

(a) The importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as well as a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of that Treaty;

(b) The establishment of an ad hoc committee in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2003 session to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, with a view to its conclusion within five years and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(c) The establishment of an appropriate subsidiary body with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2003 session in the context of establishing a programme of work;

(d) The inclusion of the principle of irreversibility to apply to nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

(e) An unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, as agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty;

(f) Deep reductions by the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their strategic offensive arsenals, while placing great importance on the existing multilateral treaties, with a view to maintaining and strengthening strategic stability and international security;

(g) Steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes interna-

tional stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

- (i) Further efforts by all the nuclear-weapon States to continue to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;
- (ii) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to their nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as voluntary confidence-building measures to support further progress on nuclear disarmament;
- (iii) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;
- (iv) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;
- (v) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;
- (vi) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

(h) Reaffirmation that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under effective international control;

4. *Recognizes* that the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons will require further steps, including deeper reductions by all the nuclear-weapon States in the process of working towards achieving their elimination;

5. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States to keep the Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress or efforts made towards nuclear disarmament;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a successful Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2005 as the second session of the Preparatory Committee will be convened in 2003;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts in the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, notes the importance of the safe and effective management of the resultant fissile materials, and calls for arrangements by all the nuclear-weapon States to place, as soon as practicable, fissile material designated by each of them as no longer required for military purposes under International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes to ensure that such material remains permanently outside of military programmes;

8. *Stresses* the importance of further development of the verification capabilities, including International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

9. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, confirming and strengthening, if necessary, their policies not to transfer equipment, materials or technology that could con-

tribute to the proliferation of those weapons, while ensuring that such policies are consistent with the obligations of States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Also calls upon* all States to maintain the highest possible standards of security, safe custody, effective control and physical protection of all materials that could contribute to the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in order, inter alia, to prevent those materials from falling into the hands of terrorists;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution GC(46)/RES/12 on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and stresses the importance of the said resolution, in which it is recommended that the Director General, the Board of Governors and member States of the Agency continue to consider implementing the elements of the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19, adopted on 22 September 2000 by the General Conference of the Agency, to promote and facilitate the conclusion and entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and calls for the early and full implementation of that resolution;

12. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/78:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* India, United States.

*Abstaining:* Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 57/79** by recorded vote (107-41-21) [agenda item 66 (s)].

#### Nuclear disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 R of 29 November 2001 on nuclear disarmament,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Bearing in mind* that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972 and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993 have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

*Recognizing* that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

*Noting* the reiteration by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of their conviction that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the reaffirmation by the States parties of the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I), to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

*Reiterating its call* for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,

*Noting with appreciation* the signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") by the United States of America and the Russian Federation as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

*Noting with appreciation also* the unilateral measures taken by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitation, and encouraging them to take further such measures,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996, and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States 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,

*Mindful* of paragraph 114 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to commence negotiations in 1998 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Recalling* paragraph 72 of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,

*Bearing in mind* the principles and guidelines on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its substantive session of 1999,

*Welcoming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or the threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

*Seized* of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures with a view to achieving the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems;

5. *Reiterates its call 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 achieving the total elimination of these weapons;

6. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

7. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

8. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principle of irreversibility to the process of nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

9. *Welcomes* the positive outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in New York from 24 April to 19 May 2000;

10. *Also welcomes* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the Review Conference, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and calls for the full and effective implementation of the steps set out in the Final Document;

11. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

12. *Calls* for the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator and the mandate contained therein;

13. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

14. *Calls* for the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

15. *Also calls* for the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

16. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2002 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/24 R;

17. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2003 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons;

18. *Calls* for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/79:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 10 by a recorded vote of 139 to 2, with 8 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 160 to 2, with 5 abstentions.

**Resolution 57/84** was adopted by recorded vote (107-46-17) [agenda item 66 (h)].

#### Reducing nuclear danger

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Reaffirming* that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Convinced* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

*Convinced also* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Considering* that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering also* that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

*Emphasizing* the imperative need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

*Conscious* that limited steps relating to detargeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful* that reduction of tensions brought about by a change in nuclear doctrines would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

*Recalling* that in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* it is stated that there exists an obligation for all States 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,

*Recalling also* the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls* for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

3. *Calls 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 objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 56/24 C of 29 November 2001;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war, and also to continue to encourage Member States to endeavour to create conditions that would allow the emergence of an international consensus to hold an international con-

ference as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/84:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

The Assembly adopted **decision 57/515** by recorded vote [agenda item 66 (x)].

#### **United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament**

At its 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 121 to 6, with 37 abstentions, and on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament".

RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 57/515:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* France, Israel, Micronesia, Poland, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark,

Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

On 20 December, the Assembly decided that the item on general and complete disarmament would remain for consideration during its resumed fifty-seventh (2003) session (**decision 57/585**).

#### **ABM Treaty and other missile issues**

In 2002, missile defence issues, particularly the proliferation of long-range ballistic missiles and United States efforts to build a national missile defence system [YUN 1999, p. 469], continued to arouse international concern. Testing and development of ballistic missiles continued in many regions.

On 13 June, the United States withdrew from the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (ABM Treaty), which marked the end of its six-month notice of unilateral withdrawal [YUN 2001, p. 480] and the Treaty's demise. United States President George W. Bush later announced that the action made it possible to develop and test the full range of missile defence technologies and to deploy defences capable of protecting the United States. During the year, the United States conducted several flight tests of its ballistic missile interception systems, began construction at Fort Greely, Alaska, of silos to house ground-based missile defence interceptors and began fielding an initial set of missile defence capabilities, which it planned to begin operating in 2004-2005.

Heads of State and Government of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, during a summit meeting (Prague, Czech Republic, 21-22 November), considered the issue of missile defence and launched a new feasibility study to examine options for protecting Alliance territory and people against the full range of missile threats.

**Report of Secretary-General.** In response to General Assembly resolution 56/24 B [YUN 2001, p. 480], the Secretary-General, in a June report with later addenda [A/57/114 & Add.1,2], presented the views of 10 Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects.

**Expert panel.** In July [A/57/229], the Secretary-General transmitted the report of the panel of governmental experts established to prepare a report on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/33 A [YUN 2000, p. 499]. The panel met (New York, 1-5 April and 1-9 July) to discuss the background and the current situation regarding missiles, including their capabilities, characteristics,

peaceful uses, driving factors in missile acquisition and development, and existing measures and initiatives concerning the regulation of missiles. The report also described a number of issues of security concern, which related to the increasing numbers, ranges, technological sophistication and geographic spread of ballistic missiles and their capability to deliver WMDs, particularly nuclear weapons. Other concerns related to the potential impact of conventionally armed missiles, the development and strategic consequences of missile defence systems, the development and transfer of missiles and related technologies, the potential use of space-launched vehicle technology for missile development, the role of missiles in military doctrines, and the role and scope of missile-related confidence-building measures.

The panel concluded that the issues outlined in the report constituted serious concerns for international peace and security, that they were multifaceted and complex, and that they could be dealt with adequately only in regional and global dimensions. Acknowledging the lack of universally accepted norms or instruments to deal specifically with missile-related concerns in all their aspects, the panel noted that multiple approaches had been adopted to deal with the issue within and outside the United Nations and urged continued international efforts in the interest of international peace and security. It stressed that the issues identified in the report and all approaches undertaken at the national, bilateral, regional and multilateral levels needed to be explored further.

**Code of conduct.** On 25 November [A/57/724], 101 States, including four nuclear-weapon States (France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States), adopted a voluntary and non-legally binding international code of conduct against ballistic missile proliferation (ICOC), also known as the Hague code of conduct. The subscribing States resolved to curb and prevent the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering WMDs at both global and regional levels, through multilateral, bilateral and national actions, including transparency and confidence-building measures. Subscribing States agreed to hold regular meetings to define, review and further develop the workings of the instrument and resolve pending questions before the code became fully operational. The Netherlands was appointed ICOC Chair for one year, and Austria, the immediate central contact, through which UN Member States wishing to join might do so. A list of the subscribing members was annexed to the ICOC text.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/71** by recorded vote (104-3-60) [agenda item 66 (g)].

## Missiles

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/54 F of 1 December 1999, 55/33 A of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 B of 29 November 2001,

*Reaffirming* the role of the United Nations in the field of arms regulation and disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

*Realizing* the need to promote regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

*Convinced* of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security,

*Bearing in mind* that the security concerns of Member States at the international and regional levels should be taken into consideration in addressing the issue of missiles,

*Underlining* the complexities involved in considering the issue of missiles in the conventional context,

*Expressing its support* for the international efforts against the development and proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction,

*Considering* that the Secretary-General, in response to resolution 55/33 A, established a Panel of Governmental Experts to assist him in preparing a report for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the issue of missiles in all its aspects,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the issue of missiles in all its aspects;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the report on the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a Panel of Governmental Experts, to explore further the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies from Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, submitted pursuant to resolution 56/24 B;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Missiles".

## RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/71:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago,

Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

## Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

## Status

As at 31 December, 166 States had signed the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), adopted by General Assembly resolution 50/245 [YUN 1996, p. 454], and 97 had ratified it. During the year, instruments of ratification were deposited by Botswana, Burkina Faso, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Niger, Samoa, San Marino and Venezuela. In accordance with article XIV, CTBT was to enter into force 180 days after the 44 States possessing nuclear reactors, listed in annex 2 to the Treaty, had deposited their instruments of ratification. By year's end, 31 of those States had ratified the Treaty.

On 30 October [A/57/586], Australia, Japan and the Netherlands transmitted a joint ministerial statement by the Foreign Ministers of 50 States signatories to CTBT (New York, 14 September), expressing support and commitment to the aims of the Treaty, in order to encourage further ratifications to facilitate its entry into force. The text included a list of the 50 signatories.

In November [A/57/692] and December [A/57/702], the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Cambodia associated themselves, respectively, with the joint ministerial statement.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/517], adopted **resolution 57/100** by recorded vote (164-1-5) [agenda item 73].

## Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating* that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure,

*Recalling* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

*Stressing* that a universal and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

*Encouraged* by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and sixty-six States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of ninety-six States, including thirty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/41 of 20 November 2000,

*Welcoming* the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York from 11 to 13 November 2001,

1. *Stresses* the importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular to its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Urges* States to maintain their moratoria on nuclear-weapons test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to refrain from acts that would defeat its object and purpose in the meanwhile;

5. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to their earliest successful conclusion;

6. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/100:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* United States.

*Abstaining:* Colombia, India, Lebanon, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

### Preparatory Commission for the CTBT Organization

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, established in 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 452], continued to develop the Treaty's verification regime. Progress was made in setting up the International Monitoring System (IMS) [YUN 1999, p. 472], the global network of 337 facilities in 90 countries designed to track and detect nuclear explosions prohibited by CTBT via a global satellite communication system and to transmit relevant information to the International Data Centre (IDC) in Vienna. As at October, a total of 34 IMS stations had been certified, with another 22 stations expected to be certified within the year. Efforts were also being made to establish other key verification measures, including the development of an on-site inspections manual, the acquisition of inspection equipment and building up a pool of potential inspectors. The Commission continued to consider ways of enhancing cooperation under its relationship agreement with the United Nations [YUN 2000, p. 501].

The Preparatory Commission held its seventeenth (9-12 April) [CTBT/PC-17/1], eighteenth (19-20 August) [CTBT/PC-18/1] and nineteenth (11-15 November) [CTBT/PC-19/1] sessions, all in Vienna, to consider the reports of its working groups and to discuss organizational, budgetary and other matters. The Commission adopted its 2003 programme budget, totalling \$88.6 million, of which approximately half was earmarked for the IMS network. The remainder would be used to develop IDC, the global communications infrastructure, and procedures and guidelines for on-site inspection once the Treaty entered into force.

**Note by Secretary-General.** In July [A/57/255], the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the availability of the report of the Commission's Executive Secretary covering 2001.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 November [meeting 56], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 57/49** [draft: A/57/L.40] by recorded vote (128-1-3) [agenda item 22 (q)].

#### Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of the note by the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

*Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation

between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/49:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* United States.

*Abstaining:* Cambodia, Ghana, Pakistan.

## Non-Proliferation Treaty

### Status

In 2002, Cuba acceded to the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2373(XXII) [YUN 1968, p. 17], bringing the number of States parties to 188 as at 31 December. NPT entered into force on 5 March 1970.

### 2005 review conference

Quinquennial review conferences, as called for under article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty, were held in 1975 [YUN 1975, p. 27], 1980 [YUN 1980, p. 51], 1985 [YUN 1985, p. 56], 1990 [YUN 1990, p. 50], 1995 [YUN 1995, p. 189] and 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 487].

As decided by the parties to NPT in 2001 [YUN 2001, p. 483], the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference held its first session (New York, 8-19 April) [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/21 & Corr.1] to consider the implementation of the Treaty's provisions relating to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, disarmament and international peace and security, safeguards and nuclear-weapon-free zones, and the right of States parties to research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Also discussed were the decision on the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and the resolution on the Middle East, both adopted at the 1995 Review Conference, the final document of the 2000 Review Conference, and the safety and security of peaceful nuclear programmes. Documents before the Committee included a compilation of reports from 17 States parties [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/3 & Add.1-6] on steps they had taken to promote the es-

tablishment of the Middle East as a zone free of nuclear weapons; a report by Mongolia on steps taken to institutionalize its nuclear-weapon-free status [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/2] (see p. 512); reports by seven States on implementation of the 1995 decision [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/4, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 18]; and reports by the New Agenda Coalition (see p. 494) [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/9] and five States on other aspects of implementation [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/5/Add.1, 6, 7, 11, 20]. The Committee scheduled its second session from 28 April to 9 May 2003 and its third from 26 April to 7 May 2004.

**Communication.** On 7 November [A/57/597], Cuba announced its accession to NPT and its intention to work with other States towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons under international monitoring.

### IAEA safeguards

As at 31 December, the Model Protocol Additional to Safeguards Agreements strengthening IAEA's safeguards regime, approved by the IAEA Board of Governors in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 486], had been signed by 67 States, including the five nuclear-weapon States, and was in force or being provisionally applied in 28 States.

The IAEA General Conference [GC(46)/RES/12] once again requested concerned States and other parties to safeguards agreements that had not done so to sign the additional protocols promptly. Asking those that had signed the protocols to bring them into force, the Conference commended member States that had implemented elements of a plan of action outlined in a 2000 resolution of the Conference [YUN 2000, p. 505] and recommended that others consider doing the same to facilitate the entry into force of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols.

The General Conference [GC(46)/RES/15], noting Iraq's decision to allow UN weapons inspectors to return without conditions to continue Security Council-mandated inspections of its nuclear programme, called on Iraq to provide unrestricted access to enable the Agency to carry out its mandate. The Conference stressed that the Agency had to, upon return to Iraq, resolve the key issue of whether Iraq's nuclear activities and capabilities had changed since December 1998 when IAEA inspectors suspended their work there [YUN 1998, p. 258]. On 8 November, the Security Council, in **resolution 1441(2002)**, decided to afford Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations under relevant Council resolutions, and established an enhanced inspection regime in that regard. Before year's end, IAEA resumed inspections of

Iraq's nuclear programme under relevant Council resolutions (see p. 286).

Concerning implementation of the agreement between IAEA and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for the application of safeguards under NPT, the IAEA Director General reported in August [GC(46)16] that, since 1993, the Agency had not been able to verify fully that all nuclear material subject to safeguards in the DPRK had been declared to IAEA. Despite many rounds of technical discussions, no tangible progress was made on important outstanding issues (see p. 331).

### Middle East

In 2002, the General Assembly (see below) and the IAEA General Conference [GC(46)/RES/16] took action regarding the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. While the Assembly continued to call on the non-party in the region to place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards, IAEA stressed the need for States in the region to accept the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities.

Pursuant to Assembly resolution 56/27 [YUN 2001, p. 485], the Secretary-General reported in October [A/57/454] that, apart from the IAEA resolution on the application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East, he had not received any additional information since his 2001 report on the subject [YUN 2001, p. 484]. The IAEA resolution was annexed to the Secretary-General's report.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/513], adopted **resolution 57/97** by recorded vote (158-3-8) [agenda item 69].

#### The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* its relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(46)/RES/16, adopted on 20 September 2002,

*Cognizant* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

*Mindful* of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

*Recalling* the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995, in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties

to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

*Recalling* the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995, in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

*Noting* that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Concerned* about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

*Stressing* the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

*Emphasizing* the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

*Noting* that one hundred and sixty-six States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/97:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia, United States.

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago.

The First Committee adopted the sixth preambular paragraph by a recorded vote of 153 to 2, with 5 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 163 to 2, with 2 abstentions.

### Prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons

In 2002, the Conference on Disarmament was unable to undertake negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/25 B [YUN 2001, p. 486].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/94** by recorded vote (110-45-12) [agenda item 67 (d)].

### Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

*Bearing in mind* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,

*Convinced* that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

*Conscious* that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653(XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

*Determined* to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

*Stressing* that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

*Noting with regret* that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2002 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/25 B of 29 November 2001,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/94:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama,

Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

### Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 S [YUN 2001, p. 486] on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice that the threat or use of nuclear weapons was contrary to the UN Charter [YUN 1996, p. 461], the Secretary-General presented information received from nine States (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Iraq, Lebanon, Malaysia, Panama, Qatar, Tunisia) on measures they had taken to implement the resolution and towards nuclear disarmament [A/57/95 & Add.1,2].

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/85** by recorded vote (117-30-24) [agenda item 66 (t)].

#### 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,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 S of 29 November 2001,

*Convinced* that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear-arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Emphasizing* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, adopted at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that the Antarctic Treaty and the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"), by the United States of America and the Russian Federation on 24 May 2002, following the demise of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, and urging them to take further steps under the Moscow Treaty as well as through bilateral arrangements or agreements and unilateral decisions towards the irreversible reduction of their nuclear arsenals,

*Stressing* the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament, arms control and reduction measures,

*Recognizing* the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2002 session,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the lack of progress in the implementation of the thirteen steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Desiring* to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,

*Taking note* of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 56/24 S,

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists 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;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations 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;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/85:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 1 by a recorded vote of 146 to 5, with 5 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 161 to 4, with 1 abstention.

### Radioactive material

The IAEA General Conference, in September [GC(46)/RES/9], noting concerns about the potential for an accident during the transport of radioactive materials by sea, urged member States shipping those materials to assure concerned States that the Agency's regulations governing such transportation had been complied with, and called for continued efforts to examine and optimize measures relating to international maritime transport in that respect.

On 25 October [A/57/510], the First Committee rejected by a recorded vote of 59 to 35, with 56 abstentions, a draft text [A/C.1/57/L.14] on the "Effects of the use of depleted uranium in armaments", introduced by Iraq. The draft would have had the General Assembly recall its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons, of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, and request the Secretary-General to seek the views of States and relevant organizations on all aspects of the effects of the use of depleted uranium in armaments.

## Nuclear-weapon-free zones

### Africa

As at 31 December, 20 States had ratified the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) [YUN 1995, p. 203], which was opened for signature in 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 486]. China, France and the United Kingdom had ratified Protocols I and II thereto, and France had also ratified Protocol III. The Russian Federation and the United States had signed Protocols I and II. The Treaty had 55 signatories.

### Asia

#### Central Asia

In 2002, the five Central Asian States (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), at a UN-sponsored experts' meeting (Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 25-27 September) organized by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (see p. 549), reached agreement on the text of a treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia. Thereafter, those five States and the five nuclear-weapon States held informal consultations in New York, aimed at securing the latter's agreement on the treaty's protocol. While expressing support for the initiative to establish the zone, some nuclear-weapon States sought clarification on various aspects of the text.

**Communication.** In September [A/57/423-S/2002/1065], Kazakhstan transmitted the Almaty Act, signed by the heads of State or Government of member States of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 4 June), in which they expressed support for the establishment of zones free from nuclear weapons and other WMDs in the Middle East (see p. 514) and Central Asia.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/69** without vote [agenda item 66 (*w*)].

**Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia**

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 W of 20 November 2000 and its decisions 54/417 of 1 December 1999 and 56/412 of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and of the report of its Main Committee II concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

Emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions of the world and on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned,

Considering that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region will heighten the security of the States concerned and strengthen global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration on the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Central Asia, adopted by the leaders of the Central Asian States on 28 February 1997, the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations, held at Bishkek on 9 and 10 July 1998, with a view to elaborating acceptable ways and means of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the support of all States for the initiative to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. *Takes note* of the elaboration by experts of all five Central Asian States at the meeting held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 25 to 27 September 2002, of a draft treaty for the establishment of a

nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and protocol thereto;

3. *Invites* all five Central Asian States to continue consulting with the five nuclear-weapon States on the draft treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the protocol thereto, in conformity with the 1999 Disarmament Commission agreed guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones;

4. *Welcomes* the decision by all five Central Asian States to sign the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the five Central Asian States in their further work for the early establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament".

### Mongolia

In a report to the NPT Preparatory Committee in April (see p. 507), Mongolia described measures it had taken to institutionalize its nuclear-weapon-free status [NPT/CONF.2005/PC.I/2], including implementation of General Assembly resolutions 53/77 D [YUN 1998, p. 515] and 55/33 S [YUN 2000, p. 509].

**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 S, the Secretary-General, in July [A/57/159], reviewed new developments and UN assistance accorded to Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen its nuclear-weapon-free status. The Secretary-General observed that Mongolia had received wide international support and increased UN assistance in efforts to promote its international security and nuclear-weapon-free status. He hoped that the security assurances, which the five nuclear-weapon States gave Mongolia [YUN 2000, p. 509] as well as the document containing recommendations and elements of legally binding international instruments recognizing Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, adopted at an expert group meeting in Sapporo, Japan [YUN 2001, p. 489], would help consolidate and strengthen its status at the international level. The Secretary-General noted that two studies on economic and ecological vulnerability undertaken by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), designed to examine the non-nuclear aspects of international security and UN system development activities in Mongolia, would also help address the country's security.

**Communications.** In March [A/57/59], Mongolia transmitted the report of the 2001 expert

group meeting in Sapporo, which examined ways of strengthening its international security and nuclear-weapon-free status. The heads of State of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 7 June) [A/57/88-S/2002/672] expressed support for Mongolia's non-nuclear status.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/67** without vote [agenda item 66 (e)].

#### Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 S of 20 November 2000,

*Recalling also* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

*Proceeding* from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

*Convinced* that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia will contribute to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region as well as promote Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

*Taking note* of the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating its nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

*Bearing in mind* the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status as a contribution to implementing resolution 53/77 D as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

*Noting* that the joint statement has been transmitted to the Security Council by the five nuclear-weapon States,

*Mindful* that the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, at the Ministerial Meeting of its Coordinating Bureau, held at Durban, South Africa, on 29 April 2002, has welcomed and expressed its support for the policy of Mongolia to institutionalize its nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to the international efforts to strengthen the non-proliferation regime and enhance predictability in north-east Asia,

*Noting* other measures taken to implement resolution 55/33 S at the national and international levels,

*Welcoming* Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 S,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 S;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 55/33 S;

3. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 55/33 S, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;

5. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its economic security, its ecological balance and its nuclear-weapon-free status, as well as its independent foreign policy;

6. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia and Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 5 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

#### South-East Asia

States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty), which opened for signature in 1995 [YUN 1995, p. 207] and entered into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 495], continued to focus on setting up an institutional framework to implement the Treaty and on negotiations with the nuclear-weapon States regarding their accession to the Treaty's Protocol. With no new ratifications, the number of States that had ratified the Treaty remained at 10.

#### Latin America and the Caribbean

During the year, the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [YUN 1969, p. 13] became applicable to all countries in the region, as Cuba deposited its instruments of ratification to the Treaty and its amendments [A/57/575, A/57/596].

### Middle East

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/21 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East [YUN 2001, p. 491], the Secretary-General, in a July report with later addenda [A/57/214 & Add.1,2], presented information on the resolution's implementation. He stated that he had continued to consult with concerned parties within and outside the region to explore ways of promoting the establishment of the zone. Although no further progress was made, the Secretary-General stated that it was essential that efforts continued, with a view to creating the necessary conditions for a stable security environment in the region. The report included the views of Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Egypt, Fiji, Guatemala, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, Qatar and Tunisia.

In September, the IAEA General Conference, in a resolution on the Middle East [GC(46)/RES/16], called on all parties directly concerned to take steps required to implement the proposal for a mutually and effectively verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region. In that context, it affirmed the need for all regional States to accept the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities to enhance regional peace and security.

**Communication.** In September [A/57/417-S/2002/1042], Oman transmitted a communique adopted by the Foreign Ministers of member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2-3 September), urging the international community to take action to transform the Middle East region, including the Gulf, into a zone free of WMDs, including nuclear weapons.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First committee [A/57/507], adopted **resolution 57/55** without vote [agenda item 63].

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

##### *The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 3263(XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474(XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998,

54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000 and 56/21 of 29 November 2001 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

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

*Emphasizing* the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

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

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

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

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

*Welcoming* all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Recognizing* the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 56/21,

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

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(46)/RES/16, adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-sixth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with 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;

6. *Also invites* 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;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may 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;

10. *Requests* 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 of 10 October 1990 or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

### South Pacific

In 2002, the number of States that had ratified the 1985 South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) [YUN 1985, p. 58] remained at 17. China and the Russian Federation had ratified Protocols 2 and 3, and France and the United Kingdom had ratified all three Protocols.

Under Protocol 1, the States internationally responsible for territories situated within the zone would undertake to apply the relevant prohibitions of the Treaty to those territories; under Protocol 2, the five nuclear-weapon States would provide security assurances to parties or territories within the same zone; and under Protocol 3, the five would not carry out nuclear tests in the zone.

### Southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/73** (as orally amended) by recorded vote (160-3-5) [agenda item 66 (d)].

#### Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 G of 29 November 2001,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",

*Welcoming also* the ratification by Cuba of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which fulfils the establishment of the first inhabited nuclear-weapon-free zone, encompassing all States of Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Welcoming further* the ratification by the Kingdom of Tonga of the Treaty of Rarotonga, in December 2001, which completes the list of original parties to the South Pacific nuclear-free-zone treaty,

*Welcoming* the endorsement from heads of State and Government at the thirty-third Pacific Islands Forum, held in Suva from 15 to 17 August 2002, for a nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere,

*Welcoming also* the meeting between the Secretary General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and representatives of the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat, held in New York in April 2002, aimed at identifying areas for further cooperation,

*Determined* to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Determined also* to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Stressing* the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic

Treaty, to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

*Underlining* the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties.

*Recalling* the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty and the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls* for the ratification of the treaties of Rarotonga and Pelindaba by all States of the region, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. *Affirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. *Welcomes* the vigorous efforts being made among States parties and signatories to those treaties to promote their common objectives, and considers that an international conference of States parties and signatories to the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties might be held to support the common goals envisaged in those treaties;

7. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/73:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Den-

mark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* France, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* India, Israel, Micronesia, Russian Federation, Spain.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 3 and its last three words, "and South Asia", by recorded votes of 145 to 1, with 8 abstentions, and 141 to 2, with 8 abstentions, respectively. The Assembly also retained the paragraph and the last three words by recorded votes of 156 to 1, with 8 abstentions, and 151 to 2, with 8 abstentions, respectively.

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## Bacteriological (biological) and chemical weapons

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### Bacteriological (biological) weapons

In 2002, the threat of bioterrorism continued to raise international concern. During the year, the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC), adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2826(XXVI) [YUN 1971, p. 19], concluded successfully their Fifth Review Conference and established a new approach for combating the deliberate use of disease as a weapon (see below).

### Fifth Review Conference

The Fifth Review Conference of the States parties to BWC, which had adjourned in 2001 owing to divergent views on key issues regarding several of the Convention's articles [YUN 2001, p. 49] and reconvened in Geneva from 11 to 22 November 2002 [BWC/CONF.V/17], continued to review the Convention's operation and its provisions. Previous review conferences were held in 1980 [YUN 1980, p. 70], 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 64], 1991 [YUN 1991, p. 52] and 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 477].

On 14 November, the Conference adopted by consensus a Final Document [BWC/CONF.V/17]

containing decisions and recommendations to hold three annual meetings of States parties of one-week duration as from 2003 until the Sixth Review Conference, to be held not later than the end of 2006, to discuss and promote: the adoption of national measures to implement the Convention's prohibitions, including the enactment of penal legislation; national mechanisms to establish and maintain security and oversight of pathogenic micro-organisms and toxins; enhancing international action regarding the effects of alleged use of biological or toxin weapons or suspicious outbreaks of disease; strengthening efforts for the surveillance, detection, diagnosis and combating of infectious diseases affecting humans, animals and plants; and promulgating and adopting codes of conduct for scientists. Specific topics among those issues would be considered at annual States parties' meetings between 2003 and 2005, preceded by preparatory experts' meetings; States parties and all meetings of experts would reach conclusions or results by consensus, which would be considered by the Sixth Review Conference, to be held in Geneva and preceded by a preparatory committee. Annexed to the Final Document was a report on the work of the 2001 session of the Conference.

While Australia, on behalf of Western European States [BWC/CONF.V/16], welcomed the Final Document as a framework that would enable States parties to work together to strengthen the Convention's implementation, South Africa, on behalf of members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and other States [BWC/CONF.V/15], expressed disappointment with the limited nature of the decision, noting that States parties had forgone the opportunity to strengthen the Convention and that the language of the decision had many ambiguities that needed clarification.

The General Assembly, by **decision 57/516** of 22 November, requested the Secretary-General to continue to assist the depositary Governments, to provide such services as might be required for the implementations of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention [YUN 1994, p. 138]. The Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth (2003) session the item on BWC.

### 1925 Geneva Protocol

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/33 J [YUN 2000, p. 515], the Secretary-General reported in June [A/57/96] that France, as the depositary of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the

Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (the 1925 Geneva Protocol), had received no notifications of new withdrawals of reservations by States parties since the resolution's adoption.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/62** by recorded vote (164-0-3) [agenda item 66 (d)].

#### Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 55/33 J of 20 November 2000,

*Determined* to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling* the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

*Emphasizing* the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

*Welcoming* the initiatives by some States parties to withdraw their reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;
2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;
3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/62:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Par-

aguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Israel, Micronesia, United States.

## Chemical weapons

### Chemical weapons convention

In 2002, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa and Thailand ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, bringing the number of States parties to 148. The number of signatories stood at 165. The Convention was adopted by the Conference on Disarmament in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 65] and entered into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 499].

The first special session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention (The Hague, Netherlands, 21-24 April) [C-SS-1/5], in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference, terminated the tenure of the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) technical secretariat. On 25 July, the States parties, on the recommendation of the OPCW Executive Council, appointed by acclamation a new Director-General for a four-year term of office.

The seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties (The Hague, 7-11 October) [C-7/5] considered, among other issues, the status of the Convention's implementation, fostering international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the area of chemical activities, ensuring the Convention's universality, and administrative and budgetary matters. The Conference adopted decisions on the extension of deadlines for destruction of category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles; requests for conversion of chemical weapons production facilities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention; and guidelines regarding declarations of aggregate national data for schedule 2 chemical production, processing, consumption, import and export, and schedule 3 import and export. Other decisions related to the list and technical specifications of approved equipment, and financial, budgetary and oversight matters, including the OPCW programme and budget for 2003. The Conference urged the OPCW Executive Council to report on outstanding issues remaining under its consideration as soon as appropriate recommendations

were formulated. It decided to hold its 2003 regular session in October and agreed on the dates for subsequent yearly sessions up to 2010. The first review conference of the Convention was scheduled to take place in April/May 2003 in The Hague (see p. 519 for OPCW preparations). The second review conference was slated for April 2008.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/82** (as orally amended) without vote [agenda item 66 (o)].

#### **Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 56/24 K of 29 November 2001, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,

*Determined* to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* that since the adoption of resolution 56/24 K, four additional States have ratified the Convention or acceded to it, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and forty-seven,

1. *Emphasizes* the necessity of universal adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

4. *Also stresses* the vital importance of full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Convention;

5. *Urges* 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;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons

production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

### Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

In 2002, OPCW continued efforts to eliminate chemical weapons, particularly regarding accelerating their destruction. Since the Convention's entry into force in 1997 until 31 December 2002, almost 75,000 inspector days had been devoted to verifying compliance on the territory of 51 States parties; a total of 1,327 inspections were conducted, of which 825 were at chemical weapons-related facilities and a further 502 were at industrial sites; States parties had destroyed about 7,140 metric tonnes of chemical agents, including more than 10 per cent of the total declared global stockpile under OPCW verification; and over 1,896,000 of some 8,624,000 declared munitions and containers, accounting for more than 20 per cent of the total global stockpile, had been destroyed.

During the year, preparations for the first review conference of the Convention were a major focus of the intersessional work of the OPCW Executive Council, which had established a working group to direct related activities, including consideration of substantive issues to be discussed at the conference. The review conference, scheduled to take place in April/May 2003, would evaluate the Convention's implementation and role in the current security environment, the impact on the Convention of scientific and technological developments, and the verification regime for the chemical industry, which would involve a re-examination of the verification provisions applicable to facilities producing discrete organic chemicals.

The OPCW Executive Council addressed a wide range of issues at its twenty-eighth (19-22 March), twenty-ninth (25-28 June), thirtieth (10-13 September) and thirty-first (10-13 December) sessions. Among other matters, it discussed issues relating to the destruction and verification of chemical weapons production facilities, conversion of chemical weapons production facilities

to peaceful purposes and guidelines for declarations of aggregate national data for the production, consumption, import and export of schedule 2 and 3 chemicals, which would contribute to the consistent application of the Convention's provisions in States parties. In September, the Council reviewed the Director-General's report on national implementation measures and expressed concern that only 47 per cent of States parties had fulfilled their obligation under the Convention to inform the Organization of their implementing measures. Those that had not done so were urged to fulfil that obligation. During the year, the Council also addressed administrative and budgetary matters, as well as issues relating to staff tenure.

### Cooperation between the United Nations and OPCW

By an October note [A/57/576], the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly the 2001 report of OPCW, in accordance with the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and OPCW, which was signed in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 516] and entered into force in 2001 [YUN 2001, p. 495].

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 21 November [meeting 56], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 57/45** [draft: A/57/L.31 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 22 (k)].

### Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/42 of 7 December 2001 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

*Having received* the annual report for 2001 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,

1. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2001 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted by its Director-General on its behalf;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons".

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## Conventional weapons

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In 2002, Member States, UN bodies, regional and subregional organizations and civil society undertook wide-ranging activities towards the

implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects [YUN 2001, p. 499]. However, despite those efforts, problems arising from the illicit trade in those weapons persisted.

The President of the Security Council, in a statement on behalf of Council members (see p. 521), stressed the importance of further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eliminating the small arms scourge. The General Assembly, in **resolutions 57/70** and **57/72** (see pp. 522 and 523), respectively, called on the international community to support civil society organizations in combating the illicit trade in small arms and decided to convene in 2003 the first of the biennial meetings of States called for in the Programme of Action to consider the implementation of the Programme at the national, regional and global levels. A group of governmental experts established by the Secretary-General began studying the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit weapons (see below).

The international community also made progress in efforts to prohibit or restrict the use of other dangerous conventional weapons. The meeting of States parties to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its three annexed Protocols [YUN 1980, p. 76] decided to mandate its subsidiary body to begin negotiations in 2003 on a legally binding instrument to reduce the risks of explosive remnants of war (see p. 525). Efforts continued to strengthen the two legal instruments addressing anti-personnel landmines, within the framework of annual meetings of States parties to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction [YUN 1997, p. 503] and of States parties to Amended Protocol II to the 1980 Convention.

During the year, the two UN instruments on transparency in armaments—the Register of Conventional Arms and the standardized instrument for reporting of military expenditures—witnessed a major increase in the number of reporting States, which enhanced transparency and confidence among Member States, although differences persisted on some key issues, particularly regarding the scope of the Register. To further enhance transparency in armaments, the Assembly adopted **resolution 57/66** (see p. 529) inviting Member States to enact legislation and related measures to control the transfer of arms,

military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, and to inform the Secretary-General voluntarily of their action in that regard.

### **Programme of Action on illicit trade in small arms**

**Expert meeting.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 V [YUN 2001, p. 503], the Secretary-General appointed the Group of Governmental Experts on Tracing Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, which met to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit small arms and light weapons. At its first session (Geneva, 1-5 July) [A/58/138], the Group considered the views of Member States, NGOs and civil society representatives, relevant UN documents, national legislation and reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects adopted in 2001 by the United Nations Conference on the topic [YUN 2001, p. 499]. The Group examined the definition of small arms and light weapons contained in the 1997 report of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms [YUN 1997, p. 506]. It agreed that the issue of tracing comprised three key elements—marking, record-keeping and cooperation—with different legal, technical, political and institutional dimensions. It planned to hold two sessions in 2003, with a view to making recommendations to the Assembly.

**Reports of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 V, the Secretary-General, in a July report [A/57/160], described action taken by the United Nations and Member States to implement the Programme of Action during the period from June 2001 to June 2002. He concluded that response to the Programme by States and international and regional organizations was encouraging, particularly in areas most affected by small arms proliferation. New partnerships were developed and existing ones consolidated between States and civil society organs. The United Nations remained in the forefront of international efforts to deal with the problem through the activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) and its Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism. The Secretary-General called for enhanced coordination and cooperation, and capacities to respond to the global threat. Annexed to the report were the views of States on an international instrument to identify and trace small arms and light weapons; data provided by States on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

and national points of contact for implementing the Programme.

In response to Assembly resolution 56/24 U [YUN 2001, p. 502], the Secretary-General, in July [A/57/209], summarized UN initiatives and national, subregional and regional efforts to assist African States to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and to collect them. The Secretary-General described the activities undertaken to assist Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Togo, countries of the Great Lakes region and the West African subregion through the creation of a subregional civil society network in Accra, Ghana. He observed that, while it was true that the primary responsibility for addressing the threat posed by small arms and light weapons rested with affected States, technical and financial assistance from the international community was important in order to strengthen further the ability of those States to tackle the problem.

In response to presidential statement S/PRST/2001/21 [YUN 2001, p. 500], the Secretary-General, in a September report [S/2002/1053], described ways in which the Security Council could contribute to dealing with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in situations under its consideration. The report reflected on the Council's recent initiatives on the issue, identified areas where further action was required and underscored that preventing, combating and eliminating the uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons constituted one of the Council's key tasks in discharging its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Taking into account the views of Member States, the Secretary-General made recommendations on the implementation of the Programme of Action, particularly regarding the need for an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace small arms and light weapons (see p. 520), for a small arms advisory service and for enhanced conflict prevention and peace-building strategies. Other recommendations emphasized the enforcement of Council action on sanctions, including arms embargoes; the need to address the link between the small arms scourge and illicit exploitation of resources and the trade in illegal drugs; the importance of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants in post-conflict situations; control of the export and transit of small arms and light weapons; and transparency in armaments and related confidence-building measures.

**Communications.** A follow-up meeting (Tokyo, Japan, 23-25 January) [A/56/810-S/2002/145] to the UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499] was convened to sustain the momentum created by the Conference, assess its outcome and

consider ways to implement the Programme of Action. On 10 October [S/2002/1172], Colombia transmitted the text of a non-paper it had prepared on the question of small arms and light weapons, in accordance with agreement reached during informal Council consultations. The paper contained guidelines and suggestions intended to facilitate the Council's discussion of the Secretary-General's September report on the subject (see above).

#### SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 31 October [meeting 4639], the Security Council President made statement **S/PRST/2002/30** on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council reaffirms the statement of its President of 24 September 1999 (S/PRST/1999/28), its resolution 1209(1998) of 19 November 1998 and the statement of its President of 31 August 2001 (S/PRST/2001/21), takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Small arms" of 20 September 2002, and welcomes all initiatives taken by Member States following the adoption of the Programme of Action by the July 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. The Council expresses grave concern at the harmful impact of small arms and light weapons on civilians in situations of armed conflict, particularly on vulnerable groups such as women and children, and recalls in this regard its resolutions 1296(2000) of 19 April 2000, 1314(2000) of 11 August 2000 and 1379(2001) of 20 November 2001, and the statement of its President of 7 May 2002 (S/PRST/2002/12).

The Council encourages all Member States to continue to take all measures to fully implement at the national, regional and international levels the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action. The Council recognizes its responsibility to examine ways and means in which it can further contribute to dealing with the question of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in situations under its consideration.

The Council reaffirms the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and, subject to the Charter, the right of each State to import, produce and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs. Bearing in mind the considerable volume of licit trade in small arms and light weapons, the Council encourages States to adopt legislative and other measures to ensure effective control over the export, import, transit, stocking and storage of small arms and light weapons. The Council urges Member States to consistently and responsibly use end-user certificates in their transfers of small arms and light weapons and calls on States to establish an effective national end-user certificate system and to study the feasibility as appropriate of developing an end-user certificate system at the regional and global levels, as well as an information exchange and verification mechanism.

Arms-exporting countries are encouraged to exercise the highest degree of responsibility in small

arms and light weapons transactions. All States have the responsibility of preventing the illegal diversion and re-export of small arms and light weapons. The Council welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts with a mandate to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons. The Council encourages international cooperation in the consideration of the origin and transfers of small arms and light weapons.

The Council stresses the importance of further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, and calls upon States that have not already done so to establish, where applicable, a national register of arms brokers and, in the case of supply of arms to embargoed destinations, of intermediary firms, including transport agents. The Council urges States to impose appropriate penalties for all illicit brokering activities, as well as arms transfers that violate Security Council embargoes, and to take appropriate enforcement action.

The Council stresses the need for cooperation and sharing of information among the Member States, among the different Sanctions Committees, and among the panels of experts and the monitoring mechanism on arms traffickers that have violated arms embargoes established by the Council. The Council welcomes the identification in cooperation with the States concerned of those arms traffickers who have violated the arms embargoes. The Council calls upon Member States to impose appropriate penalties on those arms traffickers who have violated its arms embargoes. In this connection, the Council calls on Member States to provide technical and financial support to Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System.

The Council recognizes the important role that the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism can play in assisting Member States with the implementation of the Programme of Action. In this regard, the Council notes the proposal of the Secretariat to create a Small Arms Advisory Service.

The Council recognizes the important role of arms embargoes as targeted measures and their contribution to an overall strategy for preventive diplomacy particularly with respect to illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. In this regard, the Council underlines the importance of pursuing more vigorously and expeditiously the application of arms embargoes in countries or regions threatened by, engaged in or emerging from armed conflict and to promote their effective implementation. The Council shall also consider taking measures to restrict the supply of ammunition to such regions.

The Council recognizes that the primary responsibility for the implementation of sanctions measures rests with States. At the same time, the Council underlines the importance of establishing on a case-by-case basis specific monitoring mechanisms or similar arrangements as appropriate to oversee the strict implementation of arms embargoes decided by

the Council. The Council may wish to study ways to strengthen such mechanisms with a view towards better coordinating their work. The Council should consider innovative strategies to address the close interrelationship between the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and, among others, drug trafficking, terrorism, organized crime and the illicit exploitation of natural and other resources. In this regard the Council calls on Member States to make available all relevant information concerning such activities.

The Council reiterates its call for the effective implementation of arms embargoes imposed by the Council in its relevant resolutions, and encourages Member States to provide the Sanctions Committees with available information on alleged violations of arms embargoes. The Council also calls on Member States to give due consideration to the recommendations of the report of the Monitoring Group established pursuant to resolution 1390(2002); the report of the Monitoring Mechanism on Angola Sanctions; the report of the Panel of Experts on Sierra Leone Diamonds and Arms; and the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia.

The Council also stresses the need to engage the relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations, business and financial institutions and other actors at the international, regional and local levels to contribute to the implementation of arms embargoes.

Arms embargoes help to reduce arms flows to the targeted regions and groups but do not address weapons already existing in conflict areas. The Council therefore reiterates the importance of carrying out disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes as comprehensively and effectively as possible in post-conflict situations under its consideration.

The Council requests the Secretary-General to report, no later than December 2003, on the implementation of all the recommendations contained in his report.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/70** without vote [agenda item 66 (u)].

#### **Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them**

*The General Assembly,*

*Considering* that the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms impede development, constitute a threat to populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

*Deeply disturbed* by the magnitude of the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms in the States of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion,

*Noting with satisfaction* the conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions dispatched by the Secretary-General to the affected countries of the subregion to study the most appropriate way of halting the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting them,

*Welcoming* the designation of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat as a centre for the coordination of all activities of United Nations bodies concerned with small arms,

*Thanking* the Secretary-General for his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, and bearing in mind the statement on small arms made by the President of the Security Council on 24 September 1999,

*Welcoming* the recommendations resulting from the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers, Bamako, Yamoussoukro and Niamey to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

*Welcoming also* the decision taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the renewal of the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted at Abuja on 31 October 1998,

*Recalling* the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,

*Emphasizing* the need to advance efforts towards wider cooperation and better coordination in the struggle against the illicit proliferation of small arms through the common understanding reached at the meeting on small arms held at Oslo on 13 and 14 July 1998 and the Brussels Call for Action adopted by the International Conference on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development, held at Brussels on 12 and 13 October 1998,

*Bearing in mind* the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,

*Recalling* the millennium report of the Secretary-General,

*Welcoming* the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and calling for its expeditious implementation,

*Recognizing* the important role that the organizations of civil society play in detection, prevention and raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, held in Abuja on 8 and 9 May 2000, and encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions, aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

2. *Encourages* the establishment in the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to lend its

support wherever possible to ensure the smooth functioning of the commissions;

3. *Welcomes* the decision to renew 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 in Abuja on 31 October 1998, and encourages the international community to support the implementation of the moratorium;

4. *Encourages* the involvement of organizations and associations of civil society in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and their participation in the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa as well as in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;

5. *Encourages also* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in combating the illicit traffic in small arms and supporting operations to collect the said arms in the subregions;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil organizations to take action to combat the illicit trade in small arms;

7. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, on the modalities for the implementation of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, and welcomes the adoption by the meeting of a plan of action;

8. *Takes note also* of the conclusions of the African Conference on the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms: Needs and Partnerships, held in Pretoria, South Africa, from 18 to 21 March 2002;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General, and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to it at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them".

On the same date [meeting 57], the Assembly, also on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/72** without vote [agenda item 66 (v)].

#### **The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects**

*The General Assembly,*  
*Reaffirming* its resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 B of 12 December 1995, 52/38 J of 9 December 1997, 53/77 E and 53/77 T of 4 December 1998, 54/54 R of 1 December

1999, 54/54 V of 15 December 1999 and 55/33 Q of 20 November 2000,

*Emphasizing* the importance of early and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,

1. *Decides* to convene in New York in July 2003 the first of the biennial meetings of States, as stipulated in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the Group of Governmental Experts established to assist the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons, and requests him to submit the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Encourages* all initiatives to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in its implementation;

4. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, taking into consideration the views of States, provided to the Secretary-General, on further steps that could be taken;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on the implementation by those States of the Programme of Action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

(For regional initiatives regarding implementation of the Programme of Action, see pp. 531-538.)

### **Convention on excessively injurious conventional weapons and Protocols**

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/28 [YUN 2001, p. 504], the Secretary-General reported on the status, as at 31 May [A/57/181], of the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its three annexed Protocols [YUN 1980, p. 76] on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I); on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II) [YUN 1996, p. 484]; and on Prohi-

bitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III); as well as the 1995 Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV) [YUN 1995, p. 221], which took effect on 30 July 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 530].

The accession of Albania and the ratification by Morocco brought the number of States parties to the Convention to 90 as at 31 December.

The Group of Governmental Experts established by the Second Review Conference [YUN 2001, p. 504] of States Parties to the Convention to consider the issues of explosive remnants of war, mines other than anti-personnel mines, small calibre weapons and ammunition, and promotion of compliance with the Convention and its annexed Protocols, held its first (21-24 May) [CCW/GGE/I/2], second (15-26 July) [CCW/GGE/II/1] and third (2-10 December) [CCW/GGE/III/1] sessions, all in Geneva. The Group addressed issues relating to the weapons under consideration, and considered working papers and presentations from delegations, international organizations and other experts. On 10 December, the Group endorsed its working group's recommendations and agreed that the intersessional work for five weeks would be undertaken in three sessions during 2003, on dates to be decided by the meeting of States parties (see p. 525), in conjunction with the Fifth (2003) Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II.

In accordance with the decision of the Third Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II [YUN 2001, p. 503], the Fourth Annual Conference was held in Geneva on 11 December [CCW/AP.II/CONF.4/3 (Part 1)]. The Conference reviewed the operation and status of Amended Protocol II and examined national reports received from 42 States parties, which contained information on dissemination of information on the Protocol to armed forces and civilians; mine-clearance and rehabilitation programmes; steps taken to meet technical requirements of the Protocol and any other relevant information pertaining thereto; legislation related to the Protocol; measures taken regarding international technical information exchange, international cooperation on mine clearance, and technical cooperation and assistance; the United Nations database on mine clearance; and other relevant matters. The Conference adopted a final document containing conclusions and recommendations, and an appeal to States that had not done so to accede to Amended Protocol II as soon as possible. It recommended that the Secretary-General, as depositary, and the President of the Conference, exercise their authority to achieve the goal of universality of the Protocol and called on States parties to promote wider adherence.

As decided by the Second Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention [YUN 2001, p. 504], the States parties met (Geneva, 12-13 December) [CCW/MSP/2002/2] to consider the report of the Group of Governmental Experts (see p. 524). On 13 December, the meeting decided that the Group would continue its work in 2003, with a mandate to negotiate an instrument on post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature that would reduce the risks of explosive remnants of war, and also continue to explore the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines and how best to reduce the risks posed by their use, including the possibility of concluding a negotiating mandate for another new instrument and other measures. Regarding small-calibre weapons and ammunition, the meeting invited interested States parties to continue informal meetings at expert level to further develop identified subject areas. Other decisions addressed further consultations on possible options to promote compliance with the Convention and follow-up work, to be overseen by the Chairman-designate at a meeting of the States parties in November 2003, to be held in conjunction with the Fifth Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II. The intersessional work of the Group of Governmental Experts was scheduled to take place in March, June and November 2003.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/514], adopted **resolution 57/98** without vote [agenda item 70].

#### **Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/28 of 29 November 2001 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

*Recalling with satisfaction* the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I), the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II) and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III), which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

*Also recalling with satisfaction* the adoption by the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate

Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV), and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), which entered into force on 30 July 1998 and 3 December 1998 respectively,

*Welcoming* the results of the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and commending the efforts of the President of the Conference,

*Recalling with satisfaction* the decision by the Second Review Conference, on 21 December 2001, to extend the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character,

*Recalling* the decision by the Second Review Conference to commission follow-up work under the oversight of the Chairman-designate of a meeting of States parties to the Convention to be held on 12 and 13 December 2002 at Geneva in conjunction with the Fourth Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, and in this context the decision to establish an open-ended group of governmental experts with two separate coordinators on explosive remnants of war and on mines other than anti-personnel mines,

*Welcoming* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention and to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV, as well as accessions to the amendment of article I of the Convention, adopted in 2001,

*Recalling* the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

*Noting* that the rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

*Welcoming* the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

*Welcoming also* the results of the Third Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva on 10 December 2001,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and the Protocols thereto, as amended, as well as the amendment of article I extending the scope of the Convention, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to notify the depositary at an

early date of their consent to be bound by the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

4. *Notes* the mandate of the Second Review Conference for the establishment of a group of governmental experts with two separate coordinators to discuss ways and means to address the issue of explosive remnants of war and to explore further the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines, respectively;

5. *Also notes* the decision by the Second Review Conference that the Chairman-designate shall undertake consultations on possible options to promote compliance with the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto, as well as the decision to invite interested States parties to convene experts to discuss issues related to small-calibre weapons and ammunition;

6. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts, and encourages the Chairman-designate and the Group to conduct work expeditiously with a view to submitting recommendations on explosive remnants of war to States parties for consideration at the earliest possible date, including on whether to proceed with negotiating a legally binding instrument or instruments on explosive remnants of war and/or other approaches, and with a view to submitting to the States parties reports on mines other than anti-personnel mines and on compliance;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to be held on 12 and 13 December 2002, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meeting, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

### Practical disarmament

The group of interested States, established in 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 531] to examine and support concrete projects of practical disarmament, met five times during the year to discuss practical disarmament measures in Kenya, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka. The group, which had provided financial assistance for UN fact-finding and assessment missions to Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka during the year, considered the establishment of an electronic database on bilateral and multilateral practical disarmament projects and an initiative on peace and disarmament education undertaken by DDA, in collaboration with the Hague Appeal for Peace, an NGO.

**Disarmament Commission action.** In 2002 [A/57/42], the Disarmament Commission was not able to consider the substantive issues on its agenda, including the item on practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, owing to its decision to suspend its deliberations until 2003 (see p. 488). However, the chairperson of the working group charged to deliberate on the issue was asked to continue intersessional consultations based on previous discussions.

**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 P [YUN 2001, p. 506], the Secretary-General, in July [A/57/210], presented an overview of the activities of States, the group of interested States, and regional and subregional organizations regarding practical disarmament measures during the period from July 2001 to July 2002. He concluded that the Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects [YUN 2001, p. 499] was receiving a positive response with regard to its provisions addressing the promotion of practical disarmament measures at the national, sub-regional, regional and international levels.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/81** without vote [agenda item 66 (q)].

#### Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998, 54/54 H of 1 December 1999, 55/33 G of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 P of 29 November 2001,

*Convinced* that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peace-building, namely the rehabilitation and social and economic development in areas that have suffered from conflict; such measures are, inter alia, collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with re-

gard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

*Stressing* that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas as part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures so as to complement, on a case-by-case basis, peacekeeping and peace-building efforts,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on prevention of armed conflict, which, inter alia, refers to the role which the proliferation and illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons play in the context of the build-up and sustaining of conflicts and proposes certain measures relating to those weapons that can help to prevent such conflicts,

*Taking note* of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 August 2001 underlining the importance of practical disarmament measures in the context of armed conflicts, and, with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, emphasizing the importance of measures to be taken to contain the security risks stemming from the use of illicit small arms and light weapons,

*Also taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, and in particular the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

*Taking into account* the deliberations at the 2001 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission in Working Group II on agenda item 5, entitled "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms", and encouraging the Disarmament Commission to continue its efforts aimed at the identification of such measures,

*Welcoming* the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, which should be implemented expeditiously,

1. *Stresses*, in the context of the present resolution, the particular relevance 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", adopted by the Disarmament Commission by consensus at its 1999 substantive session;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 51/45 N, and once again encourages Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained therein;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invites the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects, as well as to promote new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves;

4. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

5. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for his report on the implementation of resolution 56/24 P, taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of practical disarmament measures, taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

## Transparency

**Conference on Disarmament.** In 2002, the Conference on Disarmament [A/57/27] considered the possibility of appointing a special coordinator to seek the views of its members on the most appropriate way to deal with the question of transparency in armaments, within the context of seeking agreement on its programme of work. Owing to persisting difficulties in achieving consensus on the work programme (see p. 489), the Conference was not able to establish or re-establish any mechanism to deal with transparency in armaments, causing the item to be addressed at plenary meetings, during which delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the issue.

## UN Register of Conventional Arms

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/24 Q [YUN 2001, p. 507], the Secretary-General submitted the tenth annual report on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms [A/57/221 & Corr.1 & Add.1,2], established in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 75] to promote enhanced levels of transparency on arms transfers.

The report presented information provided by 124 Governments on imports and exports during 2001 in the seven categories of conventional arms (battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large-calibre artillery systems, attack helicopters, combat aircraft, warships, and missiles and missile launchers). Governments also provided information on procurement from national production and military holdings. The report indicated a

further increase in the number of submissions compared with the previous year.

In response to the Assembly's request in resolution 55/33 U [YUN 2000, p. 524] that the Secretary-General implement the recommendations contained in the 2000 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the continuing operation and further development of the Register, the report outlined regional activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the year, through DDA, in collaboration with Governments and regional organizations to enhance familiarity with and greater participation in the Register.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/75** by recorded vote (143-0-23) [agenda item 66 (r)].

#### Transparency in armaments

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999, 55/33 U of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001 entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register, which includes the returns of Member States for 2001,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Calls 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 Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the

Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto;

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, 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 or models;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end:

(a) Recalls 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;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2003, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to a decision at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000 report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/75:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Repub-

lic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Bahrain, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

The First Committee adopted paragraphs 4 (b) and 6 by separate recorded votes of 134 to 2, with 17 abstentions, and 134 to none, with 20 abstentions, respectively. The Assembly retained the paragraphs by 140 to 2, with 20 abstentions, and 139 to none, with 23 abstentions, respectively.

Also on 22 November [meeting 57], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/66** by recorded vote (166-0) [agenda item 66].

#### **National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security and that effective national control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology is an important tool in achieving these objectives,

*Recalling* that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken, inter alia, both to control transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities and to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

*Considering* that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

*Convinced* that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

*Reaffirming* the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make this information accessible for Member States;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology".

#### **RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/66:**

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

The First Committee adopted the second preambular paragraph by a separate recorded vote of 117 to none, with 31 abstentions; the Assembly adopted it by a recorded vote of 131 to none, with 27 abstentions.

#### **Transparency of military expenditures**

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/14 [YUN 2001, p. 508], the Secretary-General, in a July report with later addendum [A/57/263 & Add.1], presented information received from 81 Member States on military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data were available. The reporting instrument was that recommended by the Assembly in resolution 35/142 B [YUN 1980, p. 88].

The report noted that DDA, in cooperation with Canada, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands, organized subregional workshops on transparency in armaments devoted to the Register of Conventional Arms and the standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures. It participated in a meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security of the Organization of American States (Washington, D.C., 26 April), which discussed the instrument for reporting military expenditures.

The Assembly, in **decision 57/514** of 22 November, took note of the First Committee report [A/57/501] on the reduction of military budgets.

#### **Anti-personnel mines**

##### **1997 Convention**

The number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,

Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mine-Ban Convention), which was adopted in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 503] and entered into force in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 498], totalled 130 as at 31 December 2002. During the year, eight States ratified or acceded to the Convention.

The Fourth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention (Geneva, 16-20 September) [APLC/MSP.4/2002/1], convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 M [YUN 2001, p. 510], reviewed the Convention's general status and operation. It noted that 88 States parties no longer possessed stockpiled anti-personnel mines and 22 others were in the process of destroying their stockpiles. Over the past year, considerable areas of mined land had been cleared, casualty rates had fallen, victim assistance had improved and cooperation to deal with the problem continued. Nonetheless, States parties acknowledged that challenges remained in achieving the Convention's humanitarian aims and expressed the will to address related issues. The States parties reviewed and endorsed the work of the Standing Committees (Geneva, 28 January-1 February and 27-31 May), as annexed to the Meeting's report. It welcomed the President's Action Programme, which was also annexed to the report, as a practical means of facilitating the Convention's implementation, in accordance with the Committees' recommendations. The Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies was renamed the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies.

On the basis of the President's paper, which addressed the preparatory process for the Convention's first review conference, the Meeting mandated the President to facilitate consultations in that regard. The Meeting adopted a Declaration, in which States parties reaffirmed their commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing their inhumane effects, and called on all Governments to tackle the challenges of mine action. It stressed that the four-year deadline for destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines was less than one year away for States that became parties in 1999, and that States parties were committed to destroying all such mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction as soon as possible, but no later than 10 years after the Convention's entry into force. The Meeting encouraged continuing national, regional and international initiatives to fulfil those obligations.

The Fifth Meeting of the States Parties was scheduled for September 2003 in Bangkok, Thailand.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/74** by recorded vote (143-0-23) [agenda item 66 (p)].

#### **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,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 M of 29 November 2001,

*Reaffirming* its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

*Believing it necessary* to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

*Wishing* to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

*Welcoming* the entry into force, on 1 March 1999, of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, and noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global landmine problem,

*Recalling* the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,

*Recalling also* the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, and the Declaration of the Second Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment to implement completely and fully all provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling further* the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Managua from 18 to 21 September 2001, and the Declaration of the Third Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the unwavering commitment both to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the insidious and inhumane effects of those weapons,

*Recalling* the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 16 to 20 September 2002, and the Declaration of the Fourth Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment of the States parties to intensify further their efforts in those areas most directly related to the core humanitarian objectives of the Convention,

*Noting with satisfaction* that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and twenty-nine,

*Emphasizing* the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

*Noting with regret* that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews 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 risk education programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

7. *Invites and encourages* 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 intersessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and further developed at the Second, Third and Fourth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention at Bangkok from 15 to 19 September 2003, and, on behalf of States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/74:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Den-

mark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Micronesia, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, United States, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam.

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## Regional and other approaches to disarmament

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**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 I [YUN 2001, p. 514], the Secretary-General, in June [A/57/117], presented the views of five States (Bulgaria, El Salvador, Lebanon, Poland, Qatar) regarding conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels.

### Africa

In 2002, African countries, in collaboration with members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), organized a conference (Pretoria, South Africa, 18-21 March) on the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499], which focused on subregional assessments of short- and long-term needs and requirements to implement the Programme in Africa, and on developing related guidelines that would encourage sustainable partnerships involving Governments and civil society. Participants examined how national, subregional and international implementation processes could be supported by OECD and African countries, including civil society.

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) Council of Ministers, at its seventy-sixth ordinary session (Durban, South Africa, 28 June-6 July), and the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, at its thirty-eighth ordinary session (Durban, 8 July), addressed the various armed conflicts threatening peace and security in the region and stressed the need to implement disarm-

ament programmes and instruments, including the chemical weapons Convention (see p. 518).

At the subregional level, the United Nations established the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa, in an effort to strengthen cooperation with African regional and subregional organizations in the field of peacemaking and peace-building and to support the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in promoting peace and stability, including addressing the related issue of small arms in the subregion. ECOWAS continued to coordinate and promote the implementation of its Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted in 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 537]. With support from the Mali-based Programme for Coordination and Assistance on Security and Development (PCASED), which served as the implementation mechanism of the Moratorium, ECOWAS States took steps to ensure that weapons did not cross their borders, to curtail demand for them and to regulate their possession and transfer. In Sierra Leone and Mali, PCASED helped organize arms destruction programmes.

At the First Ministerial Review Conference (Nairobi, Kenya, 7-8 August) of the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa [YUN 2000, p. 518], Ministers for Foreign Affairs of countries in the two subregions issued a Ministerial Declaration for continued concerted action, reaffirming support for the 2001 Programme of Action and other related initiatives, and pledging to improve regional and national capacity to tackle the small arms scourge.

Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) (Luanda, Angola, 1-3 October) made efforts to promote early ratification by its member States of the 2001 SADC Protocol on Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials [YUN 2001, p. 511].

### Standing Advisory Committee

In response to General Assembly resolution 56/25 A [YUN 2001, p. 511], the Secretary-General, in July [A/57/161], described the activities of the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa. At its seventeenth ministerial meeting (Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 22-26 April) [A/57/79-S/2002/551], the Committee considered the geopolitical and security situation of its member States and reviewed recommendations and decisions it had adopted from 1992 to 2001. It also considered reports of the subregional conference on the protec-

tion of women and children in armed conflicts [YUN 2001, p. 511] and of the March meeting of its Chiefs of Staff. The Committee adopted the Kinshasa Declaration, annexed to the report, in which it marked the tenth anniversary of its creation and reaffirmed its objectives and commitment to strengthen the activities of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), particularly with regard to the promotion of peace and security in the subregion.

In September, the Central African Republic transmitted the report of the Committee's eighteenth ministerial meeting (Bangui, Central African Republic, 26-30 August) [A/57/380-S/2002/988]. The Committee continued to consider its member States' geopolitical and security situation, security cooperation among them and its previous recommendations and decisions. It considered a regional consultation on equality and development: the participation of women, and adopted its 2002-2003 work programme.

At a 23 October meeting held within the framework of the Advisory Committee and ECCAS [A/57/590], Ministers from Central African countries further reviewed the geopolitical and security situation in the subregion and reaffirmed their commitment to finalizing ongoing peace processes and consolidating regional peace.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/88** without vote [agenda item 67 (c)].

### Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 A of 29 November 2001,

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

*Convinced* that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be

devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

*Recalling* the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Convinced* that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

*Bearing in mind* the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

*Recalling* the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa, the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa, and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,

*Bearing in mind* resolutions 1196(1998) and 1197(1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

*Recalling* the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a sub-regional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 56/25 A;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and sub-regional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2001-2002, in particular by:

(a) Holding a Subregional Conference on the Protection of Women and Children in Armed Conflict in Central Africa at Kinshasa from 14 to 16 November 2001;

(b) Holding a meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee at Libreville from 18 to 20 March 2002;

(c) Holding the seventeenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Kinshasa from 22 to 26 April 2002;

(d) Holding the subregional consultation on the theme "Parity and development: participation of the Central African woman" at Douala from 28 to 30 May 2002;

(e) Holding the eighteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bangui from 26 to 30 August 2002;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197(1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early warning mechanism;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory

Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

### Asia and the Pacific

In 2002, regional issues related to security and stability in Asia and the Pacific were addressed by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and its Regional Forum (ARF), and by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a newly formed six-member regional association comprising China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, designed to consolidate multilateral cooperation in strengthening peace, security and stability in the region.

In May, ASEAN representatives, at an annual senior officials meeting on transnational crime (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16-17 May), adopted a work programme to implement ASEAN's plan of action to combat transnational crime, in which arms smuggling and terrorism were identified as the priority issues. Heads of State of SCO member States (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 7 June) issued a declaration announcing, among other things, their resolve to intensify cooperation in combating terrorism and illicit trafficking in weapons. The Philippines, in collaboration with Canada, organized a seminar (Manila, 9-10 July) on the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499], which highlighted ways to strengthen international and regional cooperation in curbing the illicit trade in those weapons and put forward 28 recommendations for consideration by ASEAN nations. The Ministers participating in the thirty-fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (29-30 July) and the ninth meeting of ARF (31 July), both held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussaleem, considered regional security issues and confidence-building measures and discussed the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (see p. 513), nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and multilateral disarmament agreements addressing them, as well as small arms and light weapons. The eighth ASEAN Summit of Heads of State and Government (Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 2-3 November) adopted a Declaration condemning terrorism and expressing their determination to combat it.

### Europe

On 1 January, the Treaty on Open Skies, adopted in 1992 by members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and of the former Warsaw Pact [YUN 1992, p. 78], entered into force. The Treaty, designed to improve transparency and facilitate the monitoring of arms control agreements within the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), established a regime for observation flights by States parties over each other's territory. Between August and December, 12 States parties to the Treaty conducted a total of 24 such flights. Also on 1 January, the concluding document on regional stability in Southern Europe, adopted in 2001 [YUN 2001, p. 513] within the context of the 1995 General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina [YUN 1995, p. 544], entered into force. By the document's terms, participating States, with OSCE assistance, were to establish a regional balance in and around the former Yugoslavia. The States parties to the 1996 Agreement on Subregional Arms Control [YUN 1996, p. 493], signed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, continued to implement the Agreement. In accordance with the Agreement, arms limitation and disarmament inspections were conducted and efforts were made to improve further annual information exchange.

On 8 May, the 1999 Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe [YUN 1999, p. 397], in cooperation with UNDP, established in Belgrade the South-Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, designed to help the regional States and NGOs stem the illicit flow of those weapons. The Pact also took action towards a coordinated approach in addressing the impact of landmines in the region.

The European Union (EU), in separate May summits with the United States and the Russian Federation, emphasized the need to combat terrorism and addressed non-proliferation and other disarmament issues, including access to WMDs. The EU, which reached agreement within the year to admit 10 additional States to its membership as from 2004, also made efforts to consolidate and improve the application of its Code of Conduct for Arms Export [YUN 1998, p. 540] in a bid to prevent arms from falling into terrorists' hands. On 12 July, it adopted a new Joint Action for combating the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, by the terms of which it repealed its pre-existing 1998 Joint Action on small arms [ibid.].

The EU Council adopted a number of conclusions regarding the implications of the terrorist threat on the non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control policy of the Union, and pledged member States' support for the universalization of multilateral disarmament instruments. On 22 July, the Council, meeting in Brussels, reaffirmed its commitment to the fight against terrorism and identified disarmament and the non-proliferation of WMDs and their means of delivery among EU priorities for the 2002 session of the UN General Assembly.

NATO continued its activities mainly through the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council, both established in 1997 [YUN 1997, pp. 518 & 519], and through the Partnership for Peace Initiative established in 1994 to promote bilateral cooperation between NATO and individual partner countries. In the course of the year, the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council became the NATO-Russia Council, scheduled to meet twice annually as a mechanism for consultation, consensus-building, cooperation and joint action in the Euro-Atlantic region. Issues addressed by NATO included, among other subjects, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, under which it provided advice and expertise to some regional States to facilitate the transition of demobilized military personnel to civilian jobs and the conversion to civilian use of military facilities.

States parties to the 1990 Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe [YUN 1990, p. 79] continued to implement the Treaty, which committed them to ensure that the number of conventional armaments and equipment did not exceed agreed limits for five weapons categories in the Treaty's area of application. Attention also focused on the issue of the entry into force of the 1999 Agreement on the Adaptation of the Treaty [YUN 1999, p. 503], which would open the way for new States to accede to the Treaty.

In July, the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation established for OSCE participating States a best practice guide on the control of small arms and light weapons and also revised the mechanism for information exchange on those weapons, among other things. OSCE also made efforts to enhance cooperation with NATO on small arms issues and in weapons collection and destruction programmes in the region. In an initiative designed to address potential threats from terrorists, the Foreign Ministers of OSCE countries (Porto, Portugal, 6-7 December) adopted the OSCE Charter on Preventing and Combating Terrorism, which outlined new measures to deal with terrorist activities and new security threats.

**Communications.** On 10 May [A/57/82], Ukraine transmitted the text of a joint declaration and a document on confidence- and security-building measures in the naval field in the Black Sea, adopted by Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine on 25 April, aimed at enhancing regional security, stability and cooperation.

In September [A/57/393], Portugal transmitted the text of the Model Answer for the OSCE Information Exchange on Small Arms and Light Weapons, prepared to assist OSCE participating States to fulfil their commitments regarding information exchange in combating small arms in the region.

### Latin America

The General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) (Bridgetown, Barbados, 2-4 June) adopted resolutions relating to peace, security and disarmament in the hemisphere, particularly terrorism, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (see p. 505), military expenditures, transparency, small arms proliferation and anti-personnel mines. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs and of Defence of the Andean Community countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela) (Lima, Peru, 17 June) [A/C.1/ 57/4] signed the Lima Commitment, establishing the Andean Charter for Peace and Security and for the Limitation and Control of Defence Spending, which committed the Community to various disarmament-related initiatives, including enhancing efforts to combat terrorism, the control of conventional weapons, consolidating the ban on WMDs and eradicating the illicit traffic in firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, as well as anti-personnel mines. Similar commitments were made by the Presidents of South American countries (Guayaquil, Ecuador, 26-27 July) in a Declaration on the South American Zone of Peace (see p. 555).

On 5 October, the Parliaments of the Central American States (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama), with support from the Parliaments of Spain and Sweden, established in Madrid a permanent forum of parliamentarians committed to implementing the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499]. The forum, scheduled to meet annually to facilitate reforms of firearms legislation in participating countries, adopted the Madrid Declaration, which called for expanding the forum to include parliamentarians from all Latin Ameri-

can and Caribbean countries, as well as EU member States.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/76** without vote [agenda item 66 (m)].

#### Regional disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 H of 29 November 2001 on regional disarmament,

*Believing* that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

*Affirming* the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

*Noting* that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,

*Taking note* of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,

*Welcoming* the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

*Taking note* of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are 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;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarma-

ment and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

On 22 November [meeting 57], the Assembly, also on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/63** by recorded vote (105-12-44) [agenda item 66].

#### Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

*The General Assembly,*

*Determined* to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security, and to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

*Convinced* that in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

*Bearing in mind* the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

*Aware* of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

*Recognizing also* that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

*Considering* that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

*Stressing* that international cooperation, peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

*Being concerned* at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

*Reaffirming* the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of

multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/63:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Bulgaria, Germany, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Micronesia, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia.

Also on 22 November [meeting 57], on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], the Assembly adopted **resolution 57/77** by recorded vote (165-1-1) [agenda item 66 (n)].

#### **Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 I of 29 November 2001,

*Recognizing* the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

*Aware* that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

*Desirous* of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

*Noting with particular interest* the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context

of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which is a cornerstone of European security,

*Believing* that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

*Believing also* that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/77:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* India.

*Abstaining:* Bhutan.

take action against terrorists and their associates, including prevention of the supply, sale or transfer of arms and related materiel to them (see p. 49). The Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1373 (2001) [YUN 2001, p. 61] was asked to focus on ensuring that States enacted legislation covering all aspects of the resolution (see p. 52). The General Assembly called for similar action by Member States (see p. 539) and for the speedy completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee established in resolution 51/210 [YUN 1996, p. 1208] to elaborate international conventions for the suppression of terrorist bombings and of nuclear terrorism. (See p. 49.)

On 16 April [A/57/66], the Secretary-General conveyed to the Assembly a communication from the IAEA Director General regarding the Agency's activities against the illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials, within the context of ongoing efforts to elaborate an anti-terrorism convention. In September [GC(46)/RES/13], the IAEA General Conference adopted a resolution on measures to improve nuclear security and protection against nuclear terrorism, calling for early finalization of negotiations by its experts on a draft amendment to strengthen the 1980 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material [YUN 1980, p. 161]. An advisory group on security was established to advise the Director General on nuclear security issues.

The Policy Working Group established by the Secretary-General to recommend steps the UN system might take in combating terrorism [YUN 2001, p. 68] presented in its report 31 recommendations, of which four related to disarmament (see p. 57). The Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters also considered the threats posed by international terrorism and presented further proposals regarding the prevention of, and emergency response to, terrorist activities involving the use of WMDs (see p. 546).

**Communications.** In a number of communications, regional groups or organizations condemned terrorism and expressed their determination to enhance cooperation in combating it, including by the heads of State of members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 7 June) [A/57/88-S/2002/672]; the heads of State or Government of the 16-member Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 4 June) [A/57/423-S/2002/1065]; and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (New York, 17 September) [A/57/458-S/2002/1125].

## Other disarmament issues

### Terrorism

In 2002, Member States continued to express concern about the potential acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) by terrorist organizations. The Security Council called for enhanced cooperation in combating international terrorism and decided that States should

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/83** without vote [agenda item 66].

**Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

*Deeply concerned* by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

*Acknowledging* the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,

*Taking note* of resolution GC(46)/RES/13, adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-sixth regular session, and the setting up of an Advisory Group on Security in the Agency to advise the Director General on the Agency's activities relating to nuclear security,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Policy Working Group on the United Nations and Terrorism,

*Mindful* of the urgent need for addressing this threat to humanity within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation,

*Emphasizing* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture, and invites them to inform the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, of the measures taken in this regard;

3. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures for tackling the global threat posed by terrorists acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

**New types of weapons of mass destruction**

In 2002, although the item "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons" was on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament [A/57/27], the Conference did not establish an ad hoc committee on the item owing to the deadlock over an overall programme of work (see p. 489). Nonetheless, delegations held informal consultations on the item during plenary meetings, based on a discussion paper on radiological weapons prepared by the President [CD/1681]. The President suggested that the Conference continue its consideration of the item and consider appointing in 2003 a special coordinator to seek the views of Member States on the subject.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/502], adopted **resolution 57/50** without vote [agenda item 58].

**Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 51/37 of 10 December 1996 and 54/44 of 1 December 1999 relating to the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

*Recalling further* paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,

*Determined* to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948,

*Noting* the desirability of keeping the matter under review, as appropriate,

1. *Reaffirms* that effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, without prejudice to further overview of its agenda, to keep the matter under review, as appropriate, with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on identified types of such weapons;

3. *Calls upon* all States, immediately following any recommendations of the Conference on Disarmament, to give favourable consideration to those recommendations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to

the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report the results of any consideration of the matter in its annual reports to the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

### Prevention of an arms race in outer space

In 2002, differences within the Conference on Disarmament over the mandate of an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, which constituted a major reason for the lack of agreement on a programme of work, once again prevented the Conference from undertaking any substantive work on the item (see p. 489). However, delegations exchanged views on related issues during plenary meetings, particularly within the context of the United States withdrawal from the ABM Treaty (see p. 504) and continuing plans to develop and deploy a national missile defense system [YUN 1999, p. 469]. While some of them argued that new threats and challenges underlined the need to begin negotiating a treaty prohibiting the weaponization of outer space, others questioned the necessity for negotiation as no such threats were emerging from outer space. Official documents circulated at the Conference included a working paper prepared by China and the Russian Federation on "Possible elements for a future international legal agreement on the prevention of the deployment of weapons in outer space, the threat or use of force against outer space objects" [A/57/418].

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/509], adopted **resolution 57/57** by recorded vote (159-0-3) [agenda item 65].

#### Prevention of an arms race in outer space

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Reaffirming* the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

*Reaffirming also* the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

*Recalling* the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

*Reaffirming* paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

*Recognizing* that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

*Emphasizing* the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

*Considering* that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

*Noting* that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

*Noting also* that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,

*Emphasizing* the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

*Convinced* that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

*Stressing* that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

*Recalling*, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

*Conscious* of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

*Recognizing* that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls 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;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has 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;

6. *Invites* 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 its 2003 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this 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;

8. *Urges* 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;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/57:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros,

Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Israel, Micronesia, United States.

## Disarmament and development

In 2002, differences persisted among Member States on the question of the relationship between disarmament and development. Whereas the vast majority, mostly members of the Non-Aligned Movement, continued to emphasize the importance of the issue and called for implementation of the 1987 programme of action adopted by the International Conference which considered the relationship in all its aspects [YUN 1987, p. 82], EU member States and the United States maintained that there was no automatic link between the two concepts.

**Report of Secretary-General.** In response to General Assembly resolution 56/24 E [YUN 2001, p. 517], the Secretary-General, in a July report with later addendum [A/57/167 & Add.1], described activities undertaken to implement the 1987 programme of action. He noted that the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) had organized on 29 April in New York a symposium on disarmament and development: new choices for security and prosperity. In addition, DDA undertook informal consultations with interested Member States on disarmament and development issues that might be relevant within the context of the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see p. 821). The Secretary-General observed that the Organization's financial constraints continued to restrict the scope of activities undertaken by DDA and others and that Member States continued to show limited interest in communicating their views and in helping promote the achievement of the 1987 action programme. He proposed, therefore, that Member States consider establishing a group of governmental experts to reappraise the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context and the fu-

ture role of the United Nations in that connection.

The report contained information submitted by Cuba, Denmark, on behalf of the EU, the DPRK, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama and Qatar.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/65** by recorded vote (160-1-4) [agenda item 66 (j)].

#### Relationship between disarmament and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

*Recalling also* the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 12 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 E of 29 November 2001,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,

*Welcoming* the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development and the views and proposals received from Governments on the issue, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,

*Stressing* the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

*Taking into account* developments in the context of disarmament and international security since the end of the cold war, as well as new perspectives and goals on development issues emerging from, inter alia, the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization, adopted on 14 November 2001, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted on 22 March 2002, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”), adopted on 4 September 2002,

*Mindful* of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

*Bearing in mind* the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 56/24 E, including its proposal to consider the establishment of a group of governmental experts to undertake a review of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the role of the Organization in this connection;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available financial resources and with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be established in 2003 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, while seeking the views of States, to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report with recommendations for a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the future role of the Organization in this connection;

3. *Calls upon* the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate contained in subparagraph (ix) *b* of paragraph 35 (*c*) of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme;

5. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever widening gap between developed and developing countries;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/65:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* United States.

*Abstaining:* France, Israel, Micronesia, United Kingdom.

### Arms limitation and disarmament agreements

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/24 F [YUN 2001, p. 518], the Secretary-General submitted a June report with later addenda [A/57/121 & Add.1,2], containing information from seven Member States on measures they had taken to ensure the application of scientific and technological progress in the context of international security, disarmament and related areas, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/86** without vote [agenda item 66].

#### Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 52/30 of 9 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

*Recognizing* the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties to which they are parties and other sources of international law,

*Convinced* that observance by Member States of the Charter of the United Nations, treaties to which they are parties and other sources of international law is important for the strengthening of international security,

*Mindful* of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other agreed obligations on arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation by States parties if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

*Stressing* that any violation of such agreements and other agreed obligations by States parties not only adversely affects the security of States parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other agreed obligations,

*Stressing also* that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other agreed obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional security and undermines their credibility and effectiveness,

*Recognizing*, in this context, that full compliance by States parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, inter alia, contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and stability,

*Believing* that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements by States parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

*Welcoming* the contribution to international peace and regional security that full compliance by States parties with verification provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements provides,

*Also welcoming* the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance with and verification of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements, and other agreed obligations,

*Recognizing*, in the light of the threat of international terrorism, that it is especially important that States parties comply with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation obligations and commitments,

1. *Urges* all States parties to arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of all provisions of such agreements;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance by States parties with any provisions of agreements in the fields of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for progress in those fields;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all States parties of the provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. *Welcomes* the role that the United Nations has played and continues to play in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. *Encourages* efforts by all States parties to pursue additional areas of cooperation, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

6. *Notes* the contribution that effective verification procedures for arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements frequently can make in enhancing confidence in the compliance with those agreements;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements".

On the same date [meeting 57], the Assembly, also on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/64** by recorded vote (163-0-5) [agenda item 66 (k)].

#### Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 De-

ember 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 F of 29 November 2001,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

*Recognizing* that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

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

*Mindful* of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls 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;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 57/64:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo,

Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* France, Israel, Micronesia, United Kingdom, United States.

## Studies, information and training

### Disarmament studies programme

The Group of Governmental Experts on disarmament and non-proliferation education, established by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 E [YUN 2000, p. 535], completed and submitted its report [A/57/124]. The Group observed that there was a pressing need to expand and improve such education and training in order to promote disarmament and non-proliferation, and to strengthen international security and enhance sustainable economic and social development. The challenge was substantial and required both immediate and sustained practical efforts by Governments, international organizations and civil society. The Group put forward a series of recommendations for immediate and long-term implementation, reinforcing ongoing efforts and suggesting new avenues of action.

The Panel of Governmental Experts on missiles, appointed by the Secretary-General in accordance with Assembly resolution 55/33 A [YUN 2000, p. 499], also completed and submitted its report [A/57/229] (see p. 504).

The Group of Governmental Experts on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit small arms and light weapons, established by the Secretary-General in response to Assembly resolution 56/24 V [YUN 2001, p. 503], met during the year (see p. 520).

In 2002, the Assembly, in **resolution 57/65** (see p. 542), requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be established in 2003, to present a report in 2004 with recommendations for a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the future role of the Organization in that regard. By **resolution 57/71** (see p. 505), the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental experts, to explore further the issue of missiles in all its aspects for consideration in 2004. The Assembly, in **resolution 57/75** (see p. 528), requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2003, to prepare a report on the con-

tinuing operation of the UN Register of Conventional Arms (see p. 527).

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/510], adopted **resolution 57/60** without vote [agenda item 66 (c)].

#### United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 55/33 E of 20 November 2000,

*Reaffirming* the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps in order to strengthen that role,

*Welcoming* the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of governmental experts, pursuant to the above-mentioned resolution,

*Convinced* that the need has never been greater for disarmament and non-proliferation education, especially on weapons of mass destruction, but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament,

*Recognizing* the importance of the role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for providing Member States with the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, which contains a series of recommendations for immediate and long-term implementation;

2. *Conveys* the recommendations for implementation, as appropriate, by Member States, the United Nations and other international organizations, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the media;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Disarmament and non-proliferation education".

#### Disarmament Information Programme

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/34 A [YUN 2000, p. 535], the Secretary-General, in July [A/57/223], reported on the performance of the Disarmament Information Programme from July 2000 to June 2002, and on activities planned for the next two years. The report described relevant activities carried out by the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) and efforts by the UN Department of Public Information to raise awareness and understanding of UN work regarding disarmament and related issues. In that context, activities focused on weapons of

mass destruction (WMDs) and conventional weapons, particularly small arms and light weapons, and included publications, web site access, exhibits, information and education activities, cooperation with civil society, training programmes, and radio and television broadcasts. UN information centres, services and offices also took a variety of initiatives to promote, assist or support regional and international events relevant to the Information Programme.

In October [A/57/223/Add.1], the Secretary-General reported on the status of the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, which supported DDA information and outreach activities. At the end of the 2000-2001 biennium, the Fund's available balance totalled \$844,343.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/90** without vote [agenda item 67 (a)].

#### United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998 and 55/34 A of 20 November 2000,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible, including by electronic means, information on arms limitation and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Programme, as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, and in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme focus its efforts:

(a) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and, inter alia, to continue to publish in all official languages *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* and to report on the results of the survey of users, as well as to continue to produce ad hoc publications in print and electronic form;

(b) To continue to maintain the Disarmament Internet web site, including frequent updates of the databases such as the *Status of Multilateral Arms Regulation and Disarmament Agreements* and the disarmament-related *Resolutions and Decisions of the General Assembly*, as a part of the United Nations web site and to produce versions of the site in as many official languages as feasible;

(c) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(d) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Invites* all Member States to make contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations made in the study on disarmament and non-proliferation education submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session and commends to the attention of the Secretary-General for implementation those recommendations relating to the United Nations, without cost to the regular budget of the Organization, and invites him to continue his support and cooperation with universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the education field in widening the worldwide availability of disarmament and non-proliferation education;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

#### **Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters**

The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, which advised the Secretary-General on the disarmament studies programme and implementa-

tion of the Disarmament Information Programme and served as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (see below), held its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions (New York, 30 January–1 February; Geneva, 17–19 July) [A/57/335]. At both sessions, the Board focused on WMDs and terrorism, particularly nuclear safety and security, and the preparedness of public health systems to deal with bioterrorism; biological weapons and the biological weapons convention; implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499]; the weaponization of outer space; and disarmament and development.

The Board described four kinds of threats regarding nuclear terrorism, including attack on or sabotage of nuclear power installations; combining highly radioactive materials with conventional explosives to create radiological dispersal devices (dirty bombs); theft or purchase of fissile material for building nuclear explosive devices; and seizure and use of operational nuclear weapons. It agreed that to address the threat of terrorism and of terrorists' possible acquisition and use of WMDs, it was imperative to strengthen and further develop a multilateral legal framework for arms control. It put forward a number of recommendations on preventing terrorist groups from developing, acquiring or using WMDs, including the establishment of a governmental expert group to develop a comprehensive action plan to deal with nuclear terrorism. Concerning small arms, the Board, while welcoming the 2001 Programme of Action, expressed concern over the lack of norms prohibiting the transfer of those weapons to non-State actors, especially in Africa. It agreed that the United Nations should play a role in facilitating implementation of the Programme of Action by civil society and States. Focusing on its future work, the Board agreed to review its accomplishments and discuss how to improve its functioning in 2003, which would mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of its establishment.

#### **UN Institute for Disarmament Research**

The Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the UNIDIR Director covering the period from August 2001 to July 2002 and the 2002–2003 proposed programme of work and budget, as approved by the UNIDIR Board of Trustees [A/57/302].

The Institute's research activities continued to focus on global security, regional security and human security. The report highlighted UNIDIR's range of research activities worldwide, including its networking initiatives with other re-

search institutes and disarmament-related entities in the UN system, and contained a list of publications issued during the reporting period.

The Board of Trustees recommended a subvention of \$227,600 from the UN regular budget for 2003, which the Assembly approved on 20 December (**decision 57/577**).

#### **Disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services**

In 2002, 30 fellows, including 8 women, participated in the UN disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, according to a report of the Secretary-General [A/57/168]. The programme, which began in Geneva on 2 September and terminated in New York on 6 November, included study sessions in Geneva, study visits to Germany, Japan, The Hague and Vienna, and study sessions at UN Headquarters.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/93** without vote [agenda item 67 (b)].

#### **United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,

*Recalling* its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

*Noting* that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its twenty-four years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

*Recognizing* the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

*Recalling* all the annual resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

*Believing* that the forms of assistance available to Member States, in particular to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and ne-

gotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly and the report of the Secretary-General approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Germany for hosting the participants of the programme since 1980 and to the Government of Japan on the occasion of its twentieth annual study visit for the fellows, which includes events in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and to the Government of the United States of America for having organized in 2001 a specific study programme in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Monterey Institute of International Studies for having organized specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

#### **Regional centres for peace and disarmament**

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/87** without vote [agenda item 67 (e)].

#### **United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/25 C of 29 November 2001 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

*Recalling also* the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Reaffirming* its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

*Recognizing* that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

*Noting* that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

#### *Africa*

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/25 D [YUN 2001, p. 521], the Secretary-General described the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa [A/57/162], covering the period from July 2001 to June 2002. The Centre was established in Lomé, Togo, in 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 85].

During the reporting period, the Centre participated in activities relating to small arms and light weapons in Africa, including implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the

2001 UN conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499] and of the 1998 ECOWAS Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in West Africa [YUN 1998, p. 537]. Regarding WMDs, the Centre continued to collaborate with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (see p. 506) in promoting the signing and ratification of the Treaty by African States.

In January, the Centre, at Togo's request, prepared a training curriculum for senior officials of the country's armed forces to promote disarmament-related initiatives. The Centre helped to organize an international conference on the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Sun City, South Africa, 21-23 February), which focused on building sustainable peace in the Great Lakes region. At the Niger's request, the Centre, in March, undertook to support UN Volunteers in advancing the implementation of a project on the consolidation of peace, aimed at promoting the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants. In March/April, the Centre led a joint information-gathering mission to the Niger by the United Nations and the Hague Appeal for Peace—an NGO—designed to facilitate a project on developing peace and disarmament, which comprised educational initiatives to disarm children and youth. In May, the Centre, in collaboration with the Togolese Government, convened in Lomé an international workshop on the development of a code of conduct for armed and security forces in Africa.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/91** without vote [agenda item 67 (f)].

#### **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa**

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of

22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 D of 29 November 2001,

*Aware* of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

*Taking into account* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

*Taking into account also* the note by the Secretary-General containing the recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat related to the programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in particular those recommendations concerning the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Asia and the Pacific,

*Bearing in mind* the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

*Taking into account* the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the African Union, in conformity with the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and emphasizing the need for the appropriate implementation of the Programme of Action by all States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, and commends the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre

in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the African Union, regional and sub-regional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

#### *Asia and the Pacific*

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 56/25 F [YUN 2001, p. 522], the Secretary-General reported in July on the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific from August 2001 to July 2002 [A/57/260]. The Centre was inaugurated in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 1989 [YUN 1989, p. 88].

In February, the Centre launched a web site to further develop links with its interlocutors in the region and to facilitate information exchange and collaboration on joint disarmament- and security-related activities. In June, it assisted the United Nations Association of Japan to organize the eighth symposium on north-east Asia (Kanazawa, 4-6 June), which focused on the security outlook in the region and adopted a document: "Agenda for peace, stability and prosperity for north-east Asia". The Centre organized the Fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues (Kyoto, Japan, 7-9 August), which considered the global and regional impact of the challenge of terrorism for international security and disarmament.

During the reporting period, the Centre also addressed issues relating to small arms and light weapons as follow-up to the 2001 UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499] and continued to assist the five Central Asian States (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) in drafting a treaty to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia (see p. 511). It also continued to assist Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen its international security and nuclear-weapon-free status.

The Centre continued to operate from UN Headquarters due to a lack of sufficient extra-budgetary resources to support its regional headquarters in Kathmandu.

**Communication.** In August [A/57/342], Nepal urged the relocation of the Centre to Kathmandu, in accordance with the agreement it had

entered into with the United Nations. While the Centres for Africa (see p. 548) and Latin America and the Caribbean (see below) had long been operational from their respective regional headquarters, the Asian Centre continued to work from New York.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/92** without vote [agenda item 67 (h)].

#### United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General, in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

*Noting* that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

*Commending* the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and sub-regional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Regional Centre for its organization of the eighth Kanazawa symposium on north-east Asia, on the theme "Security outlook in north-east Asia and new agenda for the Kanazawa process", held at Kanazawa, Japan, from 4 to 6 June 2002, and the Fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, on the theme "The challenge of terrorism for international security and disarmament: global and regional impact", held at Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 9 August 2002,

*Welcoming* the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

*Noting* the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, as well as to Mongolia's international

security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of a United Nations-sponsored non-governmental expert group meeting on the theme "Ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status", held at Sapporo, Japan, on 5 and 6 September 2001,

*Appreciating highly* the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

#### Latin America and the Caribbean

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 56/25 E [YUN 2001, p. 523], the Secretary-General reported in June on the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean from July 2001 to June 2002 [A/57/116]. The Centre was inaugurated in Lima, Peru, in 1987 [YUN 1987, p. 88].

The Centre's activities related to firearms, ammunition and explosives; anti-personnel mines; conventional, nuclear and chemical weapons; and information and public events. It focused particularly on promoting existing disarmament agreements and initiatives, and organized or supported regional initiatives, some of which were designed to implement the Programme of Action

adopted by the United Nations Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499].

During the reporting period, the Centre consolidated its Regional Clearinghouse Programme on Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives, which served as a tool to nurture national and regional expertise in practical disarmament and promoted national efforts to control the legal trade in firearms, ammunition and explosives and to curb their illicit flow. It also concluded a project on a parliamentary information panel, aimed at promoting the signing and ratification of treaties regarding nuclear weapons and other WMDs. In March, the Centre organized in New York a seminar for Latin American and Caribbean States on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues, which considered issues expected to be addressed at the 2005 review conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (see p. 507). The Centre participated in the Group of Eight major industrialized countries' law enforcement working group meeting (Vancouver, Canada, 21-25 April), which made recommendations regarding standards and procedures for stockpile management and appropriate disposal of firearms and explosives. To facilitate regional cooperation on matters concerning peace, disarmament and development, the Centre, in May, signed memorandums of understanding on relevant activities with the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (SWEFOR) and with the UN-affiliated University for Peace in San José, Costa Rica. Subsequently, the Centre collaborated with SWEFOR to organize a seminar for Central American parliaments (San José, 3-5 May), which highlighted regional priorities on firearms-related issues and recommended the establishment of a White Book on national firearms legislation, in which the Centre was expected to play a role.

As at 31 December 2001, the balance of the Trust Fund for the Centre totalled \$137,307.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 November [meeting 57], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/57/511], adopted **resolution 57/89**, as orally amended, without vote [agenda item 67 (g)].

#### **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 De-

ember 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 E of 29 November 2001,

*Underlining* the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru and other countries to that end, as well as the important work done by the Director of the Centre,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General, which concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to act as an instrument for the implementation of regional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and security,

*Noting* that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Welcoming* the ratification by the Government of Cuba of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),

*Welcoming also* the creation of the South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation, declared by the Presidents and heads of State of South America, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on 27 July 2002,

*Bearing in mind* the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

*Also bearing in mind* the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

*Recognizing* the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the expansion of the vast range of activities carried out last year in the field of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Regional Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as the relationship between disarmament and development;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development, and supports the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to

international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make and increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".