

Chapter VII

Disarmament

In 2005, the United Nations continued efforts to advance the cause of disarmament, especially in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and conventional armaments. However, those opportunities were undermined by deepening differences among Member States on a number of security issues of global concern, resulting in, according to the Secretary-General, a crisis of relevance for the multilateral disarmament negotiating framework. Those differences, which mostly arose over procedural and organizational questions, prevented the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission from undertaking any substantive work for the seventh and fourth consecutive years, respectively. For the same reason, the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which took place in May, ended without a consensus outcome on any substantive issue on its agenda and the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (2005 World Summit), held in September, excluded from its Outcome Document any substantive pronouncement on disarmament and non-proliferation.

International anxiety arose over particular situations of concern, especially the nuclear programmes of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which announced early in the year that it had manufactured nuclear weapons, and of Iran, which decided to resume uranium conversion it had voluntarily suspended previously. Against that background, the Secretary-General called for measures to revitalize NPT as the cornerstone of the global non-proliferation regime, while the Assembly called on States to comply with their nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation commitments and to avoid action that might be detrimental to either cause.

In continuing efforts to address perceived threats to global peace and stability stemming from the potential proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the Secretary-General outlined a strategy to prevent terrorists from gaining access to those weapons, while the Security Council emphasized the need for the effective implementation of the sanctions imposed against such terrorist organizations as Al-Qaida and the Taliban. To safeguard the operation of nuclear installations, the International Atomic Energy Agency

convened a conference of the States parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials, which adopted amendments extending the Convention's scope to cover nuclear facilities. In November, the tenth session of the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (Chemical Weapons Convention) decided that 29 April—the date in 1997 of the Convention's entry into force—would be observed yearly as the day of remembrance for chemical warfare victims.

There were also positive developments regarding the movement to make whole geographic regions nuclear-weapon-free zones, following the finalization of the draft text on a Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty, negotiated over seven years. The first Conference of States parties and signatories to the four existing treaties establishing such zones in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, South-East Asia and the South Pacific took place in Mexico City and considered cooperative ways of strengthening those zones, thereby raising the momentum for the idea of a nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas.

In the field of conventional disarmament, Member States maintained focus in dealing with security problems relating to the spread of small arms and light weapons at national and regional levels and within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. The most auspicious development in that regard was the Assembly's adoption of a politically binding international instrument to enable States to identify and trace those weapons effectively. It also established a group of governmental experts to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in tackling illicit brokering in those weapons. In other action, the Assembly continued to promote the relationship between disarmament and development, encouraging the international community to accord attention to the contribution that disarmament could make towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

On the bilateral level, the United States and the Russian Federation continued to implement

their 2002 Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty (Moscow Treaty), under which they had agreed to cut the level of their deployed strategic nuclear warheads to between 3,000 and 3,500 by 31 December 2012.

UN role in disarmament

UN machinery

In 2005, as in previous years, disarmament issues before the United Nations were considered mainly through the Security Council, 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). In addition, the Organization increasingly engaged civil society organizations concerned with disarmament issues.

The UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) 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 devoted to disarmament

The General Assembly had decided, by resolution 51/45 C [YUN 1996, p. 447], to convene the fourth special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament in 1999, subject to the emergence of consensus on its agenda and objectives, which had not been achieved. To facilitate agreement on the issue, the Assembly, by resolution 57/61, established an open-ended working group in 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 487] to consider a basis for consensus, but its efforts were to no avail. By resolution 59/71 [YUN 2004, p. 522], the Assembly re-established the group and mandated it to hold an organizational session in order to set the dates for its substantive session in 2006.

On 8 December, the Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first (2006) session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament" (**decision 60/518**).

Disarmament Commission

In 2005, the Disarmament Commission, composed of all UN Member States, again did not hold any substantive meetings as no agreement could be reached on an agenda for discussing two

preliminary items pertaining to nuclear and conventional weapons.

The Commission held five informal meetings (New York, June-July) [A/60/42] and a number of organizational meetings in July, November and December, to discuss possible topics for inclusion in its provisional agenda, based on the Chairman's proposals. On 18 and 19 July, the Commission agreed, ad referendum, to the inclusion of two items: recommendations for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, in particular for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament; and practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons. On 20 July, the Commission further agreed, provisionally, to include in its report the issue of measures for improving the effectiveness of the Commission's methods of work, for consideration during its 2006 substantive session. However, agreement could not be reached on the proposed agenda items, following a 22 July motion by one delegation for an oral amendment to the item on nuclear disarmament. Consequently, the Commission decided, on 26 July, to close its 2005 organizational session.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/465], adopted **resolution 60/91** without vote [agenda item 99 (d)].

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, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003 and 59/105 of 3 December 2004,

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 mandate 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;

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

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 on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Disarmament Commission during its organizational meeting in July 2005 towards achieving its objectives, and recommends that the Commission intensify consultations on those efforts with a view to reaching definitive agreements before the start of its substantive session in 2006;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2006, from 10 to 28 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first 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 sixtieth 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 sixty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

Conference on Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament, the multilateral negotiating body, held a three-part session in Geneva (24 January–1 April, 30 May–15 July and 8 August–23 September) [A/60/27].

The Conference, in 29 formal and 6 informal plenary meetings, 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 (WMDs) and new systems of delivery of such weapons (see p. 600); radiological weapons; a comprehensive programme of disarmament; and transparency in armaments.

Before adopting the agenda, the Conference discussed a proposal by France for a new item entitled "New and additional issues". While those favouring the idea argued that the traditional

agenda of the Conference did not fully reflect the current threats and challenges to non-proliferation and disarmament, others felt that the meaning of the new item was not clear. The Conference reached an understanding, enabling it to deal with any new issue within the existing agenda, including terrorism and WMDs, as well as strengthening compliance with arms control and disarmament agreements, provided that consensus existed.

To overcome the persisting impasse among delegates over a programme of work for the Conference, successive Presidents conducted intensive consultations, in the course of which a number of informal proposals were put forward. Despite those efforts, no agreement could be reached, as delegates maintained their previously pronounced positions. The Non-Aligned Movement, in particular, continued to oppose any marginalization of the issue of negative security assurances and renewed support for the 2003 cross-group proposal on the work programme presented by five former Presidents ("A-5 proposal") [YUN 2003, p. 531], which was also endorsed by a number of other States, including China and the Russian Federation. Western States, on the other hand, were more inclined towards breaking existing linkages between agenda items and establishing subsidiary bodies on the basis of their own merits.

During the second part of the session, the President of the Conference (Norway) organized a series of plenary meetings on the four core topics on the agenda (nuclear disarmament, the prohibition of the production of fissile material for weapon purposes, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and negative security assurances) and on other issues relevant to the international security environment. Views were exchanged on such issues as the functioning of the disarmament machinery and the way ahead in multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation, in the light of the failure of the 2005 Review Conference (see p. 597) on the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) [YUN 1968, p. 17]. Although the initiative was supported by some delegations, others expressed doubts about the utility of those discussions, which came to a halt with the end of the Norwegian Presidency of the Conference. Regarding the adoption of a programme of work, the last President of the 2005 session (Peru) submitted a new proposal merging earlier ideas. Unfortunately, the Conference took no decision on the proposal and concluded its 2005 session without resolving the issue. Consequently, for the seventh consecutive year, the Conference did not establish any mechanism to address any of its agenda items.

Concerned over the impasse, Foreign Ministers from nine countries (Canada, Finland, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine) and one Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Japan) attending a high-level segment of the Conference, provided ideas on how to rebuild its political role in arms control and disarmament. While noting that the responsibility for the impasse should not be attributed to any single State or group, they emphasized the need to develop new political consensus that would make it possible to go beyond national security interests. The Conference decided to hold its 2006 session between January and September and asked its current and incoming Presidents to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/465], adopted **resolution 60/90** without vote [agenda item 99 (c)].

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 sole 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,

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

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2005 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of significant contributions made during the 2005 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2006 session,

Recognizing the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

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

2. *Calls upon* the Conference to intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to reaching an agreement on a programme of work;

3. *Takes note* of the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2006 session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, including those submitted as the documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as expressed in paragraph 38 of its report;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2006 session;

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

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

Multilateral disarmament agreements

As at 31 December 2005, the following number 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): 133 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]: 98 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]: 189 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]: 154 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]: 72 parties
- Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1979) [YUN 1979, p. 111, GA res. 34/68, annex]: 12 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): 100 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): 33 parties
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (1993): 175 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): 23 parties
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (1996): 126 parties
- Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (1997): 26 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): 148 parties
- Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions (1999): 11 parties
- Agreement on Adaptation of the CFE Treaty (1999): 4 parties
- [*United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 29: 2005, Sales No. E.06.IX.1]

Nuclear disarmament

Report of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolutions 59/77 [YUN 2004, p. 532] and 59/79 [ibid., p. 534], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/60/122] assessing efforts to address nuclear disarmament issues. He observed that dangers resulting from the acquisition, possession and possible use of WMDs, including nuclear weapons and radiological dispersal devices, or “dirty bombs”, were challenges the international community continued to

confront. To effectively reduce related threats, efforts were needed at the unilateral, bilateral and multilateral levels, and nuclear-weapon States bore the responsibility to reduce existing arsenals. The Secretary-General acknowledged that some progress had been made in that regard, as the implementation of the 2002 Moscow Treaty [YUN 2002, p. 493], signed by the Russian Federation and the United States, had helped strengthen international peace and security. However, applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verification to the Treaty would greatly enhance the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. Another positive development was a five-year research programme undertaken by the United Kingdom to study techniques and technologies with the potential for use in verifying future arrangements for the control, reduction and elimination of nuclear weapon stockpiles. The summary findings of the study were outlined in a working paper presented to the 2005 NPT Review Conference (see p. 597). Also important were continuing international efforts to achieve universal adherence to, and effective implementation of existing arms control and disarmament agreements. Unfortunately, owing to persisting divergence of views, the NPT Review Conference concluded without agreement on substantive issues, thereby missing the opportunity to address important threats and challenges to the international non-proliferation regime. As the cornerstone of that regime, action was needed on many fronts to revitalize the NPT, including strengthening confidence in the Treaty’s integrity; achieving further irreversible cuts in nuclear arsenals; ensuring that compliance measures were more effective; taking action to reduce the threat of proliferation to States and non-State actors; and finding durable ways to reconcile the right to peaceful uses with the imperative of non-proliferation. Reflecting on the fact that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) (see p. 593) still lacked the ratifications required for its entry into force, the Secretary-General called on States that had not yet done so to sign and ratify it as soon as possible, especially those whose ratification was needed to enable it to take effect. Regarding the impasse preventing the Conference on Disarmament from resuming substantive work, he encouraged States members of the Conference to overcome their differences and agree on a programme of work that would facilitate the resumption of negotiations without further delay. It was critical for the Conference to succeed in doing so, as the relevance of multilateral disarmament machinery had been called into question. Noting that the full implementation of the seven recommendations put forth by

his Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in 2001 [YUN 2001, p. 474] for reducing nuclear dangers required further efforts, the Secretary-General said he was continuing to support initiatives and actions taken to that effect, as requested in Assembly resolution 59/79. With regard to the proposal contained in the 2000 Millennium Declaration [YUN 2000, p. 49] for convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, consultations with Member States demonstrated that international consensus for holding such a conference remained elusive.

Conference on Disarmament

In 2005, the continuing lack of consensus over a programme of work (see p. 580) prevented the Conference on Disarmament, for the seventh consecutive year, from establishing any subsidiary body to deal with nuclear disarmament, leaving the issue to be addressed during plenary meetings where delegates reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions. The disappointing outcome of the 2005 NPT Review Conference (see p. 597), as well as the outcome of the 2005 World Summit (see p. 47) had further entrenched the divergent views among delegations. Against that background, the Non-Aligned Movement continued to accord the highest priority to the elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame; the Western group underscored the high importance attached to negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty as a contribution to nuclear disarmament; China and the Russian Federation maintained emphasis on the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS); and many other delegations reasserted the link between nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Fissile material

In 2005, the Conference on Disarmament made no progress on the question of negotiating a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) to prohibit the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, because disagreements over a programme of work prevented the Conference from establishing any mechanism to consider the items on its agenda. During plenary meetings, however, delegates reaffirmed their respective positions on the issue. As opposed to those who favoured negotiations on the FMCT, the Group of 21 (G-21) emphasized the priority it attached to creating an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament instead. Delegations also addressed the issue of verification as a possible element of FMCT, with many States arguing that it should be an integral part

of the negotiations, while others, notably the United States, believed that proposals for FMCT could be achieved without a verification mechanism. Positions also continued to differ on whether the proposed negotiations should cover existing stockpiles of fissile materials and on the desirability of declaring a moratorium on the production of those materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices before the conclusion of a treaty.

The General Assembly, in **resolution 60/70** (see p. 588) urged the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work, which would include the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT, to be concluded within five years.

Security assurances

The Conference on Disarmament was also unable to establish a subsidiary body to address the question of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, leaving the topic to be discussed primarily at a 7 July thematic debate that also considered other items. Many delegates made references to Security Council resolution 984(1995) [YUN 1995, p. 192] on the issue and linked the need for security assurances with the provisions of article VI of NPT relating to States parties' obligation to pursue negotiations in good faith on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and on nuclear disarmament. They also invoked the 1996 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) [YUN 1996, p. 461], which held that the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict. Members of the Non-Aligned Movement, concerned about the development of new types of nuclear weapons and new doctrines expounding their possible use, underlined that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, there was a need to conclude a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/461], adopted **resolution 60/53** by recorded vote (120-0-59) [agenda item 95].

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 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 Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur from 20 to 25 February 2003, 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, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003 and 59/64 of 3 December 2004,

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 sixty-first 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 60/53:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

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

Disarmament Commission

The Disarmament Commission considered a proposal by its Chairman to include in the substantive agenda for its 2005 session an item entitled "Recommendations for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, in particular for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament". However, unresolved differences among delegates regarding the agenda prevented the Commission from deliberating on any substantive issue, including those pertaining to nuclear disarmament (see p. 579).

START and other bilateral agreements and unilateral measures

In 2005, the United States and the Russian Federation continued to implement the 2002 Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT), also known as the Moscow Treaty [YUN 2002, p. 493], under which they had agreed to reduce the level of their deployed strategic nuclear warheads to between 3,000 and 3,500 by 31 December 2012. To achieve the reductions, the United States planned to reduce its operationally deployed strategic nuclear warheads to between 3,500-4,000 by 2007. It anticipated that reductions thereafter would involve decreasing the number of operationally deployed strategic nuclear warheads on ballistic missiles and at heavy bomber bases. Against that background, the United States envisioned no obstacles to its capacity to

meet its commitments under SORT, and neither party had expressed concerns about the intent or ability of the other to do so. The verification of both sides' compliance was expected to be facilitated by increasing openness in their strategic relationship under SORT and by the knowledge gained from their implementation of their 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I) [YUN 1991, p. 34], scheduled to expire in 2009.

In April, the European Community and the Gulf Cooperation Council, at the fifteenth session of their Joint Council (Manama, Bahrain, 5 April), underlined the importance of compliance with and implementation of existing disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and other relevant international obligations. Both sides stressed the importance to the universalization of international instruments against the proliferation of WMDs and their means of delivery through signature, accession or ratification of all relevant instruments.

At the seventh Asia-Europe Meeting (Kyoto, Japan, 6-7 May), 48 Foreign Ministers from Asian countries and the European Union (EU) emphasized the importance of reinforcing efforts in addressing disarmament and the non-proliferation of WMDs and their means of delivery, and the need to promote universalisation in implementing related treaties and norms, including in the area of counter-terrorism.

The fifteenth EU-Russia Summit (Moscow, 10 May) adopted road maps for tackling mutual challenges, including strengthening cooperation on security and crisis management to address such global and regional challenges as those relating to WMD proliferation, export controls and disarmament, with a view to harmonizing positions and coordinating actions on the international stage. In order to pursue that objective, both sides outlined priority areas for enhanced cooperation on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation issues.

In preparation for the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (2005 World Summit) (see p. 47), Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Movement, at a special meeting (Doha, Qatar, 13 June) [A/59/880], issued a declaration reaffirming the importance of achieving the total elimination of WMDs, particularly nuclear weapons. Recalling that Member States had resolved in the 2000 Millennium Declaration [YUN 2000, p. 49] to strive for the elimination of those weapons and to keep all options open, they reaffirmed the need for States to fulfil their arms control and disarmament obligations, maintaining that the ultimate objective of all

efforts in that regard was general and complete disarmament.

On 18 July, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and United States President George W. Bush, in a joint statement, resolved to establish a global partnership to provide leadership in areas of mutual concern and interest, including in the field of non-proliferation and security. They committed themselves to playing a leading role in international efforts to prevent the proliferation of WMDs, including nuclear, chemical, biological and radiological weapons, and to working together for such other nuclear non-proliferation initiatives as the conclusion of a multilateral fissile material cut-off treaty and securing nuclear materials and technology.

On 16 September in Washington, D.C., Russian President Vladimir Putin and United States President George W. Bush, at a joint press conference, expressed their understanding about the need to stop the spread of WMDs, with emphasis on ensuring that terrorists not obtain those weapons. They also identified with the common goal of preventing non-nuclear-weapon States from acquiring nuclear weapons, most notably Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Addressing the need to improve nuclear security, they indicated that they had reached a milestone during the year in non-proliferation cooperation by completing the conversion of 10,000 Russian nuclear warheads into peaceful fuel for United States power reactors.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted four resolutions and one decision related to nuclear disarmament. The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/56** by recorded vote (153-5-20) [agenda item 97 (I)].

Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/51 of 8 December 2003 and 59/75 of 3 December 2004,

Also recalling the decisions and resolution on the Middle East of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Regretting the lack of any substantive outcome of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as the inability of the General Assembly, at its 2005 World Summit, to reach agreement on matters relating to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Bearing in mind that 2005 marks the sixtieth anniversary of the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, and that humankind should never again be exposed to such horrific devastation,

Expressing its grave concern at the danger to humanity posed by the possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

Noting the growing concern at the lack of implementation of binding obligations and agreed steps towards nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing processes requiring urgent irreversible progress on both fronts,

Recalling the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Underlining the importance of the Treaty and its universality to achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

1. *Reaffirms* that the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons sets out the framework for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament;

2. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate the implementation of the practical steps towards nuclear disarmament that were agreed upon at the 2000 Review Conference, thereby contributing to a safer world for all;

3. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with commitments made regarding nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation and not to act in any way that may be detrimental to either cause or that may lead to a new nuclear arms race;

4. *Calls upon* all States parties to spare no efforts to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and urges India, Israel and Pakistan, which are not yet parties to the Treaty, to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/56:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Albania, Australia, Belarus, Bhutan, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Micronesia, Pakistan, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 4 by a separate recorded vote of 148 to 3, with 9 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 158 to 2, with 11 abstentions.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/65** by recorded vote (168-2-7) [agenda item 97].

Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling, on the sixtieth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and safe world free of nuclear weapons, and renewing the determination to do so,

Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling its resolution 59/76 of 3 December 2004,

Convinced that every effort should be made to avoid nuclear war and nuclear terrorism,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and expressing regret over the lack of agreement on substantive issues at the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as over the elimination of references to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

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

Expressing deep concern regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, inter alia, nuclear weapons, including that caused by proliferation networks,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the fourth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, convened in New York in September 2005,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty, and stresses the importance of an effective Treaty review process;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the universality of the Treaty, and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions, and pending their accession to refrain from acts that would defeat the objective and purpose of the Treaty as well as to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

3. *Encourages* further steps leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty, including deeper reductions in all types of nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of applying irreversibility and verifiability, as well as increased transparency in a way that promotes international stability and undiminished security for all, in the process of working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons;

4. *Encourages* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to implement fully the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions, which should serve as a step for further nuclear disarmament, and to undertake nuclear arms reductions beyond those provided for by the Treaty, while welcoming the progress made by nuclear-weapon States, including the Russian Federation and the United States, on nuclear arms reductions;

5. *Encourages* States to continue to pursue efforts, within the framework of international cooperation, contributing to the reduction of nuclear-weapons-related materials;

6. *Calls for* the nuclear-weapon States to further reduce the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security;

7. *Stresses* the necessity of 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, in a way that promotes international stability and based on the principle of undiminished security for all;

8. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty at the earliest opportunity with a view to its early entry into force, stresses the importance of maintaining existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and reaffirms the importance of the continued development of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty verification regime, including the international monitoring system, which will be required to provide assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of the immediate commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty and its early conclusion, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

10. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other

weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

11. *Stresses* the importance of further efforts for non-proliferation, including the universalization of the International Atomic Energy Agency comprehensive safeguards agreements and 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, and the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1540(2004) of 28 April 2004;

12. *Encourages* all States to undertake concrete activities to implement, as appropriate, the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and to voluntarily share information on efforts they have been undertaking to that end;

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

RECORDED VOTE RESOLUTION 60/65:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, 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, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: India, United States.

Abstaining: Bhutan, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Israel, Myanmar, Pakistan.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/70** by recorded vote (113-45-20) [agenda item 97 (m)].

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, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003 and 59/77 of 3 December 2004 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,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and 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,

Stressing the importance of the thirteen steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document 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,

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,

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

Noting with appreciation the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START 1), to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

Also noting with appreciation the entry into force of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") as a significant step to

wards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

Further noting with appreciation 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 74 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur from 20 to 25 February 2003, calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Recalling paragraph 61 of the Final Document of the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 17 to 19 August 2004,

Also recalling paragraph 19 of the declaration of the special meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Doha on 13 June 2005,

Reaffirming the specific mandate conferred by the General Assembly in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 upon the Disarmament Commission to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

Recalling 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. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *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;

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

6. *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;

7. *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;

8. *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;

9. *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;

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

11. *Underscores* the importance of 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 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;

12. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the thirteen steps for nuclear disarmament con-

tained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

13. *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;

14. *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;

15. *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;

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

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

18. *Expresses its regret* that the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was unable to achieve any substantive result and that the 2005 World Summit Outcome failed to make any reference to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation;

19. *Also expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2005 session, as called for in resolution 59/104 of 3 December 2004;

20. *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 2006 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons;

21. *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;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/70:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic

of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mauritius, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/79** by recorded vote (115-49-15) [agenda item 97 (o)].

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 the 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 above;

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 59/79 of 3 December 2004;

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 conference 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 sixty-first session;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/79:

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

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

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

The Assembly adopted **decision 60/517** by recorded vote (128-5-40) [agenda item 97 (cc)].

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

At its 61st plenary meeting, on 8 December 2005, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 128 to 5, with 40 abstentions, and on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament".

RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 60/517:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey.

Missile defence issues

In 2005, the international community continued to address global security challenges stemming from missile defence issues, particularly the related proliferation of long-range ballistic missiles. The United States, whose plans to build a missile defence system [YUN 1999, p. 469] aroused much concern in that regard, continued to develop the system, primarily through its Missile Defense Agency. During the year, the Agency successfully completed two additional interceptor emplacements. By the end of the year, it would achieve a total of 10 Ground-Based Interceptors, with two at the United States Air Force base in Vandenberg, California and at its Army base in Fort Greely, Alaska. The Agency conducted numerous related missile tests in the course of the year and also upgraded integral radar and surveillance systems.

The fifteenth EU-Russia Summit (Moscow, 10 May) pledged to conduct dialogue on developing a legally binding arrangement for a global system of control for the non-proliferation of missiles and their related technology, taking into account the wide subscription to the non-legally binding international code of conduct against ballistic

missile proliferation, also known as the Hague Code of Conduct [YUN 2002, p. 504]. The following month, the EU-United States meeting on the joint programme of work on the non-proliferation of WMDs (Washington, 20 June) pledged to increase efforts to promote adherence to the Hague Code of Conduct among other disarmament and non-proliferation arrangements. Expressing similar sentiments in a statement on non-proliferation, the Group of major industrialized countries (G-8) (Scotland, United Kingdom, 6-8 July) called on States accede to the Code, and on DPRK in particular not to contribute to missile proliferation and to maintain indefinitely its moratorium on the launching of missiles.

In June, the subscribing States to the Hague Code of Conduct, at their fourth regular meeting (Vienna, 2-3 June), discussed, among other subjects, confidence-building measures, such as pre-launch notifications and annual declarations. As part of future outreach activities, they considered the need to promote the universalization of the Code in specific regions and also agreed on the text of a draft resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixtieth (2005) session. The fifth regular meeting of the subscribing States was scheduled to be held in Vienna in June 2006 to continue discussions on confidence-building measures and the universalization of the Code. At year's end, subscribing States to the Code numbered 123.

In September, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)—an informal and voluntary association of countries sharing the goals of non-proliferation of unmanned delivery systems capable of delivering WMDs—at its twentieth plenary meeting (Madrid, Spain, 12-16 September), evaluated trends in missile proliferation, particularly regarding tests and activities of concern in the Middle East and South and East Asia, among other regions. Recognizing that export controls remained an essential tool in addressing missile proliferation, the Plenary renewed its commitment to the strict implementation and enforcement of such controls, including the strengthening of existing rules to respond to technological development and the evolving security environment.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/62** by recorded vote (158-1-11) [agenda item 97 (y)].

The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the increasing regional and global security challenges caused, inter alia, by the ongoing

proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its role and responsibility in the field of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the significance of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Welcoming the adoption of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation on 25 November 2002 at The Hague, and convinced that the Code of Conduct will contribute to enhancing transparency and confidence among States,

Recalling its resolution 59/91 of 3 December 2004 entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation",

Confirming its commitment to the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, as contained in the annex to its resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996,

Recognizing that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes, but that in reaping such benefits and in conducting related cooperation they must not contribute to the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction,

Mindful of the need to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that one hundred and twenty-three States have already subscribed to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Invites* all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct to do so;

3. *Encourages* the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/62:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, 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, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore,

Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Iran.

Abstaining: Algeria, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic.

Also on 8 December [meeting 61], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **decision 60/515** by recorded vote (120-2-53) [agenda item 97 (f)].

Missiles

At its 61st plenary meeting, on 8 December 2005, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 120 to 2, with 53 abstentions, and on the recommendation of the First Committee, recalling its resolutions 54/54 F of 1 December 1999, 55/33 A of 20 November 2000, 56/24 B of 29 November 2001, 57/71 of 22 November 2002, 58/37 of 8 December 2003 and 59/67 of 3 December 2004, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Missiles".

RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 60/515

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, Vanuatu.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Status

As at 31 December, 176 States had signed the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) adopted by General Assembly resolution 50/245 [YUN 1996, p. 454], and 126 had ratified it. During the year, instruments of ratification were deposited by Cook Islands, Djibouti, Haiti, Madagascar, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Vanuatu. In accordance with article XIV, CTBT would enter into force 180 days after the 44 States possessing nuclear reactors, listed in annex 2 of the Treaty,

had deposited their instruments of ratification. By year's end, 33 of those States had ratified the Treaty.

Reports of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 59/109 [YUN 2004, p. 539], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/60/127] containing information prepared by the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) (see p. 594) on the efforts of ratifying States towards the Treaty's universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States requesting it.

By a 20 July note [A/60/136], the Secretary-General informed the Assembly of the availability of the report of the Commission's Executive Secretary covering its activities in 2004.

Conference on facilitating entry into force

The fourth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of CTBT (New York, 21-23 September) [CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/6] was convened in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty, which stipulated that if the Treaty had not entered into force three years from the date it opened for signature [YUN 1996, p. 452], the depositary should convene a conference at the request of a majority of ratifying States to consider and decide by consensus measures to facilitate an early entry into force. The first such Conference took place in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 471], the second in 2001 [YUN 2001, p. 482] and the third in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 547].

The Conference had before it a draft final declaration [CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/WP.1] and a document outlining the activities undertaken by signatory and ratifying States aimed at helping the Treaty take effect [CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/4]. On 23 September, the Conference adopted a Final Declaration and measures to promote the Treaty's entry into force, in which participants called upon States that had not done so to sign and ratify the Treaty promptly, particularly those whose ratification was needed for the Treaty to take effect. As an interim measure, they emphasized the need to maintain voluntary adherence to a moratorium on nuclear weapon test explosions and any other nuclear explosion and called on States to desist from such activities. Acknowledging the scientific and civil benefits of the CTBT verification system being established, participants pledged to consider ways to ensure that those benefits could be broadly shared by the international community, in conformity with the Treaty. They agreed to maintain the practice of selecting one of the ratifying States as a coordinator to promote cooperation through informal consultations with all interested countries aimed at promoting further signatures and ratifications, and that the

special representative appointed following the 2003 Conference [YUN 2003, p. 547] would continue to assist the coordinating State in that regard. The Conference recommended that ratifying States consider establishing a trust fund, financed through voluntary contributions, to support an outreach programme for promoting the Treaty, and that the Provisional Technical Secretariat continue to provide States with legal assistance with respect to the ratification process and implementation measures.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/469], adopted **resolution 60/95** by recorded vote (172-1-4) [agenda item 103].

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, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament,

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 nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

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

Recalling its resolution 59/109 of 3 December 2004,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the fourth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York from 21 to 23 September 2005, pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty,

1. *Stresses* the importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, 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 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. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States to maintain their moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty;

5. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

6. *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;

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

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/95:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, 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, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, 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, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

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

Preparatory Commission for the CTBT Organization

During the year, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), established in 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 452], continued to develop the Treaty's verification regime for monitoring Treaty compliance. Further progress was made in setting up the International Monitoring System (IMS) [YUN 1999, p. 472], the global network of 337 facilities (comprising 321 monitoring stations and 16 related laboratories) in 90 countries designed to detect nuclear explosions prohibited by CTBT via a global satellite communication system. The relevant information would then be transmitted to the International Data Centre (IDC) in Vienna for processing. At year's end, the installation of 219

of those stations (68 per cent) had been completed, 156 of which were certified as meeting the requisite technical requirements. In addition, six laboratories were certified. The development of provisional operation and maintenance processes and procedures continued during the year, and significant progress was made in configuration and information management through the establishment of baseline configuration of certified stations in the database of the technical secretariat. In the course of the year, the number of those stations in IDC operations reached the 50 per cent mark, substantially enhancing the geographic coverage of data being received. Also, some 89 national data centres increased their data processing capacity, resulting in over three million data segments and products being distributed to authorized users. Following the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster of December 2004 [YUN 2004, p. 952], the Preparatory Commission began testing the usefulness of IMS data in the context of a tsunami alert.

During the first part of its twenty-fourth session, the Preparatory Commission held a special session (Vienna, 4 March) [CTBT/PC-24/1] to consider its possible contribution to tsunami warning and other alert systems. It tasked its provisional technical secretariat to explore with national and international tsunami warning organizations recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) data and products that could be provided by the secretariat for tsunami warning. The Commission held the main part of its twenty-fourth (27-28 June) [CTBT/PC-24/3] and its twenty-fifth (14 September, 17 October, 14-18 November) [CTBT/PC-25/1, CTBT/PC-25/2, CTBT/PC-25/3] sessions, both in Vienna, to consider the reports of its working groups and to discuss organizational, budgetary and other matters. The Commission adopted its 2006 programme budget in the combined amounts of \$50,894,000 and 44,437,900 euros, of which approximately \$30 million and 12 million euros were earmarked for the IMS network.

Prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons

In 2005, the Conference on Disarmament remained unable to undertake negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, as called for in General Assembly resolution 59/102 [YUN 2004, p. 540], owing to the impasse among delegates over a programme of work.

The Assembly, in **resolution 60/88** (see below), reiterated its request to the Conference to commence negotiations in order to reach

agreement on such a convention, and to report thereon.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/88** by recorded vote (111-49-13) [agenda item 98 (f)].

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 E 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 2005 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 59/102 of 3 December 2004,

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 60/88:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, 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, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/83 [YUN 2004, p. 541] on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) 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 six States (Chile, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Syrian Arab Republic) on measures they had taken to implement the resolution and towards nuclear disarmament [A/60/122].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/76** by recorded vote (126-29-24) [agenda item 97 (q)].

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, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003 and 59/83 of 3 December 2004,

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,

Stressing the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament and 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 sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2005 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 regret over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reach agreement on any substantive issues,

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 report of the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 59/83,

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 sixty-first session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first 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 60/76:

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

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

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uzbekistan.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 1 by a recorded vote of 142 to 3, with 5 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 165 to 3, with 4 abstentions.

Non-proliferation issues

Non-Proliferation Treaty

Status

In 2005, the number of States party 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], remained at 189. NPT entered into force on 5 March 1970.

NPT Review Conference

The 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (New York, 2-27 May) [NPT/CONF.2005/57] was held to review the Treaty's operation, as provided for in article VIII, paragraph 3, and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/24 O [YUN 2001, p. 483] and with the decisions of the 1995 Review Conference [YUN 1995, p. 189], which extended NPT indefinitely and provided for further review conferences at five-year intervals. Previous quinquennial review conferences took place 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].

The Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Conference had met in 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 507], 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 549] and 2004 [YUN 2004, p. 542].

Participants at the Conference included 153 States parties and Palestine as an observer, representatives of the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), regional and intergovernmental organizations, research institutes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Conference established three Main Committees and corresponding subsidiary bodies, a Drafting Committee and a Credentials Committee. Substantive issues were to be discussed by the Main Committees, including a review of the implementation of the Treaty's provisions relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, disarmament and international peace and security; security assurances; and the Treaty's role in promoting the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament in strengthening international peace and security and measures aimed at strengthening the implementation of the Treaty and achieving its universality. The issue of Treaty withdrawal was also accorded special consideration, in the light of DPRK's withdrawal from the Treaty, its previous non-compliance with its non-proliferation obligations and most importantly, its announcement earlier in the year that it had manufactured nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, deliberations within the Main Committees, based on working papers presented by the Chairman, were undermined by pronounced disagreements among the parties on procedural issues and over all the substantive agenda items on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament-related questions, particularly the language in which to address key aspects of the issues under review. Con-

sequently, the Conference was not able to achieve a consensus outcome on any of the substantive issues on its agenda concerning the review of the implementation of the Treaty's provisions. On 27 May, the Conference adopted a Final Document, which merely outlined its organizational and procedural arrangements and a summary record of its proceedings.

Several States parties, disappointed at the outcome of the Conference, stressed the need to strengthen the Treaty and to address the challenges facing it. Nonetheless, the President of the Conference concluded that the proceedings strengthened his conviction that NPT still enjoyed the strong support of all States parties.

Related events held during the Conference included a meeting on verification pursuant to the NPT: concluding safeguards agreements and additional protocols, sponsored by the IAEA (5 May); a workshop which considered the question "why do States abandon nuclear weapons ambitions?", sponsored by Finland on behalf of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (9 May); a workshop on United Nations capacity for monitoring weapons of mass destruction, sponsored by New Zealand (10 May); a presentation on verification by the United Kingdom (10 May); and a meeting on transparency and accountability in nuclear arms, sponsored by Germany (17 May).

Communications. Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Movement, at a special meeting (Doha, Qatar, 13 June) [A/59/880], expressed disappointment over the inability of the Review Conference to reach consensus on the substantive questions relating to NPT. Noting that its members had acted in good faith to advance positions towards strengthening the Treaty, the Ministers pointed to the unwillingness of some States, including certain nuclear-weapon States, to honour their previous obligations and commitments in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

On 26 July [A/60/415], the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Chile, Indonesia, Norway, Romania, South Africa and the United Kingdom issued a joint declaration on disarmament and non-proliferation expressing their disappointment at the outcome of the 2005 Review Conference and calling on all States to take a strong stand on disarmament and non-proliferation at the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (2005 World Summit) (see p. 47). A large number of countries from all regions expressed support for the initiative.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Com-

mittee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/72** by recorded vote (87-56-26) [agenda item 97].

Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its various resolutions in the field of nuclear disarmament, including its most recent, resolutions 59/77, 59/83 and 59/102 of 3 December 2004,

Bearing in mind its resolution 2373(XXII) of 12 June 1968, the annex to which contains the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Noting the provisions of article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty regarding the convening of review conferences at five-year intervals,

Recalling its resolution 50/70 Q of 12 December 1995, in which the General Assembly noted that the States parties to the Treaty affirmed the need to continue to move with determination towards the full realization and effective implementation of the provisions of the Treaty, and accordingly adopted a set of principles and objectives,

Recalling also that, on 11 May 1995, the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted three decisions on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and extension of the Treaty,

Reaffirming the resolution on the Middle East adopted on 11 May 1995 by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, in which the Conference reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and placement of nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000, in which the General Assembly welcomed the adoption by consensus on 19 May 2000 of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including, in particular, the documents entitled "Review of the operation of the Treaty, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference" and "Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty",

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, 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,

Gravely concerned over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty to reach any substantive agreement on the follow-up to the nuclear disarmament obligations,

1. *Determines* to pursue practical steps for 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;

2. *Calls for* practical steps, as agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, to be taken by all nuclear-weapon States that would lead to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability and, based upon the principle of undiminished security for all, for:

(a) Further efforts to be made by the nuclear-weapon States to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(b) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as a voluntary confidence-building measure to support further progress in nuclear disarmament;

(c) 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;

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

(e) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(f) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

3. *Notes that* the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

4. *Urges* the States parties to the Treaty to follow up on the implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty within the framework of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty and its preparatory committee;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session an item entitled "Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/72:

In favour: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The for-

mer Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Vanuatu.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru.

Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

In his March report to the 2005 World Summit entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" [A/59/2005 & Add.1] (see p. 67), the Secretary-General highlighted the security challenges relating to nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and multilateral efforts to tackle them. He noted in particular that while NPT currently faced a crisis of confidence and compliance owing to increasing strain on verification and enforcement, the Conference on Disarmament faced a similar crisis of relevance, resulting partly from dysfunctional decision-making procedures and consequent paralysis. He stressed that progress in disarmament and non-proliferation was essential and that neither should be held hostage. While recognizing the disarmament efforts of nuclear-weapon States, the Secretary-General said the unique status of those States also entailed a unique responsibility to do more, including but not limited to further reductions in their arsenals of non-strategic nuclear weapons and pursuing arms control agreements that entailed both dismantlement and irreversibility. In addition, they should reaffirm their commitment to negative security assurances. Swift negotiation of a fissile material cut-off treaty was essential and the moratorium on nuclear test explosions should be upheld until the entry into force of CTBT (see p. 593).

Noting the fact that the technology required for civilian nuclear fuel could also be used to develop nuclear weapons, the Secretary-General said that, while the access of non-nuclear-weapon States to the benefits of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes should not be curtailed, there was a need to focus on creating incentives for States to forgo voluntarily the development of domestic uranium enrichment and plutonium separation capacities. Recent efforts to supplement NPT as the foundation of the non-proliferation regime should be welcomed, including Security Council resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544], which was designed to prevent non-State actors from acquiring WMDs and their means of delivery, and the Proliferation Security Initiative [YUN 2003, p. 536], under which States were cooperating to prevent illicit trafficking in WMDs. Also, Member States should adopt effective national export controls covering missiles

and other means of WMD delivery, rockets and shoulder-fired missiles, as well as banning their transfer to non-State actors. The Secretary-General stated that his capacity to investigate the suspected use of biological agents, as authorized by the General Assembly, should also be strengthened to incorporate the latest technology and expertise. Adding that the Security Council should be better informed on all matters relevant to nuclear, chemical and biological threats, the Secretary-General encouraged the Council to invite regularly the Directors-General of IAEA and of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to brief it on the status of safeguards and verification processes. The Secretary-General declared his readiness, in consultation with the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), to use his powers under Article 99 of the UN Charter to call the Council's attention to any overwhelming outbreak of infectious diseases that threatened international peace and security.

Security Council Committee on WMDs. On 7 January [S/2005/11], the Security Council President informed the Secretary-General that the Council had taken note of his intention, announced in 2004 [YUN 2004, p. 545], to appoint four experts to assist the Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540(2004) [ibid., p. 544] to monitor the implementation of measures set out in that resolution to combat the proliferation of WMDs and their means of delivery. On 6 May [S/2005/299], the Secretary-General informed the Council of his appointment of an additional four experts to facilitate the Committee's work.

During the year, the Committee became fully operational and began the substantive part of its work. In April [S/PV.5168], July [S/PV.5229] and October [S/PV.5293 & Corr.1], the Committee Chairman briefed the Council on the Committee's programme of work for the year, a key aspect of which related to the examination of national reports, as called for in resolution 1540(2004).

On 25 April [meeting 5168], the Council, in Presidential statement **S/PRST/2005/16** (see p. 109), invited the Committee to pursue its undertakings in accordance with its approved programme of work and called on States that had not done so to submit national reports as soon as possible. In subsequent action on 20 July [meeting 5229], the Council, in Presidential statement **S/PRST/2005/34** (see p. 110), encouraged the Committee to enhance cooperation with related Council bodies and other organizations, with a view to developing best practices to provide clarity and guidance to States on the implementation of relevant resolutions.

On 19 December [S/2005/799], the Committee Chairman submitted a consolidated report on the Committee's activities and the results achieved during the period from 1 January to 16 December. The report indicated that 124 States had submitted national reports, 42 of which were subsequently updated in response to the Chairman's request for additional information. Having determined in that regard that some States might require technical assistance from international organizations with the requisite expertise, particularly IAEA and OPCW, the Committee facilitated the process for providing such assistance through cooperation with competent organizations. To further improve its work, it accorded priority to transparency by maintaining regular contacts with Member States and undertaking joint briefings with other Council bodies. It also undertook awareness-raising activities, the most notable being the first regional seminar for countries of Latin America and the Caribbean entitled "Advancing the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540(2004)", which was organized jointly by Argentina and the United Kingdom (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26-28 September) and designed to promote better understanding of the objectives of that resolution and of the steps to be taken in implementing it. The Committee also promoted its outreach programme in Africa and Eurasia and participated in a number of related international meetings, including the second World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments (New York, 7-9 September) the workshop entitled "The Global Bargain for Biosecurity and Health" (Kampala, Uganda, 28 September-1 October), and the Seventh International Export Control Conference organized jointly by the United States and Sweden (Stockholm, Sweden, 20-22 September), which considered recent export control initiatives and ways to strengthen non-proliferation efforts globally.

The Committee Chairman noted that, although the Committee had achieved the targets set out in its 2005 work programmes, full implementation of resolution 1540(2004) by all States through national legislation and measures to enforce such legislation was a long-term objective that went beyond the Committee's current mandate. Continuous efforts would be required at the national, regional and international levels to provide capacity-building and assistance.

New types of weapons of mass destruction

In 2005, the persisting disagreement among delegates over a programme of work again prevented the Conference on Disarmament [A/60/27] from establishing any mechanism to consider any of its agenda items, including the item on "New

types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons". As a result, the topic was addressed only during plenary meetings when delegations reaffirmed their respective positions on the item.

The General Assembly, in resolution 60/46 (see below), reaffirmed the need to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and asked the Conference on Disarmament to keep the matter under review.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/453], adopted **resolution 60/46** by recorded vote (180-1-1) [agenda item 87].

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

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, 54/44 of 1 December 1999 and 57/50 of 22 November 2002 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 sixtieth 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 sixty-third 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".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/46:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: Israel.

Terrorism and WMDs

In 2005, the United Nations maintained efforts to address the growing threat to global peace and stability posed by international terrorism, particularly the risk of acquisition and use by terrorists of WMDs. In January, the Counter-Terrorism Committee, established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373(2001) [YUN 2001, p. 61] (see p. 107), continued to implement its mandate to monitor Member States' efforts to combat terrorism.

In his March report to the 2005 World Summit (see p. 67), the Secretary-General determined that terrorism and weapons of mass destruction were among the threats to peace and security in the twenty-first century and threatened all that the United Nations stood for. As such, he outlined a strategy for dealing with it, based on five pillars: dissuading people from resorting to terrorism or supporting it; denying terrorists access to funds and materials; deterring States from sponsoring terrorism; developing State capacity to defeat terrorism; and defending human rights.

In April, the General Assembly adopted by consensus, in resolution 59/290 (see p. 1411), the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. By the terms of the Convention, Member States were called upon to develop legal frameworks criminalizing nuclear terrorism-related offenses and to promote inter-

national cooperation in investigating and prosecuting offenders. In other action, the Assembly, in resolution 60/78 (see below) requested the Secretary-General to report on measures already taken by international organizations regarding the linkage between the fight against terrorism and WMD proliferation, and to seek Member States' views on additional measures for tackling the threat. Focusing on radiological terrorism, the Assembly, in resolution 60/73 (see p. 603), called on Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources. In July, the Security Council, in resolution 1617(2005) on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (see p. 410) expressed concern over the possible use by Al-Qaida or the Taliban and their associates of chemical, biological, radiation or nuclear weapons and material and emphasized the need for the effective implementation of the sanctions imposed against them. In an August report [A/60/285] to the Assembly, the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters highlighted the urgency of addressing proliferation challenges stemming from States' possible acquisition of nuclear weapons under the cover of peaceful nuclear activities and related terrorists threats.

IAEA, in an effort to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material [YUN 1980, p. 161], convened a conference of the States parties (Vienna, 4-8 July) [GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6], which adopted by consensus a number of amendments to the Convention. The first changed its title to "Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities", thereby extending its scope to cover the protection of nuclear facilities and the domestic transport, storage and use of nuclear material. Other amendments revised and fortified many of the Convention's principles and provisions. On 30 September, the IAEA General Conference, in a resolution [GC(49)/RES/10] on nuclear security: measures to protect against nuclear terrorism, welcomed those amendments, encouraged the States parties to ratify them and appealed to States that had not done so to adhere to the Convention. In the same resolution [GC(49)/RES/10], the Conference called on Member States to provide political, financial and technical support to improve nuclear and radiological security and prevent related terrorism. Also in September [GC(49)/17], the IAEA Board of Governors approved a new nuclear security plan for 2006-2009, which outlined measures and activities planned to help prevent nuclear and radiological terrorism.

Report of Secretary-General. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/80 [YUN 2004, p. 577], the Secretary-General, in an August report, with a later addendum [A/60/185 & Add.1], presented the views of 10 Member States and 11 international organizations, including UN agencies, on measures they had taken to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMDs.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/78** without vote [agenda item 97 (p)].

Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/80 of 3 December 2004,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced 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,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540(2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

Welcoming the adoption, by consensus, of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism on 13 April 2005,

Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 20 to 25 February 2003, and in the Final Document of the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Durban, South Africa, from 17 to 19 August 2004, for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction, and the need for international cooperation in combating it,

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(49)/RES/10, adopted on 30 September 2005 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-ninth regular session,

Taking note also of the report of the Policy Working Group on the United Nations and Terrorism,

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 4 of resolution 59/80,

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help to 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. *Invites* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism in order to bring about its early entry into force;

3. *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;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *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 the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

On the same date [meeting 61], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/73** without vote [agenda item 97].

Preventing the risk of radiological terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the essential contribution of radioactive materials and sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

Recognizing also the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive materials or sources in radiological dispersion devices,

Recalling the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Sup-

pression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,

Noting that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolution 1540(2004) of 28 April 2004, constitute contributions to the protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism,

Stressing the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive materials and sources, in particular by supporting the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure,

Taking note of the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management with respect to the safety of the end of life of radioactive sources,

Taking note also of the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources as a valuable instrument for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, while recognizing that the Code is not a legally binding instrument, and of the International Atomic Energy Agency Revised Action Plan for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Nuclear Security Plan for 2006-2009,

Taking note further of resolutions GC(49)/RES/9 and GC(49)/RES/10, adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-ninth regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management and measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism,

Welcoming the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive materials and sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

Welcoming also the fact that Member States have undertaken multilateral actions to address this issue, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 57/9 of 11 November 2002,

Welcoming further the contribution of the International Atomic Energy Agency International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Towards a Global System for the Continuous Control of Sources throughout Their Life Cycle, held in Bordeaux, France, from 27 June to 1 July 2005, to the activities of the Agency on these issues,

Mindful of the need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such high-risk materials in accordance with their international obligations;

3. *Invites* all Member States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;

4. *Invites* Member States to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in the Agency's Nuclear Security Plan for 2006-2009, urges all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the Agency Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, including, as appropriate, the guidance on the import and export of radioactive sources, noting that the guidance is complementary to the Code, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to resolution GC(48)/RES/10 of the General Conference of the Agency, recognizes the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and encourages consultations by the secretariat of the Agency with its member States with a view to establishing a formalized process for a periodic exchange of information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code;

5. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session an item entitled "Preventing the risk of radiological terrorism".

Multilateralism in disarmament and non-proliferation

Report of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 59/69 [YUN 2004, p. 546], the Secretary-General, in a July report, with a later addendum [A/60/98 & Add.1], presented replies received from 10 Governments regarding the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Other developments. On 13 May [S/2005/521], the Indian Parliament passed the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Bill, prohibiting unlawful activities in relation to WMDs and fulfilling India's obligations pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544].

In a 2 June statement [CD/1750], Poland summarized the 2005 activities undertaken to promote the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), including a number of naval, air and ground interdiction exercises and other measures to im-

prove information exchange and cooperation between the participating countries' special services, border and customs officers. Launched in Krakow, Poland, in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 536], PSI was intended to combat the proliferation of WMDs by searching suspicious land, air and sea vessels and to confiscate any illegal weapons on board. Over 60 countries were involved. In commemoration of the second anniversary of the founding of PSI, United States President George W. Bush urged all States to join the global campaign by endorsing the Initiative's principle of interdiction and by committing to working to end the security threat posed by WMD proliferation.

The EU and the United States, at their 2005 summit (Washington, D.C., 20 June), adopted a declaration on enhancing cooperation in the field of non-proliferation and the fight against terrorism, by which they pledged to further strengthen measures against the spread of WMDs by State and non-State actors; and to respond more effectively to related threats, particularly with regard to the policies and activities of Iran and DPRK. They also adopted an EU-United States joint programme of work on the non-proliferation of WMDs.

At the fifteenth plenary meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (Oslo, Norway, 23-24 June), the 45 participating States analysed current proliferation challenges, particularly those posed by DPRK and Iran, and declared their readiness to cooperate in implementing Security Council resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544]. They also adopted measures to further strengthen their national export controls.

The Group of major industrialized countries G-8 (Scotland, United Kingdom, 6-8 July) adopted a statement on non-proliferation emphasizing their determination to meet related challenges decisively, through national efforts and effective multilateralism. They reaffirmed their commitment to their 2002 Global Partnership against the Proliferation of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction [YUN 2002, p. 494], under which they had pledged to support cooperative projects addressing non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues, and renewed their pledge to raise up to \$20 billion towards that end by 2012.

On 18 July, United States President George W. Bush and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, in a joint statement, announced the establishment of a global partnership to promote stability, democracy, prosperity and peace in the world, and to provide global leadership in areas of mutual concern and interest, including on non-proliferation and security questions.

On 24 October [A/60/549], the People's Council of Turkmenistan adopted a statement of support of international initiatives to combat the proliferation of WMDs, in which, among other things, it announced the country's prohibition of the use of its sovereign airspace for the transportation of those weapons and related materials, as well as missiles and missile technology.

On 17 November, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the non-proliferation of WMDs, by which it called for, among other things, preventing the proliferation of ballistic missiles with extended range and greater accuracy; developing and enforcing effective export and transit controls and reinforcing border security to limit the risk of sensitive WMD-related materials falling into the wrong hands; fostering the role of the UN Security Council and enhancing expertise in meeting the challenge of proliferation; and strengthening effective multilateralism in addressing non-proliferation questions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/59** by recorded vote (122-8-50) [agenda item 97 (h)].

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, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003 and 59/69 of 3 December 2004 on promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

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 in 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 and transparent 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 and transparent 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, the 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 non-proliferation, 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 and transparent 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. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 59/69;

8. *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 thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/59:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Albania, France, Israel, Latvia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Vanuatu.

IAEA safeguards

As at 31 December, the Model Protocol Additional to Safeguards Agreements strengthening the safeguards regime of IAEA, approved by the Agency's Board of Governors in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 486], had been signed and/or approved by 113 States, including the five nuclear-weapon States,

and was in force or being provisionally applied in 73 States.

As in previous years, the IAEA General Conference [GC(49)/RES/13] requested concerned States and other parties to safeguard agreements, including nuclear-weapon States, that had not done so to sign additional protocols promptly and bring them into force as soon as possible, in conformity with their national legislation. The Conference called for innovative technological solutions to strengthen the effectiveness of safeguards and for cooperation among member States to facilitate the exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information for implementing those protocols. It commended member States, notably Japan, that had implemented elements of a plan of action first outlined in a 2000 resolution of the Conference [YUN 2000, p. 505] and updated in February 2005, and recommended that other member States consider such action to facilitate the entry into force of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols.

In 2005, international anxiety over DPRK's nuclear status rose markedly in the wake of its 10 February announcement that it had manufactured nuclear weapons and its continued denial of access to IAEA to verify that it had declared all nuclear material subject to Agency safeguards. Consequently, the Agency remained unable to draw any conclusions or provide assurances about nuclear material or activities in the country. In a 4 August report to the General Conference [GC(49)/13], the Director General noted that DPRK's nuclear activities outside international verification were a serious challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and its admission; that it possessed nuclear weapons was a matter of the utmost concern, with serious security implications. On 30 September [GC(49)/RES/14], the General Conference, while expressing concern over the DPRK's official statement that it had nuclear weapons, welcomed progress at the six-party talks (see p. 450) toward the goal of the verifiable denucleariation of the Korean Peninsula and called on the DPRK to cooperate with the Agency in the full and effective implementation of comprehensive IAEA safeguards.

On 1 August [INFCIRC/648], Iran notified IAEA that it had decided to resume uranium conversion, which it had suspended voluntarily in 2003 as a confidence-building measure and as part of an agreement with France, Germany and the United Kingdom to promote transparency, cooperation and access to nuclear and other advanced technology. It had taken that action because it had received little in return for the expansion of its voluntary confidence-building

measures and had not gained the expected benefit of unrestricted access to advanced nuclear technology. Nonetheless, it would continue to abide by its obligations under the NPT. In a 9 August statement to the IAEA Board of Governors, issued on behalf of the EU, the United Kingdom expressed regret about Iran's actions at a time when outstanding questions about its nuclear programme had yet to be resolved and new questions about its plutonium-related activities had arisen. It asked the Board to react firmly. On 11 August [GOV/2005/64], the Board urged Iran to re-establish full suspension of all enrichment-related activities on the same voluntary and non-legally binding basis as requested in previous Board resolutions and to permit the Director General to reinstate seals that had been removed at its Uranium Conversion Facility in Esfahan. On 24 September [GOV/2005/77], the Board, having considered a situation report by the Director General [GOV/2005/67], found that Iran's history of concealment of its nuclear activities and related issues and the resulting lack of confidence in its nuclear programme being exclusively for peaceful purposes, had raised questions that were within the competence of the Security Council. It urged Iran to suspend all enrichment-related and reprocessing activity in order to help the Director General resolve outstanding questions and provide necessary assurances and to return to the negotiating process. On 18 November [GOV/2005/87], the Director General reported that, although Iran had provided access to necessary documentation and other information relating to its procurement network, it needed to become more transparent in providing data on the procurement of dual use equipment and in permitting visits to relevant military facilities and research and development locations.

Concerning Iraq, the Director General, in a 26 September statement to the General Conference, said that IAEA's mandate under various Security Council resolutions to maintain inspections of Iraq's nuclear programme remained in effect in 2005 and the Agency's future work in that regard was expected to be guided by the Council's planned review of the mandate, as indicated in resolution 1546(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 548]. Pending that review, the Agency had reduced to a minimum the staff of its Iraq Nuclear Verification Office (INVO). He hoped the review would be undertaken as soon as possible.

Note by Secretary-General. In August [A/60/204], the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the availability of the forty-ninth report of IAEA [GC(49)/5] covering its 2004 activities.

Communication. On 1 November [A/C.1/60/5], the DPRK alleged that the United States and the United Kingdom, in arguments made in the First Committee of the General Assembly regarding the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, had attempted to mislead world opinion by urging the DPRK to dismantle its nuclear weapons programme unconditionally, in accordance with the Beijing joint statement under the six-party talks (see p. 450), as though it carried the obligation of only the DPRK. The denuclearization of the Peninsula could not be achieved only through the unilateral abandonment by the DPRK of its nuclear programmes.

Middle East

In 2005, the General Assembly (see below) and the IAEA General Conference [GC(49)/RES/15] 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 reaffirmed the need for States in the region to accept the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities.

In response to Assembly resolution 59/106 [YUN 2004, p. 549], the Secretary-General reported in October [A/60/126 (Part II)] that, apart from the IAEA resolution on the application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East, which was annexed to his report, he had not received any additional information since his 2004 report [YUN 2004, p. 549].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/466], adopted **resolution 60/92** by recorded vote (164-5-5) [agenda item 100].

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(49)/RES/15 adopted on 30 September 2005,

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 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, 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 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 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 Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty,

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 and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and seventy-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 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 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 sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/92:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, 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, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, 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, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Palau, United States.

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Tonga.

The First Committee adopted the sixth preambular paragraph by a separate recorded vote of 145 to 2, with 5 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 162 to 2, with 6 abstentions.

Radioactive waste

To enhance the safe transport of radioactive material, IAEA updated its comprehensive training manual on transport safety to include the latest requirements of the Agency's Transport Regulations. In June, the IAEA Board of Governors approved a new policy for reviewing and revising those Regulations every two years to strengthen their effectiveness and enable member States to more easily harmonize national regulations with them. In September [GC/49/RES/9], the IAEA General Conference encouraged a wider participation in the review process by concerned member States. Recognizing concerns about the potential for damage in the event of an accident while transporting radioactive materials by sea, including pollution of the marine environment, the Conference urged member States that did not have national regulatory documents governing the transport of those materials to adopt them and ensure that they conformed with the amended edition of the IAEA Transport Regulations. During the year, a number of international organizations and carriers, including the Inter-

national Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations addressed the issue of denial of shipments of radioactive materials intended for use in medical diagnosis and treatment.

Conferences. In 2005, IAEA organized two international conferences on the safety of radioactive materials: the international conference on the safety and security of radioactive sources: towards a global system for the continuous control over sources throughout their life cycle (Bordeaux, France, 27 June–1 July), which promoted information exchange on key issues relating to the safety and security of radioactive sources and adopted a number of findings and recommendations; and the international conference on the safety of radioactive waste disposal (Tokyo, Japan, 3–7 October), which considered, among other things, possible disposal options available.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/57** without vote [agenda item 97 (b)].

Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153(XLVIII) of 1988 and CM/Res.1225(L) of 1989, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,

Taking note of the commitment by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,

Considering its resolution 2602 C(XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Also recalling resolution GC(45)/RES/10 adopted by consensus on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session, in which States shipping radioactive materials are invited to provide, as appropriate, assurances to concerned States, upon their re-

quest, that the national regulations of the shipping State take into account the Agency's transport regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to the shipment of such materials; the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical security and safety,

Welcoming the adoption at Vienna, on 5 September 1997, of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, as recommended by the participants at the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

Noting with satisfaction that the Joint Convention entered into force on 18 June 2001,

Noting that the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management was convened in Vienna from 3 to 14 November 2003,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons;

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356(LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Appeals* to all Member States that have not yet taken the necessary steps to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

Also on 8 December, the Assembly adopted resolution 60/73 on preventing the risk of radiological terrorism (see p. 603).

Nuclear-weapon-free zones

Africa

As at 31 December, 23 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. By the terms of the Treaty, ratification by 28 States was required for its entry into force.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/456], adopted **resolution 60/49** without vote [agenda item 90].

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) at Cairo on 11 April 1996,

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion, which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Taking note of the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996, affirming that the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) as soon as possible so that it may enter into force without delay;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols concerning them to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and that lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

4. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba when it enters into force, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

Asia

Central Asia

During the year, the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA), through its Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (see p. 648), facilitated the conclusion of seven years of negotiations to finalize the text on a Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty. The draft text, which was considered at a meeting (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 7-9 February) attended by the five Central Asian States (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), reflected developments in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including those relating to the CTBT (see p. 593) and the IAEA Additional Protocol (see p. 606).

On 8 December, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first (2006) session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia" (**decision 60/516**).

Mongolia

The Organization continued efforts in 2005 to consolidate Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, mainly through DDA's Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (see p. 648), which organized a series of consultations with relevant UN agencies to follow up on the recommendations made in the two studies on economic and ecological vulnerabilities as they related to human security in Mongolia.

South-East Asia

In 2005, the 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], maintained efforts to establish an institutional framework to implement the Treaty. To that end, Ministers from members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), at the twelfth meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 29 July), reaffirmed the importance of continuing consultation on the Treaty's Protocol between the States parties and nuclear-weapon States.

Latin America and the Caribbean

During the year, the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) (Santiago, Chile, 7-8 November) [GC/res.487], adopted the Declaration of Santiago de Chile, by which countries in the region resolved to intensify cooperation and coordination mechanisms with other nuclear-weapon-free zones and with those that might be established in the future, in order to speed up the achievement of common objectives and promote the consolidation of the legal regimes established by the zones. They reaffirmed support for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and reiterated to the nuclear powers that had signed or ratified Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [YUN 1967, p. 13] with reservations or unilateral interpretations affecting the denuclearized status of the zone, to modify or withdraw such reservations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/457], adopted **resolution 60/50** without vote [agenda item 91].

Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 2286(XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of

nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Highlighting that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-three sovereign States of the region, thereby consolidating the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Noting with satisfaction the leadership of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in the convening of the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) is now in force for the sovereign States of the region, and that this fact was officially acknowledged by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighteenth session, held at Havana on 5 and 6 November 2003, and takes note of the results of the aforementioned session of the General Conference, including the adoption of the Havana Declaration;

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268(XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

Middle East

In response to General Assembly resolution 59/63 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East [YUN 2004, p. 552], the Secretary-General, in a July report, with later addenda [A/60/126 (Part I) & Add.1, 2], provided information on the resolution's implementation. He stated that he had maintained consultation with concerned parties within and beyond the region to explore further ways of promoting the establishment of the zone, but was concerned that developments in the region since his 2004 report [YUN 2004, p. 552] might affect efforts towards that goal. Welcoming recent attempts to give new impetus to the road map for peace in the region developed by the Quartet of the European Union, the Russian Federation, the United States and the United Nations (see p. 502), the Secretary-General called on all parties concerned to re-

sume dialogue, with a view to creating stable security conditions and an eventual settlement that would facilitate the process of establishing the zone. The report included the views of Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic.

In September, the IAEA General Conference adopted a resolution on the Middle East [GC(49)/RES/15] calling on all parties directly concerned to take the steps required to implement the proposal for a mutually and effectively verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/460], adopted **resolution 60/52** without vote [agenda item 94].

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, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003 and 59/63 of 3 December 2004 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 59/63,

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(49)/RES/15, adopted on 30 September 2005 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-ninth 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 sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

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

South Pacific

In 2005, 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, the United Kingdom and the United States 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

The first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (Tlatelolco, Mexico, 26-28 April) [A/60/121] considered cooperative ways of strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone regime, thereby contributing to the disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation processes and advancing the achievement of the universal goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world. The Conference, attended by the States parties and signatories to the Treaties of Bangkok, Pelindaba, Rarotonga and Tlatelolco establishing the four zones cur-

rently in existence, and by Mongolia, which maintained an international nuclear-weapon-free status, adopted the Declaration of the Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (the Declaration of Tlatelolco), in which they reaffirmed that the continued existence of nuclear weapons constituted a threat to all humanity. They expressed the conviction that the establishment of internationally-recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones strengthened global and regional peace and security, reinforced the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributed to nuclear disarmament. They emphasized that the status of those zones should be respected by all States within and outside the regions covered, most notably the nuclear-weapon States whose cooperation was essential for the maximum effectiveness of the zones. The participants also reaffirmed their commitment to reaching the common objectives set forth in the treaties of the four existing zones.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/58** by recorded vote (167-3-8) [agenda item 97 (s)].

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, 56/24 G of 29 November 2001, 57/73 of 22 November 2002, 58/49 of 8 December 2003 and 59/85 of 3 December 2004,

Recalling also 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",

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,

Noting, in this context, that the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones was held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, on the eve of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

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. *Also welcomes* the ratification by all original parties of the Treaty of Rarotonga, and calls upon eligible States to adhere to the treaty and the protocols thereto;

3. *Further welcomes* the efforts towards the completion of the ratification process of the Treaty of Pelindaba, and calls upon the States of the region that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the treaty, with the aim of its early entry into force;

4. *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;

5. *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;

6. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

7. *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;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives;

9. *Congratulates* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

10. *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;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/58:

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

Against: France, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Bhutan, India, Israel, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Palau, Russian Federation, Spain.

The First Committee adopted paragraph 5 and its last three words, "and South Asia", by two separate recorded votes of 140 to 2, with 7 abstentions and 141 to 1, with 9 abstentions, respectively. The Assembly retained that paragraph and its last three words, by recorded votes of 162 to 2, with 7 abstentions and 162 to 1, with 9 abstentions, respectively.

Bacteriological (biological) and chemical weapons

In 2005, the continuing threat posed by biological and chemical weapons, particularly the possibility of their acquisition by terrorists, remained of pressing concern to the international community, fuelling further calls for strengthening the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC) (see p. 615) and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (CWC) (see p. 616). States parties to both instruments continued to imple-

ment national measures addressing those concerns, while the Security Council Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544] to monitor Member States' implementation of measures to combat the proliferation of WMDs, including chemical and biological weapons, became fully operational and began the substantive part of its work (see p. 600).

Bacteriological (biological) weapons

Meeting of States parties

As decided by the States parties to BWC in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 559], the third and final scheduled annual meeting of those States was convened (Geneva, 5-9 December) [BWC/MSP/2005/3] to discuss and promote common understanding and effective action on the content, promulgation and adoption of codes of conduct for scientists. While recognizing that they themselves had the primary responsibility for implementing the Convention, States parties acknowledged that codes of conduct voluntarily adopted for scientists in relevant fields could support the object and purpose of the Convention. Considering the differences in national requirements and circumstances, a range of different approaches existed for developing such codes, which should reflect the Convention's provisions and contribute to national implementation measures, while not impeding scientific discovery, placing undue constraints on research or international cooperation and exchange for peaceful purposes. Since science had the potential to be misused in ways prohibited by the Convention, codes of conduct should require and enable relevant actors to reasonably foresee the consequences of their activities.

The States parties agreed that those codes should not just apply to scientists but to everyone involved in scientific activity, including managers and technical and ancillary staff. The codes should be compatible with national legislation and regulatory controls and contribute to national implementation measures. They should be simple, clear and easily understandable to scientists and the wider civil society; helpful and effective for guiding relevant actors in making decisions and taking action in accordance with the Convention's purposes and objectives; sufficiently broad in scope; and regularly reviewed, evaluated for effectiveness and revised as necessary.

Regarding the adoption of codes of conduct, States parties also agreed on demonstrating the benefits of codes and encouraging relevant actors to develop them themselves; using existing

codes, mechanisms, frameworks and bodies as far as possible; and tailoring adoption strategies to individual needs. States parties further agreed on the value of continuous efforts on promulgation of the codes through appropriate channels, and that the lessons, perspectives, recommendations and conclusions drawn from the statements and working papers presented at the experts' meeting (see below), as well as a synthesis of the issues considered and views expressed, prepared by the Chairman and annexed to the meeting's report, should be considered. Participants were encouraged to inform the Sixth Review Conference of any actions, measures or steps they had taken based on discussions at the 2005 meeting of States parties and experts' meeting, in order to facilitate the work of the Conference. The States parties decided that the Preparatory Committee for the Sixth Review Conference would be held in Geneva, in April 2006, with the Conference scheduled for November and December of the same year.

Experts' meeting

In accordance with the outcome of the Fifth Review Conference [YUN 2002, p. 516], the 2005 meeting of States parties (see above) was preceded by a preparatory expert meeting (Geneva, 13-24 June) [BWC/MSP/2005/MX/3], which addressed issues relating to the topics discussed by the meeting of States parties. The experts also considered government science and other relevant matters concerning universities, funders, research, publishers, industry and professional bodies. The meeting had before it a number of working papers and heard statements and thematic presentations from States parties and observer organizations. On 24 June, the meeting adopted its report, to which was annexed a compilation of the lessons, perspectives, recommendations, conclusions and proposals drawn from the presentations, statements and working papers considered.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/470], adopted **resolution 60/96** without vote [agenda item 104].

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and fifty-five States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recalling the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference to hold three annual meetings of the States parties of one week's duration each year commencing in 2003 until the Sixth Review Conference and to hold a two-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,

Recalling also the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference that the Sixth Review Conference would be held in Geneva in 2006 and would be preceded by a preparatory committee,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

3. *Recalls* the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference to discuss and promote common understanding and effective action in 2003 on the two topics of the adoption of necessary national measures to implement the prohibitions set forth in the Convention, including the enactment of penal legislation, and national mechanisms to establish and maintain the security and oversight of pathogenic micro-organisms and toxins; in 2004 on the two topics of enhancing international capabilities for responding to, investigating and mitigating the effects of cases of alleged use of biological or toxin weapons or suspicious outbreaks of disease, and strengthening and broadening national and international institutional efforts and existing mechanisms for the surveillance, detection, diagnosis and

combating of infectious diseases affecting humans, animals and plants; and in 2005 on the topic of the content, promulgation and adoption of codes of conduct for scientists; and calls upon the States parties to the Convention to participate in its implementation;

4. *Welcomes* the significant participation of the States parties at the meetings of States parties and meetings of experts to date and the constructive and useful exchange of information achieved, and welcomes also the discussion and the promotion of common understanding and effective action on agreed topics;

5. *Notes* that, in accordance with the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference, the Sixth Review Conference will be held in Geneva in 2006 and the dates will be formally agreed by the preparatory committee for that Conference, which will be open to all States parties to the Convention and which will meet in Geneva during the week beginning 24 April 2006;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all necessary assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts, and to render the necessary assistance and provide such services as may be required for the Sixth Review Conference and the preparations for it;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

Chemical weapons

Chemical weapons convention

In 2005, Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan, Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Grenada, Honduras, Niue and Vanuatu ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (CWC), bringing the total number of States parties to 175. The number of signatories stood at 165. The Convention, adopted by the Conference on Disarmament in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 65], entered into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 499].

The tenth session of the Conference of the States parties (The Hague, Netherlands, 7-11 November) [C-10/5] considered, among other issues, the status of the Convention's implementation, fostering international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities, ensuring the Convention's universality and administrative and budgetary matters. The Conference adopted decisions on follow-up to the plan of action regarding the implementation of article VII of the Convention addressing national implementation measures; a format for the formula-

tion, specification or renewal of offers of assistance under article X on assistance and protection from chemical weapons; amendments to the confidentiality policy of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); the full implementation of article XI on economic and technological development; the implementation of the plan of action concerning the Convention's universality; the establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa; the captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals; and administrative, financial and oversight matters, including OPCW's 2006 programme and budget. The Conference approved the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's request for an extension of the intermediate deadlines for the destruction of its categories 1, 2 and 3 chemical weapons stockpiles. It decided that 29 April—the date in 1997 of the Convention's entry into force—would be observed yearly as the day of remembrance for all victims of chemical warfare. It also decided to hold its eleventh session in December 2006.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/67** without vote [agenda item 97 (j)].

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 59/72 of 3 December 2004, 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 59/72, seven additional States have ratified the Convention or acceded to it, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and seventy-four,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, including the Political Declaration, in which the States parties reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the objective and purpose of the Convention, and the final report, which addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

1. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and

on Their Destruction is fundamental to the achievement of its objective and purpose and acknowledges progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Underlines* that the Convention and its implementation contribute to enhancing international peace and security, and emphasizes that its full, universal and effective implementation will contribute further to that purpose by excluding completely, for the sake of all humankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons;

3. *Stresses* that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection against chemical weapons (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

4. *Also 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;

5. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

6. *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;

7. *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;

8. *Welcomes* progress made in the implementation of the action plan on the implementation of article VII obligations and commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of their article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of article XI provisions relating to the economic and technological development of States parties and recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and also reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

10. *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, and also notes with appreciation the substantial contribution of

the Technical Secretariat and the Director-General to the continued development and success of the Organization;

11. *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;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first 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 2005, OPCW continued to undertake wide-ranging chemical disarmament, non-proliferation and assistance and protection activities, towards the complete elimination of chemical weapons.

Since the Convention's entry into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 499], OPCW had verified the destruction of approximately 12,435 tons of chemical warfare agents declared by five of the six identified chemical weapons possessor States, accounting for over 17 per cent of the total stockpiles declared. To ensure the complete destruction of those weapons and their non-proliferation, OPCW undertook up to 2,200 inspection exercises at over 800 sites in 72 countries. In the area of international cooperation and assistance, OPCW collaborated with Ukraine and the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in the organization of an exercise on the delivery of assistance entitled "Joint Assistance 2005" conducted at the Yavoriv training area (Lviv, Ukraine, 9-13 October), aimed at testing the requisite skills and capacities in investigating alleged use of chemical warfare agents. The exercise, which involved some 1,000 participants from OPCW member States, defined international cooperation procedures for delivering emergency assistance following a simulated terrorist attack with chemical warfare agents. OPCW also undertook capacity-building projects, notably in the Middle East and Central Asia, while implementation efforts were enhanced by a number of national and regional meetings in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The OPCW Executive Council held its fortieth (15-18 March), forty-first (28 June-1 July) forty-second (27-30 September) and forty-third (6-9 December) sessions. It adopted decisions on the destruction of chemical weapons and/or the conversion of chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs) and on issues relating to the chemical industry and financial matters. It made recommen-

dations regarding the plan of action for implementing article VII obligations on national implementation measures, reviewed the effectiveness of verification activities, monitored the implementation of the action plan for the Convention's universality, approved facility agreements between OPCW and a number of States parties and established an open-ended working group on the establishment of an OPCW office in Africa.

Conventional weapons

Programme of Action on illicit trade in small arms

In 2005, the international community continued to address security challenges relating to the spread of small arms within the framework 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]. The Security Council, in statement S/PRST/2005/7 (see p. 619), encouraged international and regional cooperation in identifying the origin and transfer of those weapons in order to prevent their diversion, particularly to terrorist groups, and to restrict their supply to areas of instability. The General Assembly, in decision 60/519 (see p. 621), adopted an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace small arms and light weapons effectively, and in resolution 60/81 (see p. 625) established a Group of Governmental Experts to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in tackling illicit brokering in those weapons. In resolution 60/68 (see p. 621), it called on States to better address the negative humanitarian and development impact of illicit small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation, including by integrating comprehensive armed violence prevention programmes into their national development strategies.

The second biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action (New York, 11-15 July), as well as ongoing consultations on the illicit brokering of those weapons, reached a broad consensus on the need for further international action to address the small arms problem. Member States continued to make progress in strengthening the Convention on excessively injurious conventional weapons and related Protocols and to promote transparency in armaments. In July, the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Am-

munition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime [YUN 2001, p. 1036], entered into force.

Report of Secretary-General. Responding to Security Council presidential statement S/PRST/2004/1 [YUN 2004, p. 559], the Secretary-General submitted a February report [S/2005/69] updating the Council on the initiatives undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in his 2002 report [YUN 2002, p. 521] on ways the Council could contribute to dealing with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. The Secretary-General reported that much progress had been achieved in some key areas, including under the recommendation on tracing illicit arms flow, through the work of the Open-ended Working Group (see below) which negotiated the draft international instrument for the timely and reliable identification and tracing of small arms and light weapons, adopted subsequently by the Assembly in decision 60/519 (see p. 621). Progress was also being made on the issue of the illicit brokering in those weapons, which had been a source of concern, particularly in connection with the activities of terrorist groups. Notable progress had also been made regarding the systematic establishment of monitoring mechanisms to support the implementation of sanctions, the adoption of more vigorous measures against violations of arms embargoes and efforts to increase participation in the Organization's reporting instruments on arms transparency. However, more needed to be done in other areas, particularly regarding interaction between the Council and the Assembly, for which no structure had been established. In order to develop a coherent and comprehensive UN policy on small arms and light weapons, he recommended that both organs establish a committee to examine how they might work together in that regard. Much also remained to be done to implement his other recommendations regarding support for the Small Arms Advisory Service and for the reintegration of former combatants into their communities.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 17 February [meeting 5127], following consultations among Security Council members, the President made statement **S/PRST/2005/7** on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 7 February 2005 on the implementation of his recommendations to the Council on small arms, and reaffirms the statements by its President of 24 September 1999, 31 August 2001, 31 October 2002 and 19 January 2004.

The Council recalls its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security. In

this regard, the Council recognizes that the dissemination of illicit small arms and light weapons has hampered the peaceful settlement of disputes, fuelled such disputes into armed conflicts and contributed to the prolongation of such armed conflicts. The Council reaffirms the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter 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.

The Council encourages the arms-exporting countries to exercise the highest degree of responsibility in small arms and light weapons transactions according to their existing responsibilities under relevant international law. It also encourages international and regional cooperation in identifying the origin and transfer of small arms and light weapons in order to prevent their diversion, in particular, to Al-Qaida and other terrorist groups. The Council welcomes the significant steps that have been taken by Member States and international and regional organizations in this regard. The obligation of Member States to enforce the arms embargo should be coupled with enhanced international and regional cooperation concerning arms exports. The Council encourages Members to undertake vigorous actions aimed at restricting the supply of small arms, light weapons and ammunitions to areas of instability.

The Council takes note that the United Nations Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider 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 will be held from 11 to 15 July 2005, and encourages Member States to fully cooperate with the Chair of the Meeting to have a successful outcome.

The Council notes with appreciation that regional actions on illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects have been strengthened in recent years, and encourages the continuation of assistance at the national, regional and international levels that would fit the needs of Member States to implement the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted on 20 July 2001 by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

The Council welcomes the ongoing efforts by the open-ended working group established by the General Assembly in resolution 58/241 of 23 December 2003 to negotiate an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons, and calls upon all Member States to support all efforts aimed at this purpose. It expresses the wish that the ongoing work within the group will lead to a positive conclusion at its third session as scheduled.

The Council welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 59/86 of 3 December 2004 in which, among other things, it requested the Secretary-General to continue broad-based consultations on further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating

illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, with a view to establishing a group of governmental experts to consider the issue.

The Council welcomes the inclusion of man-portable air defence systems, on an exceptional basis, in the United Nations Register on Conventional Arms.

The Council further encourages Member States that have not already done so to establish the necessary legislative or other measures, including the use of authenticated end-user certificates, to ensure effective control over the export and transit of small arms and light weapons.

The Council renews the support given to the plan of the Economic Community of West African States to strengthen the moratorium signed in Abuja on 31 October 1998 on the import, export and manufacture of small arms and light weapons, and to replace it with a mandatory convention. It welcomes the decision by the European Council on 2 December 2004 to significantly support this initiative, and calls upon all States and organizations in a position to do so to support this endeavour.

The Council calls upon all Member States to enforce all Council resolutions on sanctions, including those imposing arms embargoes, in accordance with the Charter, and to bring their own domestic implementation into compliance with the Council's measures on sanctions. The Council calls upon all Member States to continue to make available to the sanctions committees all pertinent information on any alleged violations of arms embargoes and to take appropriate measures to investigate such allegations. The Council urges Member States in a position to do so to provide assistance to interested States in strengthening their capacity to fulfil their obligations in this regard.

The Council underlines the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons must be addressed together with the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process in the post-conflict phases. The Council recognizes that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration is closely linked with long-term peace and security in a post-conflict situation, and recalls that a growing number of peacekeeping missions contain the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration element as part of their mandate. In this regard, the Council stresses the importance of a comprehensive international and regional approach to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration that is not limited to the political and security aspects of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, but addresses also its social and economic aspects, including special needs of child soldiers and women.

The Council, while bearing in mind that the issue of the illicit small arms and light weapons has a multidisciplinary nature, encourages Member States, in a position to do so, to provide assistance and support to the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism.

The Council continues to recognize 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 and to the wider

objective of preventing illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons.

The Council requests the Secretary-General to update the Council on 28 February 2006 for its earliest possible consideration of the implementation of all the recommendations contained in his report of 20 September 2002 on small arms.

Working Group activities. The Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, established by General Assembly resolution 58/241 [YUN 2003, p. 564], held its second (24 January–4 February) and third (6–17 June) substantive sessions [A/60/88 & Corr.1, 2], in New York. The Group, in a total of 58 meetings, negotiated the instrument, based on the Chairman's draft text. Following several readings of the draft text, the Group considered, on 17 June, the Chairman's compromise proposals and adopted by consensus a draft international instrument of a political character, which it recommended for adoption by the General Assembly. The Group also recommended that, the issue of small arms and light weapons ammunition be addressed in a comprehensive manner as part of a separate process and that the applicability of the provisions of the draft instrument to UN peacekeeping operations be considered further. The draft instrument was annexed to the Group's report.

Biennial meeting of States. In response to General Assembly resolution 59/86 [YUN 2004, p. 561], the Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider 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] was convened (New York, 11–15 July) [A/CONF.192/BMS/2005/1]. It had before it the report of the Open-ended Working Group to negotiate an international instrument (see above) and national reports on the implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action submitted by 100 States. The Meeting considered the implementation of the Programme under the following themes: weapons collection and destruction; stockpile management; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; capacity-building; resource mobilization; institution-building; marking and tracing; linkages (terrorism, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals); import/export control; illicit brokering; human development; public awareness and culture of peace; and children, women and the elderly. International cooperation and assistance were discussed as a cross-cutting theme. Some issues relevant to the illicit trade in small arms and light

weapons but not covered by the Programme were also addressed.

Member States reaffirmed their strong commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and while welcoming the significant progress made in that regard at the national, regional and global levels, they recognized that further action was needed to fulfil the commitments contained in the Programme. The Meeting, with a view to strengthening the implementation of the Programme and contributing to a successful review conference in 2006, noted that further follow-up to the implementation process could benefit from being consolidated around future biennial meetings of States.

Report of Secretary-General. As requested in General Assembly resolutions 59/74 [YUN 2004, p. 560] and 59/86 [ibid., p. 561], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/60/161] covering the period from July 2004 to July 2005, which summarized national, subregional and regional activities undertaken in Africa to assist States in curbing the illicit trade in small arms and in collecting and disposing of them. The report also provided an overview of activities undertaken by the UN system and by States to combat the illicit trade in those weapons and to implement the 2001 Programme of Action.

The Secretary-General noted that continuing efforts were being made to assist countries in addressing the proliferation of illicit weapons in their territories in implementing the provisions of the 2001 Programme of Action. Efforts at the regional level were also very encouraging and there was a noticeable improvement in the collaboration and cooperation of members of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism [YUN 1998, p. 525]. Initiatives undertaken by the UN system under the auspices of CASA attested to the fact that assistance to States and the development of capacity to implement the 2001 Programme of Action remained a central priority of the United Nations. At the global level, the outcome of the work of the Open-ended Working Group to negotiate an international instrument on tracing such weapons constituted a significant step towards the realization of the commitments under the 2001 Programme of Action. That politically binding international instrument, agreed upon by the Group, would provide States with an important tool to enhance cooperation in tracing the sources of leakage of small arms and light weapons into the illicit trade.

Communications. On 13 June [A/59/844], the United Kingdom transmitted the conclusions of an international experts' meeting (London, 26 May), which explored how an arms trade treaty

could help to set common global principles for the trade in conventional arms.

On 23 September [A/60/379-S/2005/606], Georgia transmitted a statement by its Foreign Ministry on recent developments in the conflict zone of its Tskhinvali region, including the alleged display by separatist forces of heavy conventional weapons and of the existence of illicit arms in the zone.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly adopted **decision 60/519** by recorded vote (151-0-25) [agenda item 97].

International instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons

At its 61st plenary meeting, on 8 December 2005, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 151 to none, with 25 abstentions, and on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided to adopt the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, contained in the annex to the report of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons.

RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 60/519:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Also, on 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted five resolutions relating to conventional weapons and the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons. The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/68** by recorded vote (177-1-0) [agenda item 97].

Addressing the negative humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its respect for and commitment to international law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that, as stated in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation have a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and pose a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels,

Concerned by the implications that poverty and underdevelopment may have for the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and determined to reduce the human suffering caused by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to enhance the respect for life and the dignity of the human person through the promotion of a culture of peace,

Reaffirming the urgent necessity for international cooperation and assistance, including financial and technical assistance, as appropriate, to support and facilitate efforts at the local, national, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Recalling the second biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action at which States, while welcoming the significant progress made in that regard, recognized that further action was required to fulfil the commitments undertaken in the Programme of Action,

Recognizing that, in 2005, world leaders expressed grave concern at the negative effects on development, peace and security, and human rights posed by, inter alia, the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons, and that they committed themselves to supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting, in that regard, that the 2006 review conference on the Programme of Action represents an opportunity to address interconnected peace and security and development challenges, which are relevant to the agenda of the conference,

Placing particular emphasis on the regions of the world where conflicts have come to an end and where serious problems with the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of small arms and light weapons have to be dealt with urgently,

Calls upon States, when addressing the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, explore ways, as appropriate, to more effectively address the humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation, in particular in conflict or post-conflict situations, including by:

(a) Developing, where appropriate, comprehensive armed violence prevention programmes integrated into national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies;

(b) Building on the commitment by States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so to, upon the request of the relevant authorities, seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance where needed, such as small arms funds, in order to support the implementation of measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, as contained in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;

(c) Encouraging United Nations peacekeeping operations to address the safe storage and disposal of small arms and light weapons as an integral part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

(d) Systematically including national measures to regulate small arms and light weapons in longer term post-conflict peacebuilding strategies and programmes;

(e) Ensuring, where appropriate, that the activities mentioned in subparagraphs (c) and (d) above take full account of the roles that women and women's organizations could play in small arms disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes; the requirement that the needs of women and girl combatants and dependants be addressed in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes; and the commitment to promote and protect the rights and welfare of children in armed conflicts.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/68:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: None.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/71** without vote [agenda item 97 (k)].

Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/74 of 3 December 2004 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them,

Deeply concerned by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

Concerned by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on assistance to States for curbing illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in which he states, inter alia, that continued efforts are being made to provide assistance to countries in need of addressing the proliferation of illicit weapons in their territories,

Welcoming the decision taken by the Economic Community of West African States to strengthen the 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 at Abuja on 31 October 1998, by upgrading it to a legally binding instrument,

Welcoming also, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the initiative of the Economic Community to strengthen the moratorium,

Welcoming further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish a Small Arms Unit and to adopt a new Small Arms Control Programme,

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 report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all", in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of illicit small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

Taking note of the report of the second biennial meeting of States to consider 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 at the national, regional and global levels, held in New York from 11 to 15 July 2005,

Welcoming the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Taking note of the draft International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, concluded in June 2005,

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

1. *Commends* the United Nations, international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *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 light weapons and collecting them 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;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa, and to extend further assistance in transforming the moratorium into a legally binding instrument;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and, in that regard, invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of organizations and associations of civil society in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and 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;

6. *Also encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in supporting programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

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

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

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session an item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them"

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/74** without vote [agenda item 97 (*ad*)].

Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus

The General Assembly,

Mindful of contributing to the process initiated within the framework of the United Nations reform to make the Organization more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needs for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction,

Underlining the importance of a comprehensive and integrated approach to disarmament through the development of practical measures,

Taking note of the report of the Group of Experts on the problem of ammunition and explosives,

Recalling the recommendation contained in paragraph 27 of the report submitted by the Chairman of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, namely, to address the issue of small arms and light weapons ammunition in a comprehensive manner as part of a separate process conducted within the framework of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the work and measures pursued at the regional and subregional levels with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition,

Recalling its decision 59/515 of 3 December 2004, by which it decided to include the question of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in the agenda of its sixtieth session,

1. *Encourages* all interested States to assess, on a voluntary basis, whether, in conformity with their legitimate security needs, parts of their stockpiles of conventional ammunition should be considered to be in surplus, and recognizes that the security of such stockpiles must be taken into consideration and that appropriate controls with regard to the security and safety of stockpiles of conventional ammunition are indispensable at the national level in order to eliminate the risk of explosion, pollution or diversion;

2. *Appeals* to all interested States to determine the size and nature of their surplus stockpiles of conventional ammunition, whether they represent a security risk, if appropriate, their means of destruction, and whether external assistance is needed to eliminate this risk;

3. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to assist interested States within a bilateral framework or through international or regional organizations, on a voluntary and transparent basis, in elaborating and implementing programmes to eliminate surplus stockpiles or to improve their management;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to examine the possibility of developing and implementing, within a national, regional or subregional framework, measures to address accordingly the illicit trafficking related to the accumulation of such stockpiles;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States regarding the risks arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus and regarding national ways of strengthening controls on conventional ammunition, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

6. *Decides* to include this issue in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/77** without vote [agenda item 97 (x)].

Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/42 and 58/54 of 8 December 2003, 58/241 of 23 December 2003 and 59/90 of 3 December 2004,

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

Acknowledging the authorized trade in man-portable air defence systems between Governments and the legitimate right of Governments to possess such weapons in the interests of their national security,

Recognizing the threat to civil aviation, peace-keeping, crisis management and security posed by the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems,

Taking into account the fact that man-portable air defence systems are easily carried, concealed, fired and, in certain circumstances, obtained,

Recognizing that effective control over man-portable air defence systems acquires special importance in the context of the intensified international fight against global terrorism,

Convinced of the importance of effective national control of transfers of man-portable air defence systems and their training and instruction materials and of the safe and effective management of stockpiles of such weapons,

Acknowledging the role of the unauthorized transfer of relevant materials and information in assisting the unauthorized manufacture and illicit transfer of man-portable air defence systems and related components,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of, and noting declarations by, various international and regional forums to enhance transport security and to strengthen management of man-portable air defence systems stockpiles in order to prevent the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons,

Noting the importance of information exchange and transparency in the trade in man-portable air defence systems to build confidence and security among States and to prevent the illicit trade in and unauthorized access to such weapons,

Acknowledging the considerable efforts of some Member States to collect, secure and destroy voluntarily those man-portable air defence systems declared to be surplus by the competent national authority,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of the 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;

2. *Urges* Member States to support current international, regional and national efforts to combat and prevent the illicit transfer of man-portable air defence systems and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons;

3. *Stresses* the importance of effective and comprehensive national controls on the production, stockpiling, transfer and brokering of man-portable air defence systems to prevent the illicit trade in and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons, their components and training and instruction materials;

4. *Encourages* Member States to enact or improve legislation, regulations, procedures and stockpile management practices and to assist other States, at their request, to exercise effective control over access to and transfer of man-portable air defence systems so as to prevent the illicit brokering and transfer of and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to enact or improve legislation, regulations and procedures to ban the transfer of man-portable air defence systems to non-State end-users and to ensure that such weapons are exported only to Governments or agents authorized by a Government;

6. *Encourages* initiatives to exchange information and to mobilize resources and technical expertise to assist States, at their request, in enhancing national controls and stockpile management practices to prevent unauthorized access to and use and transfer of man-portable air defence systems and to destroy excess or obsolete stockpiles of such weapons, as appropriate;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/81** without vote [agenda item 97 (t)].

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

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/24 V of 24 December 2001, 57/72 of 22 November 2002, 58/241 of 23 December 2003 and 59/86 of 3 December 2004,

Emphasizing the importance of the 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,

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including tackling both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Taking into account the relevant paragraphs on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

Welcoming the report of the Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider 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, held in New York from 11 to 15 July 2005, and expressing its appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the Chair of the Meeting,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,

Recognizing that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently, and, in this regard, welcoming the broad-based consultations held by the Secretary-General with all Member States and interested regional and subregional organizations on

further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 59/86,

Conscious of its decision to convene in New York the United Nations conference to review progress made 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 for a period of two weeks, from 26 June to 7 July 2006, and its preparatory committee for two weeks, from 9 to 20 January 2006, followed, if necessary, by a subsequent session of up to two weeks in duration, which is especially relevant in order to set the agenda for activities of the international community for continuing to tackle problems in this field beyond 2006,

1. *Encourages* all initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful conclusion of the United Nations conference to review progress made 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 in order to set the agenda for tackling problems in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons by the international community beyond 2006, and calls upon all Member States to continue to contribute towards the preparation of the conference and to make every effort to fully implement the Programme of Action;

2. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons;

3. *Decides* to establish a group of governmental experts, appointed by the Secretary-General on the basis of equitable geographical representation, commencing after the review conference and no later than 2007, to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons in three sessions of one week's duration each, and to submit the report on the outcome of its study to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the group of governmental experts with any assistance and services that may be required for the discharge of its tasks;

5. *Continues* to encourage all initiatives, including regional and subregional ones, to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in its implementation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on their implementation of the Programme of Action, and encourages Member States to submit such reports;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first 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. 641-652.)

Convention on excessively injurious conventional weapons and Protocols

As at 31 December, the accessions of Liberia and Venezuela and the ratification of Turkey brought to 100 the number 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 [YUN 1980, p. 76] and its annexed Protocols 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 Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III). The 1995 Additional Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV) [YUN 1995, p. 221], which took effect on 30 July 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 530], had 81 parties following the consent of Liberia and Turkey in 2005 to be bound by the Protocol's terms.

Group of Governmental Experts

The Group of Governmental Experts established by the Second Review Conference of the States parties to the Convention [YUN 2001, p. 504] 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 tenth (7-11 March) [CCW/GGE/X/5], eleventh (2-12 August) [CCW/GGE/XI/4] and twelfth (14-22 November) [CCW/GGE/XII/4] sessions, all in Geneva. The Group discussed issues relating to the weapons under consideration and preparations for the Third Review Conference of the States parties, and considered working papers and presentations from delegations, international organizations and other participants, including military experts. The Group also had before it the reports of its working groups on explosive remnants of war and on mines other than anti-personnel mines. The latter did not reach agreement on recommendations and consequently forwarded the issue to the Meeting of the States parties (see below). On 22 November, the Group adopted its report and recommended that the Third Review Conference be held in November 2006 and that the Meeting of States parties nominate the President-designate for the Conference, who should undertake consultations during the intersessional period on possible options to promote compliance with the

Convention and its annexed Protocols and submit a consensus report to the States parties. The President-designate should undertake consultations on the establishment of a sponsorship programme under the Convention and report thereon. The Group further recommended that follow-up work arising from the States parties' meeting be held under the oversight of the President-designate and that intersessional work be undertaken in three sessions during 2006.

Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II

The Seventh Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II (Geneva, 23 November) [CCW/AP.II/CONF.7/2] reviewed the operation and status of that Protocol, considered related issues and examined national reports received from 59 States parties. The Conference adopted a final document containing conclusions and recommendations and an appeal to States to accede to Amended Protocol II. 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 the States parties to promote wider adherence.

Meeting of States parties

The 2005 Meeting of the States parties (Geneva, 24-25 November) [CCW/MSP/2005/2 & Corr.1] considered the work of the Group of Governmental Experts (see above) and decided that the Group should continue its work in 2006 in three sessions. It mandated the Working Group on Explosive Remnants of War to continue to consider the implementation of existing principles of international humanitarian law and possible preventive measures, aimed at improving the design of certain types of munitions, including sub-munitions, with a view to minimizing their risk of becoming explosive remnants of war. The working group on mines other than anti-personnel mines was asked to consider all proposals in that category of mines and to make recommendations for consideration by the Third Review Conference of the Convention in 2006. The meeting endorsed the recommendations of the Group of Experts regarding preparations for the Conference and the intersessional duties of the President-designate (see above). It decided that the Eighth Annual Conference of the States parties to Amended Protocol II would be held in November 2006 in Geneva and called on States parties to the Convention to promote wider adherence to the instrument and its annexed Protocols in their respective regions, and to organize

national or regional workshops and conferences towards that end.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/467], adopted **resolution 60/93** without vote [agenda item 101].

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 59/107 of 3 December 2004,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and the entry into force of 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 its amended article 1, and 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 its amended version, the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III) and the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),

Recalling the decision 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 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,

Recalling also the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

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, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

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 and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the adoption of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) at the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention held in Geneva on 27 and 28 November 2003, and calls upon the States parties to express their consent to be bound by the Protocol and to notify the depositary at an early date of their consent;

4. *Notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties that the Working Group on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines would continue its work in 2005 with the mandate to consider all proposals on mines other than anti-personnel mines put forward since the establishment of the Group of Governmental Experts, and to conduct meetings of military experts to provide advice, with the aim of elaborating appropriate recommendations on this issue for submission to the next Meeting of the States Parties;

5. *Also notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties that the Working Group on Explosive Remnants of War would continue its work in 2005 with the mandate to continue to consider, including through participation of legal experts, the implementation of existing principles of international humanitarian law and to further study, on an open-ended basis, with particular emphasis on meetings of military and technical experts, possible preventive measures aimed at improving the design of certain specific types of munitions, including sub-munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian risk of these munitions becoming explosive remnants of war;

6. *Further notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties that the Chairperson-designate should continue to undertake consultations during the inter-sessional period on possible options with respect to promoting compliance with the Convention and the Protocols thereto, taking into account proposals put forward;

7. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts, and encourages the Chairperson-designate and the Group to conduct work, in accordance with the mandate for 2005, with the aim of elaborating appropriate recommendations on mines other than anti-personnel mines, for submission to the Meeting of the States Parties on 24 and 25 November 2005, and to report on the work done on compliance, as well as on the implementation of existing principles of international humanitarian law and on possible preventive technical measures to minimize the risk of munitions becoming explosive remnants of war;

8. *Recalls* the decision 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 to convene a further conference not later than 2006, requests that the conference be held in November 2006 in Geneva and be preceded by as many preparatory meetings as deemed necessary by the States parties, and also requests the Meeting of the States Parties on 24 and 25 November 2005 to take a final decision on these matters;

9. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, the Third Review Conference may consider any proposal for amendments to the Convention or the Protocols thereto as well as any proposal for additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing protocols to the Convention;

10. *Requests* that the Third Review Conference and its preparatory meetings exert maximum effort to promote universalization of the Convention, as amended,

and of all Protocols thereto, including through the holding of regional conferences and seminars;

11. *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 the States Parties on 24 and 25 November 2005, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meeting, should the States parties deem it appropriate, and for the Third Review Conference and its preparatory meetings;

12. *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, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article I, and the Protocols thereto;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first 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 practical disarmament initiatives, met four times during 2005 to assess project proposals and review requests for assistance by Governments. Projects funded through the Group included a joint UN fact-finding mission to Burundi involving the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) and the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention, and the funding of travel expenses for an expert from Kenya who briefed the Group on the small arms and light weapons situation and related activities in the Sudan and Uganda. The Group also supported a project on the implementation of measures to control those weapons in southern Sudan, being implemented by the Bonn International Centre for Conversion.

Disarmament Commission action. In 2005 [A/60/42], the Disarmament Commission considered, as one of its proposed agenda items, practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons, but owing to unresolved disagreements among delegations regarding the item, the Commission was not able to reach consensus on its substantive agenda and decided to continue deliberations in 2006.

Transparency

Conference on Disarmament. In 2005, the continuing deadlock among delegates over a substantive programme of work again prevented the Conference on Disarmament [A/60/27] from establishing or re-establishing any mechanism to deal with transparency in armaments, leaving the item to be addressed at plenary meetings,

where delegates reaffirmed their respective positions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/59/463], adopted two resolutions relating to transparency in conventional arms transfers. The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/69** without vote [agenda item 97 (e)].

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,

Recalling that effective national control of the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, including those transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities, is an important tool for achieving those objectives,

Recalling also that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken 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, without prejudice to the provisions contained in Security Council resolution 1540(2004) of 28 April 2004, 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 to Member States;

3. *Decides* to remain attentive to the matter.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/82** without vote [agenda item 97 (z)].

Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the contribution of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, adopted on the initiative and with the agreement of the States concerned, to the improvement of the overall international peace and security situation,

Convinced that the relationship between the development of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and the international security environment can also be mutually reinforcing,

Considering the important role that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms can also play in creating favourable conditions for progress in the field of disarmament,

Recognizing that the exchange of information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

1. *Welcomes* all confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms already undertaken by Member States as well as the information on such measures voluntarily provided;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to adopt confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and to provide information in that regard;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to continue the dialogue on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, with the financial support of States in a position to do so, an electronic database containing information provided by Member States and to assist them, at their request, in the organization of seminars, courses and workshops aimed at enhancing the knowledge of new developments in this field;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms".

UN Register of Conventional Arms

In response to General Assembly resolution 58/54 [YUN 2003, p. 568], the Secretary-General submitted the thirteenth annual report on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms [A/60/160 & 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 115 Governments on imports and exports in 2004 in the seven categories of conventional arms covered (battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large-calibre artillery systems, attack helicopters, combat aircraft, warships and missiles and missile launchers). Governments also provided information on military holdings and procurement through national production and on small arms and light weapons and national policies. The report indicated a slight increase in the number of submissions from 114 in 2003.

In response to the Assembly's request that the Secretary-General implement the recommendations contained in the 2003 report of the Group

of Governmental Experts on the continuing operation and further development of the Register [YUN 2003, p. 568], the report highlighted numerous activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the year, through DDA and in collaboration with Governments and regional organizations, in order to enhance awareness of the Register and to encourage greater participation in it.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 23 December [meeting 69], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/59/463], adopted **resolution 60/226** by recorded vote (99-0-22) [agenda item 97 (d)].

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, 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001, 57/75 of 22 November 2002 and 58/54 of 8 December 2003 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 2004,

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,

Welcoming further the inclusion by some Member States of their transfers of small arms and light weapons in their annual report to the Register as part of their additional background information,

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, the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-

General and the appendices and annexes thereto and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 114 of the 2003 report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement through 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 and to include transfers of small arms and light weapons, using definitions and reporting measures they deem appropriate, as part of their additional background information;

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 2006, within available resources, 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 taking a decision at its sixty-first session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000 and 2003 reports 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 sixty-first session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/226:

In favour: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, China, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

The First Committee adopted by separate recorded votes the words "and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 114 of the 2003 report of the Secretary-General" in paragraph 2 of the resolution (108 to 1, with 16 abstentions); paragraph 3 (115 to 0, with 18 abstentions); paragraph 4 (b) (118 to 0, with 16 abstentions); and paragraph 6 (116 to 0, with 19 abstentions). The Assembly retained those paragraphs by separate recorded votes of 97 to none, with 20 abstentions; 94 to none, with 22 abstentions; 97 to none, with 19 abstentions; and 93 to none, with 22 abstentions, respectively.

Transparency of military expenditures

In response to General Assembly resolution 58/28 [YUN 2003, p. 570], the Secretary-General, in a July report with later addenda [A/60/159 & Add.1, 2, 3], presented reports from 77 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 also described activities undertaken by the Secretariat, through DDA, to enhance familiarity with and encourage greater participation in the standardized reporting instrument. Those included a DDA presentation to the Committee on Hemispheric Security of the Organization of American States (OAS) (Washington, D.C., 25 April) and a regional workshop focusing on the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes region and Southern Africa (Nairobi, Kenya, 31 May–2 June), organized by DDA, with support from a number of Member States. Also in May, DDA published technical guidelines to assist Member States in preparing their submissions on military expenditures, in accordance with the UN reporting matrix.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/59/451], adopted **resolution 60/44** without vote [agenda item 85 (b)].

Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001 and 58/28 of 8 December 2003 on objective infor-

mation on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Also recalling its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, and its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, calling upon all Member States to participate in it, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, endorsing the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and inviting Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that since then, national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographic regions,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Also convinced that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Welcoming, therefore, the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters recommended certain areas for further consideration, such as the improvement of the standardized reporting system,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, the reporting instrument as recommended in its resolution 35/142 B or, as appropriate, any other format developed in conjunction with similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations, and, in the same context, encourages Member States to submit nil returns, if appropriate;

2. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other con-

ditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

3. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarity among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

4. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(a) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;

(b) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States;

(c) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument, with a view to encouraging wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(d) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarity among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(e) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(f) To promote international and regional/sub-regional symposiums and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions;

(g) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

6. *Encourages* Member States:

(a) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(b) To continue to provide the Secretary-General, in time for deliberation by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, with their views and suggestions on ways and means to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

Verification

In response to General Assembly resolution 59/60 [YUN 2004, p. 568], the Secretary-General submitted a July report with later addendum [A/60/96 & Add.1] containing the views of eight Member States (Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Russian Federation, Sweden) on the importance of effective verification measures in disarmament agreements.

In October [A/60/458], the First Committee considered the issue of verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification. It had before it the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General.

On 8 December, the Assembly took note of the First Committee's report on the item (**decision 60/514**).

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), adopted in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 503], and which entered into force in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 498], reached 148 as at 31 December. During the year, four States adhered to the Convention.

Meeting of States parties

As decided by the 2004 Review Conference of the Convention [YUN 2004, p. 568], the Sixth Meeting of the States parties was convened (Zagreb, Croatia, 28 November–2 December) [APLC/MSP.6/2005/5] to consider the Convention's general status and operation. It reviewed progress made and remaining challenges in the pursuit of the Convention's aims and in the application of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009, adopted at the 2004 Review Conference. Particular provisions of the Convention discussed included the submission of requests under article 5 on the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas, under article 8 on facilitation and clarification of compliance, and under article 7 on transparency measures.

The Meeting had before it a background document, contained in part II of its report, entitled "Achieving the aims of the Nairobi Plan of Action: the Zagreb progress report", presented by Austria and Croatia and designed to support the application of the Nairobi Plan by measuring progress made between 3 December 2004 and 2 December 2005. The Zagreb progress report

highlighted priority areas of work relating to the Action Plan and was considered the first in a series of annual progress reports to be prepared by States parties in advance of the Second Review Conference in 2009.

On 2 December, the Meeting agreed to amend the article 7 reporting format based on a proposal by Argentina and Chile, which was annexed to its report. It adopted the Zagreb Declaration, contained in part III of its report, reaffirming the commitments made by the States parties in the Nairobi Action Plan, particularly the determination to meet outstanding challenges in realizing the universalization of the Convention, ending the use of anti-personnel mines globally, destroying stockpiled mines, clearing mined areas, providing mine risk education and assisting the victims. The Meeting acknowledged the work of the Standing Committees and agreed that they would meet from 8 to 12 May 2006. It scheduled the Seventh Meeting of the States parties for September 2006 in Geneva, and the Eighth in 2007 in Jordan.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/80** by recorded vote (158-0-17) [agenda item 97 (r)].

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, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003 and 59/84 of 3 December 2004,

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 to fifth meetings of the States parties to the Convention held in Maputo (1999), Geneva

(2000), Managua (2001), Geneva (2002) and Bangkok (2003),

Recalling also the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, held in Nairobi from 29 November to 3 December 2004, at which the international community renewed its unwavering commitment to achieving the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines and witnessed the adoption by the States parties to the Convention of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009 to achieve major progress towards ending, for all people and for all time, the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome, wherein Heads of State and Government, inter alia, urged the States parties to the Convention to fully implement their obligations,

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 forty-seven,

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 have 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, including through the swift implementation of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009;

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 and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

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 sixth meeting of the States parties to the Convention, to be held in Zagreb from 28 November to 2 December 2005, and in the intersessional work programme established at the first meeting of the States parties, and

further developed at subsequent meetings of the States parties;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the next meeting of the States parties, pending a decision to be taken at the sixth meeting of the States parties, and on behalf of the 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 seventh meeting of the States parties as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first 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 60/80:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Palau, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam.

Other disarmament issues

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

As the Conference on Disarmament [A/60/27] remained deadlocked on a work programme during the year, it was not able to establish a subsidiary body to deal with its substantive agenda items, including the question of the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Nonetheless, delegates devoted one plenary meeting to discussion of related matters. China and the Russian Federation, the primary advocates of the need for a legal instrument on the issue, maintained their collaboration in that regard. While many delegates

identified with their position and reaffirmed support for the establishment of an ad hoc committee to address the item, others remained opposed to the idea, making consensus impossible. In March, China and the Russian Federation collaborated with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and Canada's Simons Centre for Disarmament and Non-proliferation Research to host an international conference on safeguarding space security: prevention of an arms race in outer space (Geneva, 21-22 March) [CD/1753], which brought the issue of space security to a new level of political urgency and declared it a priority for the international community to develop a work programme on the topic.

An open-ended informal meeting organized by the Russian Federation (Geneva, 16 August) [CD/1756] considered the possible elements for a future international legal agreement on the prevention of the deployment of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force against outer space objects.

The General Assembly, in resolution 60/54 (see below), asked the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its 1992 decision [YUN 1992, p. 97] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during its 2006 session.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/462], adopted **resolution 60/54** by recorded vote (180-2-0) [agenda item 96].

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 sole 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 2006 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 sixty-first session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/54:

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

Oman, Pakistan, Palau, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: None.

On the same date [meeting 61], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/66** by recorded vote (178-1-1) [agenda item 97].

Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Conscious that further measures should be examined in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions which, inter alia, emphasize the need for increased transparency and confirm the importance of confidence-building measures as a conducive means of ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General to its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,

1. *Invites* all Member States to inform the Secretary-General before its sixty-first session of their views on the advisability of further developing international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session an item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/66:

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

pires, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: Israel.

Disarmament and development

In 2005, the relationship between disarmament and development remained a controversial issue in the international community. While the majority of Member States, mostly members of the Non-Aligned Movement, continued to call for the implementation of the action programme adopted by the 1987 International Conference, which examined the relationship in all its aspects [YUN 1987, p. 82], other States, particularly EU member States and the United States, emphasized that an automatic link did not exist between both concepts.

High-level Steering Group. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/78 [YUN 2004, p. 580], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/60/94] containing the observations of the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development established in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 506], regarding the 2004 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship [YUN 2004, p. 579]. The Steering Group acknowledged the importance of the recommendation of the Expert Group that the UN and other intergovernmental organizations make greater efforts to integrate their disarmament, humanitarian and development activities. The Group announced that it had designated focal points at the working level and was examining how disarmament-related issues and development could be better integrated into the activities of appropriate components of the UN system. It was also considering modalities for raising greater awareness of the subject. The Group summarized activities relevant to disarmament and development undertaken by its partner departments and agency and highlighted similar initiatives being undertaken by various components of the UN system. Unfortunately, financial constraints continued to hamper efforts to implement activities promoting disarmament and development.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/61** by recorded vote (177-1-2) [agenda item 97 (n)].

Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development, as well as 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 10 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, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002 and 59/78 of 3 December 2004, and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

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,

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,

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context;

2. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the disarmament-development relationship, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to assure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and sub-agencies;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

4. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implemen-

tation 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;

5. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2006, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

6. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development in their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/61:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: France, Israel.

Human rights, human security and disarmament

As part of growing international efforts to protect civilians' human rights in situations of armed conflict, the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see p. 713) considered in 2005 the threat posed to those rights by weapons accumulation and proliferation. It considered a set of revised draft principles on the prevention of human rights violations committed with small arms, prepared by Barbara Frey (United States), the Special Rapporteur man-

dated in 2002 [YUN 2002, p. 720] to conduct a study on the topic.

The question of the relationship between disarmament and human security was taken up during the year by UNIDIR (see p. 640). Its activities on the issue related primarily to the small arms scourge and the danger posed by explosive remnants of war and landmines, as those weapons continued to be widely used, crippling human activities and hampering peace and the reconstruction of post-conflict societies. In collaboration with DDA and other partners, UNIDIR made efforts to identify ways to control those weapons and seek adequate solutions to the security concerns of affected populations.

Arms limitation and disarmament agreements

Responding to General Assembly resolution 59/68 [YUN 2004, p. 581], the Secretary-General submitted a July report with later addendum [A/60/97 & Add.1], containing information from six 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 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/60** by recorded vote (176-1-4) [agenda item 97 (g)].

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 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003 and 59/68 of 3 December 2004,

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 within 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 sixty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RECORDED VOTE RESOLUTION 60/60:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: France, Israel, Palau, United Kingdom.

Also on 8 December [meeting 61], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted **resolution 60/55** by recorded vote (163-0-10) [agenda item 97].

Compliance with non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/86 of 22 November 2002 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for the 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 and compliance with non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements to which they are parties and with other agreed obligations are essential for regional and global peace, security and stability,

Stressing that failure by States parties to comply with such agreements and other agreed obligations 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,

Stressing also that the viability and effectiveness of non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other agreed obligations require that those agreements be fully complied with,

Concerned by non-compliance by some States with their respective obligations,

Noting that verification and compliance, and enforcement in a manner consistent with the Charter, are integrally related,

Recognizing that full compliance by States with their respective non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other agreed obligations contributes to efforts to prevent the development and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their technologies and means of delivery contrary to international obligations, and to efforts to deny non-State actors access to such capabilities,

1. *Underscores* the contribution that compliance with non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other agreed obligations makes to enhancing confidence and strengthening security and stability;

2. *Urges* all States to implement and to comply fully with their respective obligations;

3. *Urges* those States not currently in compliance with their respective obligations to make the strategic decision to come back into compliance with those obligations;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to take concerted action in a manner consistent with relevant international law to encourage, through bilateral and multilateral means, the compliance by all States with their respective non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other agreed obligations and to hold those not in compliance with such agreements accountable for their non-compliance in a manner consistent with the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Encourages* efforts by all States parties, the United Nations and other international organizations, pursuant to their mandates, to take action, consistent with the Charter, to prevent serious damage to international security and stability arising from non-compliance by States with their existing non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament obligations;

6. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/55:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Barbados, Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Russian Federation, South Africa, Venezuela.

Studies, information and training

Disarmament studies programme

During the year, DDA and Canada organized a panel discussion (New York, 20 October) on verifying disarmament and non-proliferation agreements, which explored issues relating to the work of the Panel of Governmental Experts on verification, to be established in 2006, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/60 [YUN 2004, p. 568]. In other developments, Governments, UN organizations, and civil society groups began implementation of the recommendations contained in the UN study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, as called for in Assembly resolution 59/93 [ibid., p. 582].

In 2005, the Assembly, in resolution 60/81 (see p. 625), decided to establish a group of governmental experts to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons and to report to the Assembly in 2007. By resolution 60/226 (see p. 629), the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2006, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the UN Register of Conventional Arms and its further development, with a view to making a decision at its sixty-first (2006) session.

Disarmament Information Programme

During the year, priority issues for the Disarmament Information Programme were WMDs and

conventional weapons, especially small arms and light weapons. Other areas covered included the publications programme; website access, exhibits and the activities of the Secretary-General's Messenger of Peace programme; cooperation with civil society, NGOs in particular; and the activities of the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) (see p. 691), which administered the Programme in close collaboration with DDA, on information campaigns supporting major disarmament-related events and conferences. DDA continued to work closely with such NGOs as Reaching Critical Will and the International Action Network on Small Arms to facilitate the participation of civil society organizations at meetings, including the 2005 NPT Review Conference (see p. 597) and the second biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action on Small Arms [YUN 2001, p. 499]. DPI focused on the promotion and coverage of major disarmament-related conferences. Its activities included public information campaigns, radio and television broadcasts, webcasts and printed material.

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, which advised the Secretary-General on the disarmament studies programme and implementation 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 forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions (New York, 23-25 February; Geneva, 29 June-1 July) [A/60/285]. The Board deliberated on nuclear fuel cycle and fissile material control; regional security and global norms; small arms and light weapons; challenges and opportunities at the regional level regarding WMDs and conventional arms; and a review of the disarmament machinery. On the issue of nuclear fuel cycle and fissile material control, the Board recommended that nearer-term opportunities for multilateral nuclear approaches, based on voluntary participation, be considered, and that the recommendation of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change [YUN 2004, p. 54] for a voluntary moratorium on the development of more facilities, matched by the guaranteed supply of fissile material, be further elaborated. Existing approaches and instruments should be utilized fully to strengthen the security of fissile material and all States with advanced nuclear programmes, whether or not they were parties to NPT, should participate actively in international efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Concerning small arms and light

weapons, the Board proposed that the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly (see p. 47) accord high priority to the challenge posed by those weapons. The second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499] and the first review conference on the Programme's Implementation, to be held in 2006, should aim to expand and deepen global norms governing that category of weapons. The United Nations should take the lead in enhancing the inclusive process at the global, regional, national and civil society levels, in order to better address the threat posed by those weapons. In addition, international coordination and cooperation should be strengthened, including between the General Assembly and the Security Council, and between the United Nations and relevant financial institutions, so as to facilitate effective action in a comprehensive and integrated manner.

On the issue of challenges and opportunities at the regional level regarding WMDs and conventional arms, the Board recommended, among other things, interregional dialogue to share information, successful experiences and lessons learned, and strengthening cooperation between regional organizations or mechanisms to promote disarmament and non-proliferation. As to the disarmament machinery, the Board proposed that the Conference on Disarmament be strengthened, without prejudice to adjustments in its procedural arrangements that could facilitate progress in the consideration of disarmament measures. Also, the functioning of the First Committee should be improved to enable it to address better traditional and current security challenges facing the international community, particularly those regarding disarmament and non-proliferation.

In its capacity as UNIDIR's Board of Trustees (see below), the Board made recommendations concerning the Institute's 2005 work programme and budget. After considering an audit report on UNIDIR's activities by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (see below), which identified difficulties relating to its staffing and funding status, the Board recommended that UNIDIR's core staff be funded from the UN regular budget and that the Institute explore ways to apply UN staff regulations and rules to all its personnel.

UN Institute for Disarmament Research

OIOS audit report. Between November 2004 and January 2005, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted its first audit of UNIDIR's programmes and activities, with a total

expenditure of \$4.2 million undertaken in the period from January 2002 to October 2004. The audit intended to determine, among other things, the effectiveness of UNIDIR's management structure and practices in achieving its programmes and of internal controls to ensure the efficient use of resources and compliance with UN regulations and rules, focused on the Institute's statute, funding research projects, outputs and outreach activities. OIOS established that UNIDIR's research and other activities were making a positive impact, but found that some areas needed attention. In particular, it had concerns regarding the in which the Institute managed its staff and about its funding status and made a number of recommendations for improvement.

During the year, UNIDIR marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of its establishment.

Report of Secretary-General. The Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the UNIDIR Director covering the period from August 2004 to July 2005 [A/60/135], as well as the report of the UNIDIR Board of Trustees on the proposed 2005-2006 programme of work and budget [YUN 2004, p. 548]. The Institute's research activities continued to focus on global security, regional security and human security, addressing the full range of substantive disarmament issues, from small arms to weapons in space. As in previous years, the report highlighted the scope of UNIDIR's research activities worldwide, including through conferences, seminars and discussion meetings, as well as its networking initiatives with UN system specialized agencies, organizations and institutions. The report also contained a list of UNIDIR publications issued during the reporting period.

The General Assembly, in section IV of **resolution 60/248** (see p. 1494), having considered the Secretary-General's request for a subvention to UNIDIR [A/C.5/60/3], as recommended by the Board of Trustees, and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [A/60/7/Add.8], approved a subvention for the Institute in the amount of \$468,100 from the UN regular budget for the 2006-2007 biennium.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/465], adopted **resolution 60/89** without vote [agenda item 99 (b)].

Twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/83 M of 11 December 1979, in which it requested the Secretary-General to es-

establish the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,

Reaffirming its resolution 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, in which it approved the statute of the Institute, renewed the invitation to Governments to consider making voluntary contributions to the Institute and requested the Secretary-General to continue to give the Institute administrative and other support,

Recalling its resolution 45/62 G of 4 December 1990 on the tenth anniversary of the Institute and its resolution 55/35 A of 20 November 2000 on the twentieth anniversary of the Institute,

Considering the continuing need for the international community to have access to independent and in-depth research on security issues and prospects for disarmament and non-proliferation,

Underlining the particularly relevant contribution of the Institute to thinking and analysis on international security issues in the current context,

Taking note of the audit report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the Institute, which makes a positive assessment of the impact of the work of the Institute and recommends that the Institute should seek adequate funding from the regular budget to better meet the costs of its core staff and that the Institute, in consultation with its Board of Trustees, should establish specific posts for the core functions of the Institute,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, in which, after considering the audit report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the Board recommended that the costs of the core staff of the Institute should be funded from the regular budget of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

2. *Recognizes* the importance, the timeliness and the high quality of the work of the Institute;

3. *Reiterates its conviction* that the Institute should continue to conduct independent research on problems relating to disarmament and security and to undertake specialized research requiring a high degree of expertise;

4. *Appeals* to all Member States to continue to make financial contributions to the Institute in order to ensure its viability and the quality of its work over the long term;

5. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General implement the relevant recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the decisions of the Board of Trustees of the Institute and continue to seek ways to increase the funding of the Institute, within existing resources.

Disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

In 2005, 30 fellows participated in the UN disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, which began in Geneva on 29 August and terminated in New York on 2 November. The programme comprised study ses-

sions in Geneva and New York and study visits to intergovernmental organizations working in the field of disarmament, and to Member States, including Germany and Japan.

Regional disarmament

In 2005, the United Nations continued to promote regional approaches to disarmament and security and to complement relevant activities by strengthening predictable partnerships and arrangements with regional organizations. In February, the Security Council acknowledged in presidential statement S/PRST/2005/7 (see p. 619) the significant contribution of regional organizations in combating the proliferation of those weapons and encouraged continuing assistance to Member States to implement 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].

Reports of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/88 [YUN 2004, p. 574], the Secretary-General, in July [A/60/92], presented the views of three States (Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia) regarding conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels.

In response to Assembly resolution 59/87 [YUN 2004, p. 575], he also submitted a July report with later addendum [A/60/119 & Add.1] containing the views of 12 States (Albania, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Grenada, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Turkey) on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 61], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/463], adopted three resolutions relating to regional disarmament. The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/63** without vote [agenda item 97 (w)].

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, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003 and 59/89 of 3 December 2004 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, disarmament 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 sixty-first session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/64** without vote [agenda item 97 (u)].

Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 59/87 of 3 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003, entitled "Prevention of armed conflict", in which it called upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that 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,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socio-economic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue those ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions which may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including

arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armament;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

The Assembly adopted **resolution 60/75** by recorded vote (174-1-1) [agenda item 97 (v)].

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, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003 and 59/88 of 3 December 2004,

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 sixty-first session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 60/75:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, 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, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: India.

Abstaining: Bhutan.

Africa

In 2005, African States maintained efforts to address challenges stemming from the proliferation of small arms and light weapons on the continent. The Regional Consultation of Governmental Experts on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Biennial Meeting of States Reporting in West Africa (Bamako, Mali, 28-29 April) reviewed regional and international commitments and initiatives and mechanisms regarding those weapons. They discussed, among other things, common concerns and needs relating to three broad themes: country reporting to the Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action on small arms (see p. 618); ways to support a newly created small arms unit of the Economic Community of

West African States (ECOWAS) in fulfilling its tasks; and the complementarity and/or compatibility of existing regional commitments to the control of illicit arms.

The Third Ministerial Review Conference 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] (Nairobi, 20-21 June) declared its commitment to continue efforts in tackling the problem. To that end, it established a Regional Centre for Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA) to oversee the full implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and related Protocol in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa.

The Second Continental Conference of African Governmental Experts and Regional Economic Communities on the Illicit Small Arms Trade (Windhoek, Namibia, 14-16 December) agreed on measures at the national, regional and international levels for implementing the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499] and to present a common African position at the planned 2006 Conference to review progress in the implementation process. It requested the African Union to take follow-up action, including organizing biennial high-level governmental meetings in 2008, 2010 and 2012, to review progress. To reinforce efforts in combating the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, particularly illicit brokering, Interpol and the International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor collaborated on a project to collect and analyse information on key figures involved in those activities and on their mode of operation in the Great Lakes region. The project was expected to provide the international law enforcement community with an additional tool for tackling those criminal activities. UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery and Small Arms and Demobilization Unit organized a meeting, which considered lessons learned from the Small Arms Reduction Programme in the Great Lakes Region and ways to increase support for enhancing the regional agenda in that context.

Standing Advisory Committee

At its twenty-second ministerial meeting (Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, 14-18 March) [A/59/769-S/2005/212], the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa reviewed the geopolitical and security situation in its member States, the mercenary threat in Central Africa, its own role in promoting peace and development in the Great Lakes region, preparations for a military exercise in the Sudanese region of Bahr-El-Ghazal and regional con-

tribution to the work of the Second Biennial Meeting of States on the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference [YUN 2001, p. 499]. While welcoming the positive developments in the Central African Republic (see p. 217), including the holding of legislative and presidential elections and the establishment of the national Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission for ex-combatants, the Committee expressed concern at continuing insecurity in that country, characterized by abuses and summary executions by agents of law and order and noted the commitment of the authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice. The Committee also expressed concern at persisting tensions on the border between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda and welcomed their mutual efforts to improve the situation. It adopted two declarations on the mercenary threat in Central Africa and on peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes region, respectively, both of which were annexed to its report.

In response to General Assembly resolution 59/96 [YUN 2004, p. 571], the Secretary-General, in July [A/60/166], described the activities of the Committee. He observed that the Committee, which remained the only forum for States members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to meet regularly to examine political and security developments in the region, demonstrated its valuable role by adopting two declarations during the year. He observed that the declaration on mercenary activity in Central Africa addressed the obstacle which such activity posed to peace, stability and development in the region. The declaration on peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes region recognized the link between peace in that region and in the Central African subregion. Despite those commendable initiatives, however, concrete actions were imperative in order for the Central African subregion to attain sustainable peace, stability and development. It was critical, therefore, that the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, established in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 500], became operational, particularly its early warning mechanisms. It was also vital that the capacity of the ECCAS secretariat be strengthened to enable it to spearhead the implementation of the various declarations, decisions and recommendations of the Committee.

In September, the Congo transmitted the report of the Committee's twenty-third ministerial meeting (Brazzaville, Congo, 29 August-2 September) [A/60/393-S/2005/616]. The Committee continued to consider issues relating to its member States' geopolitical and security situation, se-

curity cooperation among them, and the review of related declarations and other initiatives. It also adopted its 2005-2006 programme of work.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/87** without vote [agenda item 98 (a)].

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 A of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, 55/34 B of 20 November 2000, 56/25 A of 29 November 2001, 57/88 of 22 November 2002, 58/65 of 8 December 2003 and 59/96 of 3 December 2004,

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 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts being made by the countries members of the Economic Community of Central African States to promote peace and security in their subregion, including the visit to Kinshasa, on 24 June 2005, of the President of the Republic of the Congo and current Chairman of the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the convening in Kinshasa, on 16 July 2005, of a quadripartite summit of the Heads of State of Angola, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Gabon, held within the framework of the mandate entrusted to the current Chairman at the twelfth session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States,

Noting with satisfaction also the improvement in the situation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, particularly the encouraging results of the meetings of the Democratic Republic of the Congo-Rwanda-Uganda Tripartite Commission on security in that part of the Great Lakes region,

Taking note of the successful completion of electoral processes in the Central African Republic and Burundi,

Recognizing the importance of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in strengthening peace, political stability and reconstruction, especially in post-conflict situations,

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 its resolution 59/96;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

3. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to pursue their efforts to promote peace and security in their subregion;

4. *Encourages* the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda to pursue their efforts to strengthen their bilateral relations;

5. *Strongly appeals* to the international community to provide all necessary support for the smooth functioning of the electoral process currently under way in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

6. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

7. *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;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing its programme of work for the period 2004-2005;

9. *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;

10. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the countries members 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;

11. *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;

12. *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;

13. *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;

14. *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;

15. *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;

16. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

17. *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;

18. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for sending a multidisciplinary mission from 8 to 22 June 2003 for the purpose of undertaking an assessment of the priority needs of the region and challenges confronting it in the areas of peace, security, economic development,

human rights and HIV/AIDS, and in the humanitarian field;

19. *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;

20. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

In response to General Assembly resolution 59/101 [YUN 2004, p. 586], the Secretary-General described the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa [A/60/153], covering the period from July 2004 to June 2005. The Centre was established in Lomé, Togo, in 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 85].

During the reporting period, the Centre maintained focus on the priority areas of peace and security, which remained at the core of its work; arms control and disarmament; research, information and publication; and cooperation with regional organizations and civil society. The Centre participated in the Conference of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS (Accra, Ghana, 25 January) on the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, which provided it with an opportunity to explore the possible role it could play in the disarmament aspects of the peace process. In the Great Lakes region, the Centre, in collaboration with UNDP, deployed a one-month mission in the DRC to review the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process launched in the context of the peace process in that country. In continuing efforts to promote civil-military relations in Africa, the Centre produced a draft code of conduct for armed and security forces on the continent, for consideration by the AU Commission. In related action, it launched pilot surveys, the first ones in Togo, which would serve as a basis for formulating action-oriented programmes to address areas of tension between the civilian population and the military, especially in emerging democracies in Africa. The Centre completed work on the parliamentary defence committees training course for West Africa and contributed to civil society efforts in Togo to mainstream gender in peace and disarmament processes. It also promoted adherence to and implementation of multilateral disarmament agreements on WMDs and supported regional efforts to tackle the small arms scourge.

In cooperation with its partners, including the AU and UNIDIR, the Centre elaborated the terms of reference and operational framework and guidelines for conducting national inventories of local capacities for the production of small arms and light weapons in the participating States of the Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa, launched in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 587]. Between March and June, field missions were deployed to participating countries to launch the inventory process. In April, the Centre, together with UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery and UNIDIR, participated in a mission to six southern African countries (Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe) to raise awareness about the problem of small arms and light weapons and to build national capacity for tackling it. Other activities of the Centre promoted research in the areas of peace and disarmament on the continent, and cooperation with regional organizations and NGOs in advancing related courses, through exchange programmes and the provision of technical advice and expertise, particularly regarding the drafting of concept papers, project documents and conference reports.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/86** without vote [agenda item 98 (e)].

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, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003 and 59/101 of 3 December 2004,

Aware of the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, in which it was stated that the Regional Centre continued to carry out its mandate under very strenuous financial and operational difficulties,

Concerned that the activities and staffing of the Regional Centre have been reduced in view of the limited resources at its disposal,

Deeply concerned that, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General, the future of the Regional Centre looks bleak owing to the lack of a reliable source of funding that would ensure the sustainability of its operations,

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken to mobilize the necessary resources for the operational costs of the Regional Centre,

Conscious of the need to review the mandate and programmes of the Regional Centre in the light of developments in the field of peace and security in Africa since its establishment,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, in particular its institutions in the field of peace, disarmament and security, as well as with relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa for greater effectiveness,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, within existing resources, a consultative mechanism of interested States, in particular African States, for the reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

2. *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;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of peace, security and development, and to continue to provide assistance towards stabilizing the financial situation of the Centre;

5. *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;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

Asia and the Pacific

In 2005, disarmament and non-proliferation issues in Asia and the Pacific continued to be addressed by the regional States within the framework of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), its Regional Forum (ARF) and the six-member Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) (China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan). SCO, founded in 2001 as a multilateral platform for strengthening regional peace, security and stability, at its fifth summit (Astana, Kazakhstan, 5 July), adopted a declaration expressing member States' determination to contribute to efforts to strengthen international security at sea and in the air, especially with regard to combating terrorism and other challenges and threats. The twelfth ARF ministerial meeting (Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 29 July), pointing to the continuing security challenge posed by the proliferation of WMDs and their delivery vehicles, particularly regarding the risk of those weapons falling into the hands of terrorists, underlined the need to maintain efforts to strengthen the international legal foundation for combating terrorism. The Ministers expressed support for the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544] to monitor national efforts to combat WMD proliferation, the importance of the NPT in promoting nuclear disarmament and the need for all regional States to combat illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons. At the first East Asia summit (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 14 December), ASEAN leaders endorsed the idea of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful and verifiable manner within the framework of the six-party talks (see p. 450) as something that could contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of the region.

Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 59/100 [YUN 2004, p. 587], 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 July 2004 to July 2005 [A/60/152]. The Centre was inaugurated in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 1989 [YUN 1989, p. 88].

During the reporting period, the Centre continued to promote disarmament and security through the organization of meetings and conferences, including a regional workshop to address issues relating to small arms (Beijing, China, 19-21 April), which enabled the regional States to ex-

change experiences on efforts to combat those weapons, identify related problems and challenges and explore ways to implement the 2001 Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on small arms [YUN 2001, p. 499]. The Centre contributed to the work of a study group on countering the proliferation of WMDs (Singapore, 27-28 May), under the auspices of the Council for Security Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific, and to ongoing efforts to advance cooperation with regional States and organizations in addressing security issues of concern. The Centre initiated consultations with some ASEAN members on disarmament and non-proliferation education. It also continued to develop working relations with disarmament-related intergovernmental organizations, including IAEA, OPCW, and CTBTO.

In efforts to maintain support to the five Central Asian States in finalizing the draft text of a treaty to make the region a nuclear-weapon-free zone, the Centre organized a series of expert group meetings, which facilitated the conclusion of negotiations on the text and the adoption of the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty and Protocol (see p. 610). In June, the Centre helped the United Nations Association of Japan to organize an international symposium on peace and environmental issues in Ishikawa (Kanazawa, Japan, 13-14 June), which addressed current peace and environmental issues in the region, as well as other security concerns. It also provided assistance in consolidating and strengthening Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status and, to that end, organized a meeting of a consultative group of UN departments, programmes, funds and agencies (New York, 7 July), which focused on follow-up to the studies conducted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and UNDP on ecological vulnerabilities and human security in the country. In cooperation with Japan, the Centre organized a conference (Kyoto, Japan, 17-19 August) on the subject "The United Nations: after six decades and renewed efforts for the promotion of disarmament", which addressed the wide range of issues raised at the 2005 NPT Review Conference (see p. 597). The Centre also collaborated with the Republic of Korea to organize the fourth "UN-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (Busan, 1-3 December), which considered challenges to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ways to strengthen it. Other regional workshops organized by the Centre promoted the UN study on non-proliferation education.

Consultations continued during the year with the host country on the Centre's relocation from

UN Headquarters in New York, including the draft host country agreement and the draft memorandum of understanding on operational costs. Given the Centre's financial and logistical difficulties, the Secretary-General was considering the possibility of co-locating it with the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, as a way of ensuring its operational viability.

Communications. On 2 August [A/60/230], the host country of the Centre, Nepal, reaffirmed its commitment to the Centre's relocation and its eagerness to sign the related host country agreement with the United Nations at the earliest possible date. It indicated its intention to bear the operating costs of the Centre, including additional security-related expenses, and requested a revised text of the host country agreement.

In a related 14 September communication [A/60/369], Nepal emphasized its willingness to sort out outstanding issues relating to the Centre's relocation and stated, in that connection, that privileges and immunities for the Centre's locally recruited staff would be granted in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations [YUN 1946-47, p. 100, GA res. 22 A (1)].

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/85** without vote [agenda item 98 (d)].

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,

Taking note of 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 has been 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 meetings and conferences in the region, held in Sapporo, Japan, from 26 to 29 July 2004, in Nadi, Fiji, from 18 to 20 August 2004, on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 8 December 2004, in Beijing from 19 to 21 April 2005 and in Kanazawa, Japan, on 13 and 14 June 2005,

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 continued assistance in finalizing a treaty 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,

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 sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Europe

During the year, European countries continued to address security and disarmament issues

within the framework of regional institutions. The EU, which had considerably increased its activities on matters relating to WMDs and small arms and light weapons, implemented during the year a significant number of concrete actions foreseen in its 2003 security strategy [YUN 2003, p. 576] for addressing global security threats and challenges. In a bid to help strengthen nuclear security, the EU adopted a Joint Action in July [2005/574/CFSP] pledging support for IAEA activities in the areas of nuclear security and verification. To that end, it undertook to implement projects that would help strengthen the physical protection of nuclear and other radioactive materials in use, storage and transport of nuclear facilities; secure radioactive materials in non-nuclear applications; strengthen States' capabilities for detection and response to illicit trafficking in those materials; and provide legislative assistance for the implementation of States' obligations under IAEA safeguards agreements and additional protocols.

During the year, the EU also made efforts to support the activities of OPCW (see p. 618), aimed at promoting the universalization of the Chemical Weapons Convention and at supporting its implementation by States. It continued its work on conventional arms control through the 1998 EU Code of Conduct for Arms Export [YUN 1998, p. 540]. Priorities for the future included outreach to promote the Code's principles and criteria, and providing practical and technical assistance to States in that context. The EU endorsed the principle of an international arms trade treaty and made a commitment in October to work towards its negotiation. In December, the European Council adopted the EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking in small arms and light weapons and their ammunition. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) also accorded particular attention to security-related concerns posed by the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons. The thirteenth meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council (Ljubljana, Slovenia, 5-6 December) adopted a decision on further efforts to implement previous OSCE documents on those weapons, aspects of which covered ammunition stockpiles. OSCE also assisted many of its participating States to reduce conventional arms stocks, improve stockpile security or destroy excess or unwelcome armaments. Those States began drafting a "best practice guide" on stockpiles of conventional ammunition. OSCE also accorded considerable attention to WMD proliferation and the threat of their acquisition by non-State actors, focusing on ways of assisting in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540(2004)

[YUN 2004, p. 544] on measures to combat the problem.

Communications. On 19 August [A/60/292], the Russian Federation transmitted the text of a 22 June declaration of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, by which they pledged to take measures to encourage national procedures for the ratification of the Agreement on Adaptation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

Latin America

In 2005, the Organization of American States (OAS) continued to promote regional disarmament and non-proliferation initiatives. The OAS General Assembly, at its thirty-fifth regular session (Florida, United States, 5-7 June), adopted resolutions underscoring the disarmament elements of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA); consolidation of the regime established in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (see p. 611); the Americas as a biological- and chemical-weapons-free region; the proliferation of and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects; disarmament and non-proliferation education; the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions; inter-American support for the CTBT; and the Americas as an anti-personnel land-mine-free zone. Within the framework of CIFTA, the first meeting of national authorities directly responsible for granting the export, import and international transit licences or authorizations for transfers of firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials (Washington, D.C., 6-7 October) discussed mechanisms to help prevent the illegal manufacturing and trafficking in firearms. The Fourth Summit of the Americas (Mar del Plata, Argentina, 4-5 November) adopted the Declaration of Mar Del Plata reaffirming commitment to the objectives and purposes of the 2003 Declaration on Security in the Americas [YUN 2003, p. 577], based on a multi-dimensional concept of security and cooperation among the regional States. The Central American Integration System, with support from UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery/Small Arms and Demobilization Unit, developed a regional small arms control project expected to begin operation in 2006. The Unit, together with the United Kingdom, also supported Nicaragua in developing and implementing a project relating to the control of those weapons.

Regional Centre

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/99 [YUN 2004, p. 589], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/60/132] describing the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean from July 2004 to June 2005. The Centre was inaugurated in Lima, Peru, in 1987 [YUN 1987, p. 88].

The Centre focused attention on WMDs and stockpile management; training courses for the law enforcement community, members of Parliament and NGO representatives; guidance on reporting in connection with weapons-related instruments; and development of methodologies for future confidence-building measures between States. Concerning the promotion of sub-regional and regional security, the Centre devoted increased attention to defining, better understanding and supporting projects that affected the security and lives of people on a daily basis. It also helped coordinate the efforts of related entities and undertook capacity-building initiatives on the link between security and sustainable development.

In the field of good governance and security sector reform, the Centre supported a project in Costa Rica aimed at researching ways to reduce the impact of firearms-related violence on human development, improve firearms legislation and conduct capacity-building activities, decentralize firearms-related policy and develop awareness on firearms control. A similar initiative in Guatemala involved studies on the impact of firearms proliferation on development. The Centre also fostered the development and implementation of firearms-related instruments, the strengthening of firearms legislation, the development of training courses. It focused on assisting with weapons destruction and stockpile management, increasing database tools to enhance coordination and the exchange of information, enhancing participation of the firearms, ammunition and explosives industry and fostering UN coordination. In that context, it helped organize various conferences and workshops to assist the regional States in implementing their obligations regarding such issues as the design of firearms legislation and the development of capacity-building courses and reporting procedures.

During the reporting period, the Centre, in cooperation with several partners, developed and organized training courses on the control of the legal arms trade and the illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition and explosives, in which some 329 individuals in the region participated, including law enforcement officials, members of Parliament and NGO representatives. Regarding

weapons destruction and stockpile management, the Centre assisted with the destruction or removal of 52,000 firearms in Brazil, Costa Rica and Paraguay, as well as the destruction of over 96 tons of ammunition and explosives in Paraguay. Plans were currently under way for additional weapons destruction in those countries. The Centre assisted regional States to enhance confidence- and security-building measures by helping to develop a standardized methodology on the comparison of military expenditures, which provided the basis for the discussion of the mission, objectives and policies of national defence. It also assisted in developing defence white papers addressing issues relating to the strengthening of democratic values, practices and human security in the region. The Centre undertook a variety of other activities designed to enhance cooperation for a safer region by promoting dialogue and information exchange among the regional States and supporting efforts in the field of regional security.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/84** without vote [agenda item 98 (c)].

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 December 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, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001, 57/89 of 22 November 2002, 58/60 of 8 December 2003 and 59/99 of 3 December 2004,

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,

Recognizing 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,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General, which concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to provide assistance to States in the Latin American and Caribbean region in the implementation of regional initiatives in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and that during the period under re-

view, such assistance was provided in the form of, inter alia, weapons destruction and stockpile management, training courses for the law enforcement community, members of Parliament and their advisers and representatives of non-governmental organizations, guidance on reporting in connection with weapons-related instruments and the development of methodologies for future confidence-building measures among States,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development, referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

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 support provided by the Regional Centre to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), as well as to promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction and to promoting peace and disarmament education projects during the period under review,

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,

Bearing in mind also 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 in the last year in the fields of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the 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 programme and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to

meet the current challenges facing the international community 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. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in the important area of disarmament and development;

7. *Highlights* the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that, through its activities, the Regional Centre has demonstrated its role as a viable regional actor in assisting States in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make and to increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

9. *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;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

On 8 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/60/464], adopted **resolution 60/83** without vote [agenda item 98 (b)].

United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/98 of 3 December 2004 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 purposes and principles 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 sixty-first session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".