

## Chapter VII

## Disarmament

The United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, considered one of the most important disarmament events in 2001, met in July and adopted a Programme of Action, which was seen as a significant first step towards curbing the illicit trade and proliferation of those weapons. In August, the Security Council called on Member States to implement the Programme.

In 2001, the terrorist attacks of 11 September (see p. 60) and subsequent anthrax incidents in the United States raised further concern among the international community over the threat of bioterrorism and the use of weapons of mass destruction. Despite the increased concern, multilateral efforts to strengthen the 1971 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction suffered setbacks, as the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties was suspended in December due to divergent positions on key issues. Earlier in the year, the Ad Hoc Group of the States Parties to the Convention failed to conclude negotiation on a compliance protocol. In related action, the General Assembly, in November, recognizing the close connection between international terrorism and illicit arms-trafficking and the illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials, called for multilateral cooperation to deal with the problem.

The Conference on Disarmament once again did not agree on a programme of work and thus remained unable to take action on any of its agenda items during its 2001 session. The Disarmament Commission continued to consider ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament and practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms.

With regard to anti-personnel mines, the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, in September, noted that considerable areas of mined land had been cleared over the past year, casualty rates had been reduced in several of the most affected States and victim assistance had improved. The Second Review Conference of the

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, held in December, agreed to amend article I of the Convention in order to expand the scope of its application to non-international armed conflicts. The Third Annual Conference of the States Parties to the 1980 Convention's amended Protocol on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II) reaffirmed the States parties' commitment to restricting the use of, or outlawing, anti-personnel landmines.

In November, the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty called on signatory States to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible.

At the bilateral level, the Russian Federation and the United States conducted the last inspection pursuant to the provisions of the 1987 Treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, under which they agreed to eliminate their intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles no later than three years after the Treaty's entry into force, and to conduct on-site inspections on each other's territory for 13 years. They also completed reductions of their respective nuclear arsenals, in accordance with the terms of the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I). During the year, both parties held discussions on additional reductions of their nuclear arsenals and on related strategic issues, including the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (ABM Treaty). In December, the United States announced that it had decided to withdraw unilaterally from the ABM Treaty.

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### UN role in disarmament

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#### UN machinery

Disarmament issues before the United Nations were considered mainly through the General Assembly and its First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee, the Disarmament Commission (a deliberative body) and the Con-

ference on Disarmament (a multilateral negotiating forum, which met in Geneva).

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

#### Fourth special session on disarmament

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 M [YUN 2000, p. 484], the Secretary-General, in a July report [A/56/166], presented the views of seven Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament.

The Assembly had decided, by resolution 51/45 C [YUN 1996, p. 447], to convene the special session in 1999, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its agenda and objectives.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 D** without vote [agenda item 74 (m)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

*Taking note also* of the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1999 substantive session and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled

“Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”,

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

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

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

*Noting* that, with the recent accomplishments made by the international community in the field of weapons of mass destruction as well as conventional arms, the following years would be opportune for the international community to start the process of reviewing the state of affairs in the entire field of disarmament and arms control in the post-cold-war era,

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

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

1. *Decides*, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its objectives and agenda, to convene the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the special session and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled “Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”.

#### Disarmament Commission

The Disarmament Commission, composed of all UN Member States, held seven plenary meetings in 2001 (New York, 9-27 April) [A/56/42] and organizational meetings on 9 April and 2 November.

The Commission continued to consider ways to achieve nuclear disarmament (see p. 473) and practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms (see p. 506). The Commission adopted consensus texts on those items, following consideration of the issues by its working groups.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Com-

mittee [A/56/538], adopted **resolution 56/26 A** without vote [agenda item 76 (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 and 55/35 C of 20 November 2000,

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

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

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

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

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

5. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission, at its 2001 organizational session, adopted the following items for consideration at its 2002 substantive session:

(a) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

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

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2002 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, together with all the official records of the fifty-sixth 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 mat-

ter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

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

#### Conference on Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament, a multilateral negotiating body, held a three-part session in Geneva in 2001 (22 January–30 March, 14 May–29 June and 30 July–14 September) [A/56/27].

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

During the session, successive Presidents of the Conference held consultations and put forward informal proposals with a view to reaching consensus on a programme of work, none of which achieved consensus. Thus, the Conference did not agree on a programme of work and did not re-establish or establish any mechanism on any of its substantive agenda items. However, on 14 June [CD/1646], the Conference reaffirmed its commitment to work towards the approval of a programme of work, maintaining the Amorim proposal [YUN 2000, p. 485], which envisaged the establishment of ad hoc committees with non-negotiating mandates on nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, as a basis for further consultations, and taking into consideration all relevant proposals. The Conference appointed three Special Coordinators on the review of its agenda (Germany), expansion of its membership (Bulgaria) and its improved and effective functioning (Sri Lanka), all of whom reported on their consultations at the end of the session. The Conference agreed that priority should be given to substantive work and that Special Coordinators on the same issues should be reappointed as early as possible at the 2002 session. The Conference requested its President and the incoming President to hold consultations during the intersessional period, with a view to beginning work early in 2002.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/538], adopted **resolution 56/26 B** without vote [agenda item 76 (e)].

### Report of the Conference on Disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2002 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its President to conduct appropriate consultations with its incoming President during the inter-session period to try to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 40 of its report;

5. *Further welcomes* the recommendation of the Conference, as expressed in paragraph 41 of its report, to reappoint the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of Membership of the Conference on Disarmament and the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 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 fifty-seventh session;

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

### Multilateral disarmament agreements

As at 31 December 2001, the following numbers of States had become parties to the multilateral agreements listed below (in chronological order, with the years in which they were initially signed or opened for signature).

(Geneva) Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare (1925): 132 parties

The Antarctic Treaty (1959): 45 parties

Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (1963): 124 parties

Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1967) [YUN 1966, p. 41, GA res. 2222(XXI), annex]: 97 parties

Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (1967): 38 parties

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1968) [YUN 1968, p. 17, GA res. 2373(XXII), annex]: 187 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]: 144 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]: 66 parties

Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1979) [YUN 1979, p. 111, GA res. 34/68, annex]: 10 parties

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (1981): 88 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): 26 parties

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (1993): 145 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): 19 parties

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (1996): 89 parties

Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (1997): 10 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): 122 parties

Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions (1999): 4 parties

Agreement on Adaptation of the CFE Treaty (1999): 1 party

[*United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 26: 2001, Sales No. E.02.IX.1]

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## Nuclear disarmament

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### Conference on Disarmament

In 2001, despite the inability of the Conference on Disarmament to establish a subsidiary body on nuclear disarmament (see p. 469), some progress was made on the issue. In an important shift in position, the Russian Federation supported the establishment of a subsidiary body with an exploratory mandate for broad discussions on nuclear disarmament, and, in May [CD/1644], submitted a working paper containing a draft decision to establish an ad hoc committee based in part on the Amorim proposal (see p. 469), but with a vaguer mandate. Also in a change of position, the United States expressed its readiness to agree on a programme of work providing for the establishment of ad hoc committees on nuclear disarmament and on prevention of an arms race in outer space, in the context of ongoing negotiations on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for weapons purposes. Thus, for the first time in 30 years, there was a general willingness in the Conference to establish such a committee to consider nuclear disarmament.

### Fissile material

The persistent difficulties in reaching an agreement on a programme of work prevented the Conference on Disarmament from establishing an ad hoc committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, leaving the issue to be addressed in plenary meetings.

While Western and Eastern European countries continued to advocate the immediate re-establishment of an ad hoc committee and the start of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty, China and States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries maintained that negotiations on a treaty should be launched within the framework of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work and that the issue of existing stocks of fissile material must be addressed during negotiations.

During the year, the General Assembly returned to the question of the establishment of an ad hoc committee to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, which it had previously considered in resolutions 48/75 L [YUN 1993, p. 118], 53/77 I [YUN 1998, p. 493] and 55/33 Y [YUN 2000, p. 488].

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 J** without vote [agenda item 74].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

### Security assurances

The Conference on Disarmament considered the issue of security assurances for non-nuclear-

weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in the context of adopting its programme of work. Owing to the stalemate regarding a comprehensive programme of work, the Conference did not re-establish an ad hoc committee. Statements in plenary meetings addressed security assurances and generally reaffirmed members' long-held positions.

The question of security assurances was also addressed within the context of overcoming a deadlock on procedural matters. In that regard, the Special Coordinator appointed to review the agenda reported that there was a general agreement on retaining the item, at least in substance if not in wording.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/534], adopted **resolution 56/22** by recorded vote (105-0-54) [agenda item 72].

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

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

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

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

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

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 further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Recommends also* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh 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 56/22:

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

*Against:* None.

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

### Disarmament Commission

In April [A/56/42], Working Group I of the Disarmament Commission considered its Chairman's working paper on ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament. Following deliberations, the Group noted that the paper required further discussion, elaboration and refinement. On 26 April, the Group adopted its report by consensus and requested the Chairman to conduct interessional consultations and to present a revised version of his paper before the Commission's 2002 session. The Chairman's pa-

per, which was annexed to the Commission's report, discussed the interrelationship between nuclear disarmament, international peace, security and stability, achievements and current developments in nuclear disarmament, mechanisms dealing with nuclear disarmament and the role of the United Nations, and ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament.

### START and other bilateral agreements and unilateral measures

The United States and Russian Federation continued to implement the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I) [YUN 1991, p. 34], which entered into force on 5 December 1994 [YUN 1994, p. 145], by reducing their nuclear arms stockpiles. However, the START process was seemingly pushed into the background in 2001, overshadowed by proposals for a new strategic framework between the Russian Federation and the United States (see below). START II, which envisaged nuclear reductions to the level of 3,000 to 3,500 warheads, would, in effect, be superseded if the two nuclear Powers succeeded in completing a more far-reaching agreement. As at 5 December, both countries had completed reductions of their respective nuclear arsenals to the levels required under START I. The control mechanisms foreseen under the Treaty would stay in force until the end of 2009.

President George W. Bush of the United States, on 1 May (Washington, D.C.), outlining his views on a new United States defence policy, particularly regarding the establishment of missile defences, highlighted United States views on the need for new concepts of deterrence relying on both offensive and defensive forces, and the need for a new framework allowing for the establishment of missile defences in order for the United States to move beyond the constraints of the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (ABM Treaty) and to encourage further cuts in nuclear weapons. There was a pledge to consult closely with allies and other States on the missile defence issue. China reiterated its view that the ABM Treaty remained the cornerstone of strategic stability, emphasizing that United States missile defence plans would spark a new arms race. Although the Russian Federation also stressed the importance of the ABM Treaty, it welcomed the United States proposal for a new strategic dialogue and stated its readiness to hold negotiations on global strategic stability. The UN Secretary-General stated that the new United States defence policy impacted upon global security and strategic stabil-

ity, and appealed to States to engage in negotiations towards legally binding disarmament agreements that were verifiable and irreversible.

The Foreign Ministers of member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (Budapest, Hungary, 29-30 May) welcomed the United States' initiative on the strategic review and stressed that consultations would address the full range of strategic issues affecting NATO's common security. Related issues were taken up during the summit of the Group of Eight (G-8) major industrialized countries (Genoa, Italy, 20-22 July), following which, on 22 July, Presidents Bush and Vladimir V. Putin of the Russian Federation agreed in a joint statement that major changes in the world warranted concrete discussions on both offensive and defensive systems and that they would begin intensive bilateral consultations shortly thereafter on nuclear cutbacks and missile defences. During a further summit (Washington, D.C., and Crawford, Texas, 13-15 November), both leaders pledged to cut their nuclear arsenals. While President Bush announced that the United States would unilaterally reduce its stockpile of offensive warheads to between 1,700 and 2,200 over the next decade, the Russian Federation later indicated that it was prepared for reductions to a level of 1,500 warheads.

On 13 December, President Bush announced that the United States had decided to withdraw unilaterally from the ABM Treaty, stating that it hindered the Government's ability to develop ways to protect the country from future missile attacks from rogue States or terrorists. At the same time, the United States reiterated its willingness to develop elements of a new strategic relationship with Russia, including deep cuts in nuclear forces.

With the last inspection conducted on 31 May, pursuant to the provisions of the 1987 Treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, Russia and the United States ended the 13-year inspection regime under the Treaty.

**Communications.** In September [A/56/348], Kazakhstan transmitted the text of the final memorandum of an international conference on "The twenty-first century: towards a nuclear-weapon-free world" (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29-30 August), which called for humanity to use its scientific and technological capabilities in the service of further peaceful development, progress and prosperity. Kazakhstan also transmitted a September appeal by its parliament [A/C.1/56/5], which called on parliaments and Governments worldwide to take steps to eliminate nuclear weapons.

In October [A/C.1/56/4], South Africa, on behalf of the partner countries of the New Agenda

Initiative (Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden), transmitted a communiqué on further measures to be taken in pursuit of their joint initiative to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

In November [A/56/609-S/2001/1053], Ukraine announced that it had destroyed, on 30 October, the last SS-24 intercontinental missile silo on its territory, marking the fulfilment of its commitment under START to eliminate in the course of seven years all nuclear arsenals and strategic offensive weapons.

Also in November [A/C.1/56/7], Mexico transmitted a paper, supported by members of the New Agenda Initiative on reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, stating that despite progress achieved in both strategic and non-strategic nuclear weapon reductions, the members remained concerned that the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and in stockpile still amounted to many thousands. The United States and Russia were urged to proceed with the reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons in a transparent and irreversible manner.

**Reports of Secretary-General.** In August [A/56/309], the Secretary-General described action taken to implement General Assembly resolution 55/33 C [YUN 2000, p. 495] on the need for action to achieve a world free from nuclear weapons.

The Secretary-General stated that in 2000 the elimination of nuclear weapons remained a priority, during the Assembly's Millennium Summit, which adopted the Millennium Declaration [YUN 2000, p. 49], and during the Review Conference [ibid., p. 487] of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), adopted by the Assembly in resolution 2373 (XXII) [YUN 1968, p. 17]. However, despite the political commitments made, the level of international cooperation in disarmament remained lower than it could and should be. There was concern about the future of some important arms control and disarmament agreements, including the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) (see p. 482). The Secretary-General reiterated his call to States that had not done so to sign and ratify CTBT without delay and conditions.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 N [YUN 2000, p. 497], the Secretary-General, in September [A/56/400], summarized the discussions of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (see p. 519) regarding specific measures that might significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war. The Board concurred that nuclear danger would be eliminated only when nuclear weapons were eliminated and encouraged the Secretary-

General to assign that goal high priority. The Board members reached broad agreement on seven recommendations for reducing nuclear danger, while other measures and approaches received varying degrees of support. Annexed to the report were five discussion papers prepared by Board members.

In response to Assembly resolution 55/33 T [YUN 2000, p. 493] on nuclear disarmament, the Secretary-General, in September [A/56/404], reported on the resolution's implementation. He noted that the pace of implementation of the commitments made towards the elimination of nuclear weapons by world leaders at the Assembly's Millennium Summit [YUN 2000, p. 47] and by States parties to NPT during the 2000 Review Conference remained disappointingly low. Arms control and disarmament agreements played an essential role in the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and strengthening such agreements required action at all levels. Expressing concern at the continuing impasse in the Conference on Disarmament, the Secretary-General called on all members to overcome their differences so as to resolve outstanding issues and ensure the credibility of the Conference as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating body.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted a series of resolutions and decisions related to nuclear disarmament.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 56/24 N** by recorded vote (139-3-19) [agenda item 74].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

*Recognizing* the progress made by the nuclear-weapon States in the reduction of their nuclear weapons unilaterally or through negotiations, including the START process, and the efforts made towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by the international community,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidat-

ing the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

*Bearing in mind* the recent nuclear tests, as well as the regional situations, which pose a challenge to international efforts to strengthen the global regime for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

*Taking note* of the report of the Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, bearing in mind the various views of Member States on the report,

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

*Also welcoming* the successful convening of the International Symposium for the Further Reinforcement of International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards in the Asia-Pacific Region: Towards Universalization of Additional Protocol, recently held in Tokyo, and sharing the hope for continued efforts to hold similar symposiums in other regions for strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards system, including universalization of its safeguards agreements, and the additional protocols thereto,

*Encouraging* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to continue their intensive consultations on the interrelated subjects of offensive and defensive systems and to complete them with a view to enhancing international peace and security,

*Calling* for efforts towards the success of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, to be convened in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty,

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

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

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

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

(b) The establishment of an ad hoc committee in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear

disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, with a view to its conclusion within five years and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(c) The establishment of an appropriate subsidiary body with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session in the context of establishing a programme of work;

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

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

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

(g) Steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

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

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

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

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

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a successful Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-

Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2005 as the first session of the Preparatory Committee is convened in 2002;

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

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

9. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, confirming and strengthening, if necessary, their policies not to transfer equipment, materials or technology that could contribute to the proliferation of those weapons, while ensuring that such policies are consistent with the obligations of States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

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

11. *Welcomes* the adoption and stresses the importance of resolution GC(45)/RES/13, adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which it is recommended that the Director General of the Agency, its Board of Governors and member States continue to consider implementing the elements of the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19, adopted on 22 September 2000 by the General Conference of the Agency, to promote and facilitate the conclusion and entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and calls for the early and full implementation of that resolution;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 N:

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

pires, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* India, Micronesia, United States.

*Abstaining:* Belarus, Bhutan, Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russian Federation, San Marino, South Africa, Sweden.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 56/24 R** by recorded vote (103-41-17) [agenda item 74 (r)].

### 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 and 55/33 T of 20 November 2000 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,

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

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

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

*Recognizing* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and any proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices must constitute disarmament measures, and not only non-proliferation measures,

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

*Welcoming also* the ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II) by the Russian Federation, and looking forward to its early entry into force and its full implementation and to an early commencement of START III negotiations,

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

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

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

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996, and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

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

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

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

*Welcoming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the pos-

sibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*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 the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of 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;

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

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

5. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons;

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

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

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

9. *Welcomes* the positive outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the Review Conference, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and calls for the full and effective implementation of the steps set out in the Final Document;

10. *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;

11. *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;

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

13. *Calls also* for the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

14. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2001 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 55/33 T;

15. *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 2002 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons;

16. *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;

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

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

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 R:

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

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

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

In the First Committee, paragraph 9 was adopted by a recorded vote of 132 to 3, with 6 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 149 to 3, with 6 abstentions.

The Assembly adopted **resolution 56/24 C** by recorded vote (98-45-14) [agenda item 74 (n)].

#### Reducing nuclear danger

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Recalling* that in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* it is stated that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

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

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

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

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report prepared by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and submitted by the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 5 of

General Assembly resolution 55/33 N of 20 November 2000, in particular the seven recommendations highlighted for further action;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take steps towards the implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war, including the proposal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration for convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 C:

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

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

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

**Decision 56/413** was adopted by recorded vote [agenda item 74].

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

At its 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 115 to 7, with 37 abstentions, and on the recommendation of the First Committee, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament".

RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 56/413:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland,

Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* France, Germany, Israel, Monaco, Poland, United Kingdom, United States.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Yugoslavia.

Also on 29 November, the Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh (2002) session the item "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda" (**decision 56/411**).

### ABM Treaty and other missile issues

In 2001, missile defence issues, particularly regarding the proliferation of long-range ballistic missiles, United States plans to establish a national missile defence system [YUN 1999, p. 469] and the status of the ABM Treaty, continued to be of international concern.

Regarding the ABM Treaty, on 13 December President Bush announced that the United States had decided to withdraw unilaterally from it, effective six months from the announcement, stating that it hindered the Government's ability to develop ways to protect the United States from future missile attacks from rogue States or terrorists; at the same time, he reiterated the United States willingness to develop a new strategic relationship with Russia, including deeper cuts in warheads. On 13 December [A/56/707], President Putin considered that decision a mistake but said it would not pose a threat to the Russian Federation's national security. The Secretary-General expressed concern that the annulment of the Treaty might provoke a new arms race, especially in the missile area, and called on States to explore new binding and irreversible initiatives.

The Russian Federation organized an international expert meeting (Moscow, 15 February) to continue discussions on its proposal for a global control system for the non-proliferation of missiles and missile technology. On 31 May, the Russian Federation and the United States ended the 13-year inspection regime under the 1987 Treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces [YUN 1987, p. 47], which had committed the two parties to eliminate their intermediate-range (1,000-5,500 kilometres) and shorter-range (500-1,000 kilometres) missiles no later than three years after the Treaty's entry into force in 1988 [YUN 1988, p. 56], and to conduct on-site inspections on each other's territory for 13 years. The European Union (EU), following a summit (Göteborg, Sweden, 15-16 June), issued a declaration stressing

the need for a common position in the fight against ballistic missile proliferation.

**Report of Secretary-General.** In response to General Assembly resolution 55/33 A [YUN 2000, p. 499], the Secretary-General, in a July report with later addenda [A/56/136 & Add.1,2], presented the views of eight Member States and the EU on the issue of missiles in all its aspects.

**Expert panel.** A panel of governmental experts, established by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 55/33 A to prepare a report on the issue of missiles for the Assembly's consideration in 2002, held its first session (New York, 30 July-3 August). Further meetings were scheduled for 2002.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [68 meeting], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 B** by recorded vote (98-0-58) [agenda item 74 (d)].

#### Missiles

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/54 F of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 A of 20 November 2000,

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Considering* that the Secretary-General has been requested, with the assistance of a panel of governmental experts, to prepare a report for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the issue of missiles in all its aspects,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the panel of governmental experts established by the Secretary-General held its first session in New York in 2001 and that it intends to convene two more sessions in 2002 in order to complete its mandate;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 55/33 A;

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

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 B:

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

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, 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, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

Also on 29 November [meeting 68], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 A** by recorded vote (82-5-62) [agenda item 74 (e)].

#### **Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and 52/30 of 9 December 1997 on compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and its resolutions 54/54 A of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 B of 20 November 2000 on preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,

*Recognizing* the historical role of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a cornerstone for maintaining global peace and security and strategic stability, and reaffirming its continued validity and relevance, especially in the current international situation,

*Stressing* the paramount importance of full and strict compliance with the Treaty by the parties,

*Recalling* that the provisions of the Treaty are intended as a contribution to the creation of more favourable conditions for further negotiations on limiting strategic arms,

*Mindful* of the obligations of the parties to the Treaty under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Concerned* that the implementation of any measures undermining the purposes and provisions of the Treaty affects not only the security interests of the parties, but also those of the whole international community,

*Recalling* the widespread concern about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Calls* for continued efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and to preserve its integrity and validity so that it remains a cornerstone in maintaining global strategic stability and world peace and in promoting further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

2. *Calls also* for renewed efforts by each of the States parties to preserve and strengthen the Treaty through full and strict compliance;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to the Treaty, in accordance with their obligations under the Treaty, to limit the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems, to refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems for the defence of the territory of their country, not to provide a base for such a defence and not to transfer to other States or deploy outside their national territory anti-ballistic missile systems or their components limited by the Treaty;

4. *Considers* that the implementation of any measure undermining the purposes and the provisions of the Treaty also undermines global strategic stability and world peace and the promotion of further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

5. *Urges* all Member States to support efforts aimed at stemming the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

6. *Supports* further efforts by the international community, in the light of emerging developments, towards safeguarding the inviolability and integrity of the Treaty, which is in the strongest interest of the international community;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing dialogue between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on a new strategic framework premised on openness, mutual confidence and real opportunities for cooperation, which is of paramount importance, especially in a changing security environment, and hopes that this dialogue will successfully lead to substantial reductions in offensive nuclear forces and contribute to the maintenance of international stability;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 A:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:* Albania, Benin, Israel, Micronesia, United States.

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

## Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

### Status

As at 31 December, 165 States had signed the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), adopted by General Assembly resolution 50/245 [YUN 1996, p. 454], and 89 had ratified it. During the year, instruments of ratification were deposited by Benin, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, Guyana, the Holy See, Jamaica, Latvia, Malta, Namibia, Nauru, Nigeria, Paraguay, the Philippines, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Uganda, Ukraine and Uruguay. In accordance with article XIV, CTBT was to enter into force 180 days after the 44 States possessing nuclear reactors, listed in annex 2 to the Treaty, had deposited their instruments of ratification. By year's end, 31 of those States had ratified the Treaty.

### Conference on facilitating entry into force

The second Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of CTBT (New York, 11-13 November) 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 (September 1996) [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 early entry into force. In February, the Secretary-General, as depositary, following a request from the majority of States [YUN 2000, p. 500], informed all States of his intention to convene the conference. The first conference took place in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 471].

On 13 November [CTBT-ART.XIV/2001/6], the Conference, which was attended by 109 ratifying and signatory States, nine non-signatory States and a number of specialized agencies and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), adopted a Final Declaration, by which it reaffirmed strong support for CTBT and called on signatory States to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible, especially those whose ratification was needed for the Treaty's entry into force. It urged the three States (Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Pakistan) whose ratification was required for the Treaty's entry into force, but which had not yet signed, to do so, and called on the remaining two nuclear-weapon States (China, United States) to accelerate their ratification process. States were called on to maintain a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions.

In accordance with the Final Declaration, Mexico, which held the Presidency of the Confer-

ence, was entrusted with coordinating informal consultations with interested States to promote the Treaty's early entry into force and to encourage regional and multilateral initiatives aimed at promoting further signatures and ratifications.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/544], adopted **decision 56/415** by recorded vote [agenda item 82].

### Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

At its 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, the General Assembly, by a recorded vote of 161 to 1, with no abstentions, and noting the holding of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in New York from 11 to 13 November 2001, decided, on the recommendation of the First Committee, to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

### RECORDED VOTE ON DECISION 56/415:

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

*Against:* United States.

### Preparatory Commission for CTBT Organization

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, established in 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 452], continued efforts towards developing the global verification regime to monitor Treaty compliance, the options for enhanced cooperation under the relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Commission, adopted in General Assembly resolution 54/280 [YUN 2000, p. 501], and the level and pace of signatures and ratifications of CTBT as indicators of the international community's support for the Treaty. Progress was made in building the International Monitoring System (IMS) [YUN 1999, p. 472], the global network of 337 facilities in 90 countries, designed to track and

detect nuclear explosions prohibited by CTBT via a global satellite communication system and transmit the data to the International Data Centre (IDC) in Vienna. By year's end, 121 stations had been completed and another 90 were either under construction or in contract negotiation. IDC and the verification system as a whole also continued to be developed and refined.

The Preparatory Commission held its fourteenth (24-26 April) [CTBT/PC-14/1], fifteenth (21-23 August) [CTBT/PC-15/1] and sixteenth (19-24 November) [CTBT/PC-16/1] sessions, all in Vienna, to consider the reports of its working groups and to discuss organizational, budgetary and other matters. The Commission adopted its 2002 programme and budget, totalling \$85.1 million, of which approximately half was earmarked for IMS. The remainder would be used to develop IDC, the global communications infrastructure, and procedures and guidelines to support on-site inspection once the Treaty entered into force.

**Note of Secretary-General.** In August [A/56/317], the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the availability of the report of the Commission's Executive Secretary covering 2000.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 7 December [meeting 80], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 56/49** [draft: A/56/L.38 & Add.1] by recorded vote (134-1-2) [agenda item 21 (h)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

*Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization".*

#### RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/49:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Roma-

nia, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* United States.

*Abstaining:* India, Pakistan.

## Non-Proliferation Treaty

### Status

In 2001, 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 187. NPT entered into force on 5 March 1970.

### 2005 review conference

The parties to NPT decided that the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties would take place in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002.

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

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 O** by recorded vote (156-1-3) [agenda item 74].

#### 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling 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 the decision of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty, which reaffirmed the provisions in the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,*

*Noting the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty in which it was agreed that Review Conferences should continue to be held every five years, and noting that, accordingly, the next Review Conference should be held in 2005,*

*Recalling the decision of the 2000 Review Conference that three sessions of the Preparatory Committee should be held in the years prior to the Review Conference,*

Recalling also its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000, in which it welcomed the adoption by consensus of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

1. Takes note of the decision of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, following appropriate consultations, to hold the first session of the Preparatory Committee in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 O:

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

*Against:* India.

*Abstaining:* Cuba, Israel, Pakistan.

### IAEA safeguards

As at 31 December, the Model Protocol Additional to Safeguards Agreements strengthening the safeguards regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), approved by the IAEA Board of Governors in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 486], had been signed by 61 States, including the five nuclear-weapon States, and was in force or being provisionally applied in 25 States.

The IAEA General Conference [GC(45)/RES/13], as in previous years, requested all concerned States and other parties to safeguards agreements that had not done so to sign additional protocols promptly. Asking those that had signed the protocols to bring them into force, the Conference recommended that the Director General, the Board of Governors and member States continue to consider implementing elements of a plan of action outlined in a 2000 resolution of the Conference [YUN 2000, p. 504], in order to facilitate the entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols.

For nearly three years, IAEA was unable to implement its mandate with regard to Iraq under the relevant Security Council resolutions (see p. 437). Thus, the Agency was not in a position to provide any assurances that Iraq was in compliance with its obligations under those resolutions. However, IAEA conducted, in January, a physical inventory verification under the safeguards agreement between Iraq and IAEA pursuant to NPT, during which Agency inspectors verified the presence of nuclear materials under safeguards. The General Conference [GC(45)/RES/17], noting that the physical inventory verification could not serve as a substitute for IAEA's Security Council-mandated activities, again called on Iraq to cooperate fully and provide the necessary access to enable IAEA to carry out its mandate.

Concerning the implementation of the agreement between IAEA and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for the application of safeguards under NPT, the Director General stated in September that, since 1993, the Agency had not been able to verify fully that all nuclear material subject to safeguards in the DPRK had been declared to IAEA (see p. 464). In May, IAEA proposed practical steps to move the verification process forward, which the DPRK declined to accept unconditionally. On 21 September [GC(45)/RES/16], the General Conference, expressing deep concern over the continuing non-compliance of the DPRK with its safeguards agreement with IAEA, encouraged the DPRK to respond positively to the Agency's proposals.

### Middle East

In 2001, the General Assembly (see below) and the IAEA General Conference [GC(45)/RES/18] took action regarding the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. While the Assembly called on the non-party in the region to accede to NPT and to place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards, IAEA emphasized the need for States in the region to accept the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities as an important confidence-building measure.

Pursuant to Assembly resolution 55/36 [YUN 2000, p. 505], the Secretary-General reported, in October [A/56/425], that apart from the IAEA resolution on the application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East, he had not received any additional information since his 2000 report on the subject [YUN 2000, p. 505]. The IAEA resolution was annexed to the Secretary-General's report.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First

Committee [A/56/539], adopted **resolution 56/27** by recorded vote (153-3-6) [agenda item 77].

**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(45)/RES/18, adopted on 21 September 2001,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Stressing* the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order

to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/27:

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

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia, United States.

*Abstaining:* Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago.

The First Committee adopted the sixth preambular paragraph by a recorded vote of 139 to 2, with 6 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 153 to 2, with 4 abstentions.

### Prohibition of use of nuclear weapons

In 2001, the Conference on Disarmament was unable to undertake negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, as called for in General Assembly resolution 55/34 G [YUN 2000, p. 506].

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 B** by recorded vote (104-46-11) [agenda item 75 (e)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Noting with regret* that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2001 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 55/34 G of 20 November 2000,

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 56/25 B:

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

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

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

### Advisory opinion of International Court of Justice

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 X [YUN 2000, p. 507] on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice that the threat or use of nuclear weapons was contrary to the UN Charter [YUN 1996, p. 461], the Secretary-General presented information received from five States (Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Syrian Arab Republic) on measures they had taken to implement the resolution and nuclear disarmament [A/56/130 & Add.1].

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 S** by recorded vote (111-29-21) [agenda item 74 (v)].

#### 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 and 55/33 X of 20 November 2000,

*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,

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

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

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

*Noting* the efforts by the States possessing the largest inventories of nuclear weapons to reduce their stockpiles of such weapons through bilateral agreements or arrangements and unilateral decisions, and calling for the intensification of such efforts to accelerate the significant reduction of nuclear-weapon arsenals,

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

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

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2001 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,

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

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

*Taking note* of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 55/33 X,

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 in 2002 leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

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

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh 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 56/24 S:

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

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

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

The First Committee adopted paragraph 1 by a recorded vote of 139 to 4, with 2 abstentions. The Assembly retained the paragraph by a recorded vote of 153 to 4, with 2 abstentions.

### Radioactive waste

On 18 June, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management [YUN 1997, p. 487] entered into force, 90 days following the deposit

of the twenty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

The IAEA General Conference, in September [GC(45)/RES/10], recalled its previous requests to States shipping radioactive materials to assure concerned States that the Agency's regulations regarding the transportation of such materials had been honoured, and called for further efforts to improve measures relating to international maritime transport in that respect.

**Communication.** In September [A/56/360], Chile transmitted a communiqué on the transport of radioactive material and hazardous wastes, adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of countries of the Rio Group (Santiago, 27 March), which expressed concern about the transit of radioactive material and hazardous wastes along the coasts of member States, in view of the risks of harmful effects on the health of coastal populations and on the marine environment.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 L** without vote [agenda item 74 (c)].

#### 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,<sup>a</sup> *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 on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management entered into force on 18 June 2001, and noting also that the Secretariat has convened a preparatory meeting of the Contracting Parties, to be held from 10 to 14 December 2001, to prepare for the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

*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 fifty-eighth 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 in time to attend the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties;

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

<sup>a</sup>The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General

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

## Nuclear-weapon-free zones

### Africa

As at 31 December, 19 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.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/529], adopted **resolution 56/17** without vote [agenda item 67].

#### African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/48 of 1 December 1999 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

*Recalling also* the successful conclusion of the signing ceremony of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) that was held 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,

*Noting* the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996, in which it was stated 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 which 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 of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity 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 fifty-eighth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

### Asia

#### Central Asia

In 2001, negotiations continued on drafting the text of a treaty for a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia. Although the UN-sponsored expert group, consisting of experts from each of the five States of the region (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), had met in 2000 and accepted almost all the draft provisions on an *ad credendum* basis (as an article of faith) [YUN 2000, p. 508], outstanding issues remained.

On 29 November, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh (2002) session the item "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia" (**decision 56/412**).

#### Mongolia

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/33 S [YUN 2000, p. 509], a UN-sponsored expert group meeting (Sapporo, Japan, 5-6 September), held under the auspices of the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (see p. 521), examined ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status. The Foreign Ministers of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (New York, 14 November) [A/56/682-S/2001/1159] reaffirmed support for Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status and considered that the institutionalization of that status would be an important measure towards strengthening the non-proliferation regime in the region.

#### South-East Asia

Regarding 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], States parties continued negotiations with nuclear-weapon States regarding the accession of the latter to the Treaty's Protocol. The implementing organs of the Treaty—a Commission and an Executive Committee—had begun their work and undertaken consultations with IAEA. Ratification by the Philippines in 2001 raised the number of ratifying States to 10.

### Latin America and the Caribbean

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/542], adopted **resolution 56/30** without vote [agenda item 80].

#### 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, in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

*Recalling also* that, in the same resolution, it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

*Considering* that, in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those that do not possess such weapons,

*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,

*Noting with satisfaction* the holding on 14 February 1997 of the eleventh special session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

*Recalling* 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 also* 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 further* 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,

*Recalling* resolution C/E/RES.27 of the Council of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in

Latin America and the Caribbean, in which the Council called for the promotion of cooperation and consultations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-two sovereign States of the region,

*Also noting with satisfaction* that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by some countries of the region during recent years for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);

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 for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth 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 55/30 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East [YUN 2000, p. 511], the Secretary-General, in July [A/56/187], reported on the implementation of the resolution. He carried out consultations with concerned parties within and outside the region to explore further ways to promote the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone. He believed that the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security, which functioned under the auspices of the Middle East multilateral peace process, could act as a forum for discussing the issue and stressed the importance of reaching early agreement on a comprehensive agenda for the Group. The report included the views of Belgium (on behalf of the EU), Egypt, Mexico and the Syrian Arab Republic.

In September, the IAEA General Conference, in a resolution on the Middle East [GC(45)/RES/18], called on all parties directly concerned to take steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a mutually and effectively verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/532], adopted **resolution 56/21** without vote [agenda item 71].

### **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 and 55/30 of 20 November 2000 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 General Assembly resolution 55/30,

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(45)/RES/18, adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

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

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (d) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

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

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

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report of 10 October 1990 or other relevant measures, in order to move

towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

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

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

### South Pacific

In 2001, the number of States that had ratified the 1985 South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) [YUN 1985, p. 58] remained at 17. China and the Russian Federation had ratified Protocols 2 and 3, and France and the United Kingdom had ratified all three Protocols.

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

### Southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 G** by recorded vote (148-4-4) [agenda item 74 (j)].

#### 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 and 55/33 I of 20 November 2000,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 G:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Co-

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

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

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

The First Committee adopted paragraph 3 and its last three words, "and South Asia", by two separate recorded votes of 136 to 2, with 8 abstentions, and 132 to 3, with 8 abstentions, respectively. The Assembly also retained paragraph 3 and the last three words by recorded votes of 145 to 1, with 7 abstentions, and 140 to 2, with 8 abstentions, respectively.

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## Bacteriological (biological) and chemical weapons

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### Bacteriological (biological) weapons

In 2001, the terrorist attacks of 11 September (see p. 60) and subsequent anthrax incidents in the United States again raised concern among the international community over the threat of bioterrorism and the use of weapons of mass destruction. Despite the increased concern, multilateral efforts to strengthen the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC), adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2826(XXVI) [YUN 1971, p. 19], suffered setbacks, as the Ad Hoc Group of the States Parties to the Convention failed to conclude negotiation on a compliance protocol and the Fifth Review Conference of the States parties (see below) was suspended.

### Ad Hoc Group

The Ad Hoc Group of the States Parties to BWC held its twenty-second (12-23 February) [BWC/AD HOC GROUP/55-1], twenty-third (23 April-11 May) [BWC/AD HOC GROUP/56-1] and twenty-fourth (23 July-17 August) sessions in 2001, all in Geneva.

The Group continued to consider elements of the rolling text of a future draft protocol on veri-

fication and confidence-building relating to the preamble; general provisions; definitions of terms and objective criteria; measures to promote compliance; investigations; confidentiality issues; legal issues, measures related to article X of the Convention (scientific and technological exchange and technical cooperation); declaration formats; and seat of the organization. Work continued to be conducted under the guidance of the Chairman and Friends of the Chair.

At the twenty-third session, the Chairman consolidated "written elements" of the rolling text into a single document (the composite text) containing compromise proposals on all outstanding issues. Discussions explored solutions on a limited number of specific issues, as identified by the Chairman, in the following areas: definitions; declarations; follow-up after submission of declarations; measures to strengthen implementation of article III of the Convention; investigations; and legal issues. The Ad Hoc Group was not able to continue negotiations on the draft protocol because the composite text was not acceptable to all States parties.

### Fifth Review Conference

The Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to BWC (Geneva, 19 November-7 December) [BWC/CONF.V/12] was held to review the provisions and operation of the Convention. Previous review conferences were held in 1980 [YUN 1980, p. 70], 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 64], 1991 [YUN 1991, p. 52] and 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 477].

The Conference established a General Committee, a Committee of the Whole, a Drafting Committee and a Credentials Committee. Substantive issues relating to the provisions and operation of the Convention were discussed largely by the Committee of the Whole. On 30 November, the Conference took note of the draft report of the Committee. Due to persisting divergent views on certain key issues regarding several of the Convention's articles, the Conference, on 7 December, decided by consensus to adjourn and reconvene in November 2002.

The General Assembly, by **decision 56/414** of 29 November, requested the Secretary-General to continue to assist the depositary Governments, to provide such services as might be required to implement the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the 1994 Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention [YUN 1994, p. 138], and to assist and provide such services as might be required to hold the Fifth Review Conference. The Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh (2002) session the item on BWC.

### Preparatory process

The Preparatory Committee for the Fifth Review Conference (Geneva, 25-27 April) [BWC/CONF.V/PC/1] agreed on, among other things, the date, venue, provisional agenda, draft rules of procedure, background documentation and final documents of the Conference.

## Chemical weapons

### Chemical weapons convention

In 2001, Dominica, Nauru, Uganda and Zambia ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, bringing the total number of States parties to 145. The number of signatories stood at 165. The Convention was adopted by the Conference on Disarmament in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 65] and entered into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 499].

The sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention (The Hague, Netherlands, 14-19 May) [OPCW, C-VI/6 & Corr.1] considered, among other issues, the status of the Convention's implementation, fostering international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the area of chemical activities, ensuring universality of the Convention and administrative and budgetary matters. Based on recommendations of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Conference adopted decisions on the OPCW analytical database and on-site databases, agreements on privileges and immunities of OPCW, and administrative and budgetary matters, including approval of the 2002 OPCW programme and budget. It approved the relationship agreement between the United Nations and OPCW (see p. 495) and a request of the Russian Federation to use a chemical weapons production facility for purposes not prohibited under the Convention. The seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties was scheduled to take place in October 2002.

The first review conference of the Convention was planned to begin on 28 April 2003 in The Hague. Preparations were under way by OPCW (see p. 495).

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 K** without vote [agenda item 74 (i)].

### 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 55/33 H of 20 November 2000, 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 55/33 H, three additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and forty-three,

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

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

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

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

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

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

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh 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 2001, OPCW conducted some 1,100 inspections at chemical weapons facilities in 49 States parties. All 8.6 million chemical weapons declared by the four States parties possessing chemical weapons were inventoried by OPCW inspectors and regularly re-inspected to ensure non-diversion. Since the entry into force of the Convention, one fifth of those chemical munitions and containers had been destroyed, and all 61 former chemical weapons production facilities declared by 11 States parties had been deactivated and shut down.

In preparation for the first review conference of the Convention, OPCW was conducting a review process of the Convention and its implementation. The review process would focus on scientific and technological developments and their impact on the Convention, the verification regime, the scope of the Convention's schedules of chemicals, the need for universal adherence and programmes to coordinate international cooperation and assistance. The review was being directed by a working group of the OPCW Executive Council.

The OPCW Executive Council addressed a wide range of issues at its twenty-third (20-23 February), twenty-fourth (3-6 April), twenty-fifth (27-28 June), twenty-sixth (25-28 September) and twenty-seventh (4-7 December) sessions. In the light of the terrorist attacks of 11 September (see p. 60), the Executive Council considered the implementation of the Convention within the context of global efforts to combat all forms of terrorism, including those involving chemical weapons. In that regard, it established a working group to develop recommendations for OPCW's contribution to the global anti-terrorism effort.

### Cooperation between United Nations and OPCW

The Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and OPCW, signed in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 516] and approved by the Conference of the States Parties (see p. 494) and the General Assembly in 2001 (see below), entered into force on 24 September.

**Notes by Secretary-General.** By a June note [A/55/988], the Secretary-General submitted the text of the Agreement for approval by the General Assembly.

In October [A/56/490], the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly the 2000 report of OPCW, in accordance with the Agreement.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 7 September [meeting 111], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 55/283** [draft: A/55/L.92 & Add.1] without vote [agenda item 181].

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 51/230 of 22 May 1997, by which it invited the Secretary-General to take steps to conclude with the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons an agreement between the United Nations and the organization to regulate the relationship between the two organizations, and to present the negotiated draft relationship agreement to the General Assembly for its approval,

*Noting* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention of 17 May 2001 to approve the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

*Having considered* the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

1. *Approves* the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

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

### ANNEX

#### Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

*The United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,*

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations (hereinafter the "Charter") and of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (hereinafter the "Convention"),

*Bearing in mind* that, in accordance with the Charter, the United Nations is the principal organization dealing with matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and acts as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of the goals set out in the Charter,

*Considering* that the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (hereinafter "OPCW") shares the purposes and principles of the Charter, and that its activities performed pursuant to the provisions of the Convention contribute to the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Desiring* to make provision for a mutually beneficial relationship, to avoid unnecessary duplication of their activities and services and to facilitate the discharge of the respective responsibilities of both organizations,

*Noting* General Assembly resolution 51/230 of 22 May 1997 and the relevant decision of the Conference of the States Parties at its fourth session (C-IV/DEC.4, dated 2 July 1999) calling for the conclusion of a rela-

tionship agreement between the United Nations and OPCW,

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### *Article I*

##### *General*

1. The United Nations recognizes OPCW as the organization, in relationship to the United Nations as specified in this Agreement, responsible for activities to achieve the comprehensive prohibition of chemical weapons in accordance with the Convention.

2. The United Nations recognizes that OPCW, by virtue of the Convention, shall function as an independent, autonomous international organization in the working relationship with the United Nations established by this Agreement.

3. OPCW recognizes the responsibilities of the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, in particular in the fields of international peace and security and economic, social, cultural and humanitarian development, protection and preservation of the environment and peaceful settlement of disputes.

4. OPCW undertakes to conduct its activities in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter to promote peace, disarmament and international cooperation and with due regard to the policies of the United Nations furthering safeguarded worldwide disarmament.

#### *Article II*

##### *Cooperation*

1. The United Nations and OPCW, recognizing the need to work jointly to achieve mutual objectives, and with a view to facilitating the effective exercise of their responsibilities, agree to cooperate closely within their respective mandates and to consult on matters of mutual interest and concern. To that end, the United Nations and OPCW shall cooperate with each other in accordance with the provisions of their respective constituent instruments.

2. Cooperation between the United Nations and OPCW, in particular, shall require that:

(a) Cases of particular gravity and urgency which, in accordance with paragraph 36 of article VIII of the Convention, shall, including relevant information and conclusions, be brought directly to the attention of the General Assembly and the Security Council by the Executive Council, through the Secretary-General, in accordance with the existing United Nations procedures;

(b) Cases of particular gravity which, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article XII of the Convention, shall, including relevant information and conclusions, be brought to the attention of the General Assembly and the Security Council by the Conference of the States Parties, through the Secretary-General, in accordance with the existing United Nations procedures;

(c) OPCW shall, in accordance with paragraph 27 of Part XI of the Verification Annex, closely cooperate with the Secretary-General in cases of the alleged use of chemical weapons involving a State not party to the Convention or in a territory not controlled by a State Party to the Convention and, if so requested, shall in such cases place its resources at the disposal of the Secretary-General;

(d) OPCW and the United Nations shall, in accordance with their respective mandates, explore possibilities for cooperation in the provision of assistance to

States concerned in cases of the use or serious threat of use of chemical weapons, as provided for in paragraph 10 of article X of the Convention;

(e) OPCW and the United Nations shall, insofar as covered by their respective mandates, in the context of economic and technological development in their member States, cooperate to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities and facilitating the exchange of chemicals, equipment and scientific and technical information relating to the development and application of chemistry for purposes not prohibited under the Convention; and

(f) The United Nations and OPCW shall cooperate on any matter that may relate to the object and purpose of the Convention, or which may arise in connection with its implementation.

3. OPCW, within its competence and in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, shall cooperate with the General Assembly and the Security Council by furnishing them, at the request of either, such information and assistance as may be required in the exercise of their respective responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations.

4. The United Nations and OPCW shall cooperate in the field of public information and shall arrange, upon request, for the exchange of information, publications and reports of mutual interest and for the furnishing of special reports and studies and information.

5. The Secretariat of the United Nations and the Technical Secretariat of OPCW shall maintain a close working relationship in accordance with such arrangements as may be agreed between the Secretary-General and the Director-General.

#### *Article III*

##### *Coordination*

The United Nations and OPCW recognize the necessity of achieving, where applicable, effective coordination of the activities and services of OPCW and of the United Nations, and of avoiding unnecessary duplication of their activities and services.

#### *Article IV*

##### *Reporting*

1. The Director-General will keep the United Nations informed of the routine activities of OPCW, and will report on a regular basis, as appropriate and as duly mandated by the Executive Council, through the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and the Security Council.

2. If the Executive Council takes a decision to provide, pursuant to article X of the Convention, supplementary assistance to a State Party to the Convention requesting such assistance in connection with the use or threat of use of chemical weapons, the Director-General (representing OPCW, as specified in this Agreement) shall transmit to the Secretary-General (representing the United Nations, as specified in this Agreement) the above-mentioned decision of the Executive Council, together with the investigation report prepared by the Technical Secretariat in connection with the request for such assistance.

3. Whenever decisions are taken by the Conference of the States Parties, pursuant to article XII of the Convention, on measures, including collective measures recommended to States Parties, to ensure compliance with the Convention and to redress and remedy any

situation which contravenes the provisions of the Convention, the Director-General, upon instructions from the Conference, shall inform the General Assembly and the Security Council accordingly, through the Secretary-General.

4. Should the Secretary-General report to the United Nations on the common activities of the United Nations and OPCW or on the development of relations between them, any such report shall be promptly transmitted by the Secretary-General to OPCW.

5. Should the Director-General report to OPCW on the common activities of OPCW and the United Nations or on the development of relations between them, any such report shall be promptly transmitted by the Director-General to the United Nations.

#### *Article V*

##### *Reciprocal representation*

1. The Secretary-General shall be entitled to attend and to participate in relation to matters of common interest, without vote and in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure, in sessions of the Conference of the States Parties and in sessions of the Executive Council of OPCW. The Secretary-General shall also be invited, as appropriate, to attend and to participate without vote in such other meetings as OPCW may convene at which matters of interest to the United Nations are under consideration. The Secretary-General may, for the purposes of this paragraph, designate any person as his/her representative.

2. The Director-General shall be entitled to attend plenary meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations for the purpose of consultations. The Director-General shall be entitled to attend and to participate without vote in the meetings of the Committees of the General Assembly and in meetings of the Economic and Social Council and, as appropriate, of any subsidiary organs of these bodies and the General Assembly. The Director-General may, at the invitation of the Security Council, attend its meetings to supply the Council, as duly mandated by the Executive Council, with information or give other assistance with regard to matters within the competence of OPCW. The Director-General may, for the purposes of this paragraph, designate any person as his/her representative.

3. Written statements presented by the United Nations to OPCW for distribution shall be distributed by the Technical Secretariat of OPCW to all members of the appropriate organ(s) or subsidiary organ(s) of OPCW. Written statements presented by OPCW to the United Nations for distribution shall be distributed by the Secretariat of the United Nations to all members of the appropriate organ(s) or subsidiary organ(s) of the United Nations.

#### *Article VI*

##### *Agenda items*

1. The United Nations may propose agenda items for consideration by OPCW. In such cases, the United Nations shall notify the Director-General of the agenda item or items concerned, and the Director-General shall, in accordance with his/her authority and the relevant rules of procedure, bring any such agenda item or items to the attention of the Conference of the States Parties, the Executive Council or such other organ(s) of OPCW as may be appropriate.

2. OPCW may propose agenda items for consideration by the United Nations. In such cases, OPCW shall notify the Secretary-General of the agenda item or items concerned, and the Secretary-General shall, in accordance with his/her authority, bring any such item or items to the attention of the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council or such other organ(s) of the United Nations as may be appropriate.

#### *Article VII*

##### *International Court of Justice*

1. The United Nations takes note of article XIV, paragraph 5, of the Convention, which empowers the Conference of the States Parties or the Executive Council of OPCW, subject to authorization from the General Assembly of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion on any legal question(s) arising from within the scope of activities of OPCW, apart from any question(s) concerning the mutual relationship between OPCW and the United Nations.

2. The United Nations and OPCW agree that each such request for an advisory opinion shall first be submitted to the General Assembly, which will decide upon the request in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter.

3. When seeking an advisory opinion, as referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, OPCW agrees to furnish, in accordance with the Confidentiality Annex to the Convention and the OPCW Policy on Confidentiality, any such information as may be required by the International Court of Justice in accordance with the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

#### *Article VIII*

##### *Resolutions of the United Nations*

The Secretary-General shall transmit to the Director-General resolutions of the General Assembly or the Security Council pertaining to issues relevant to the Convention. Upon receipt thereof, the Director-General will bring the resolutions concerned to the attention of the relevant organs of OPCW and will report back to the Secretary-General on any action taken by OPCW, as appropriate.

#### *Article IX*

##### *United Nations laissez-passer*

Officials of OPCW shall be entitled, in accordance with such administrative arrangements as may be concluded between the Secretary-General and the Director-General, to use the laissez-passer of the United Nations as a valid travel document where such use is recognized by States Parties in the applicable instruments defining the privileges and immunities of OPCW and its officials. The administrative arrangements will take into account, to the extent possible, the special requirements of OPCW arising from its verification activities under the Convention.

#### *Article X*

##### *Personnel arrangements*

1. The United Nations and OPCW agree to consult whenever necessary concerning matters of common interest relating to the terms and conditions of employment of staff.

2. The United Nations and OPCW agree to cooperate regarding the exchange of personnel, bearing in

mind the nationality of States members of OPCW, and to determine conditions of such cooperation in supplementary arrangements to be concluded for that purpose in accordance with article XIV of this Agreement.

#### Article XI

##### *Budgetary and financial matters*

1. OPCW recognizes the desirability of establishing budgetary and financial cooperation with the United Nations in order that OPCW may benefit from the experience of the United Nations in this field and in order to ensure, as far as may be practicable, the consistency of the administrative operations of the two organizations in this field.

2. The United Nations may arrange for studies to be undertaken concerning budgetary and financial matters of interest to OPCW with a view, as far as may be practicable, to achieving coordination and securing consistency in such matters.

3. OPCW agrees to follow, as far as may be practicable, the standard budgetary and financial practices and forms used by the United Nations.

#### Article XII

##### *Expenses*

Expenses resulting from any cooperation or provision of services pursuant to this Agreement shall be subject to separate arrangements between OPCW and the United Nations.

#### Article XIII

##### *Protection of confidentiality*

1. Subject to paragraphs 1 and 3 of article II, nothing in this Agreement shall be so construed as to require either the United Nations or OPCW to furnish any material, data and information whose disclosure could, in its judgement, require it to violate its obligation, under its constituent instrument or policy on confidentiality, to protect such information.

2. The United Nations and OPCW shall ensure the appropriate protection, in accordance with their constituent instruments and policies on confidentiality, in respect to such information.

#### Article XIV

##### *Implementation of the Agreement*

The Secretary-General and the Director-General may enter into such supplementary arrangements and develop such practical measures for the implementation of this Agreement as may be found desirable.

#### Article XV

##### *Amendments*

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent between the United Nations and OPCW. Any such amendment, once agreed upon, shall enter into force on the date on which the United Nations and OPCW have exchanged written notifications that their internal requirements for entry into force have been met.

#### Article XVI

##### *Entry into force*

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the United Nations and OPCW have exchanged written notifications that their internal requirements for entry into force have been met.

2. This Agreement shall be applied provisionally by the United Nations and OPCW upon signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of the United Nations and OPCW, have signed the present Agreement.

SIGNED this 17th day of October 2000 at New York in two originals in the English language.

For the United Nations  
(Signed) Louise FRÉCHETTE  
Deputy Secretary-General

For the Organization for the Prohibition  
of Chemical Weapons  
(Signed) José M. BUSTANI  
Director-General

On 7 December [meeting 80], the Assembly adopted **resolution 56/42** [draft: A/56/L.30] without vote [agenda item 21 (l)].

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

##### *The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 55/283 of 7 September 2001, in which it approved the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and the decision of 17 May 2001 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction to approve the Agreement,

Having received the annual report for 2000 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention,

1. Welcomes the entry into force of the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

2. Takes note of the annual report for 2000 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted by its Director-General on its behalf;

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

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## **Conventional weapons**

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The United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects was one of the major disarmament events in 2001. The Programme of Action adopted by the Conference was seen as a significant first step towards curbing the illicit trade and proliferation of those weapons. However, several important issues were not included in the document; no agreement was reached on restricting the supply of small arms and light weapons to Governments; the issue of prohibition of unrestricted trade and private ownership of small arms and light weapons designed for military

purposes remained outside the document; and it contained no commitment to negotiate international legal instruments on marking and tracing small arms and light weapons or on regulating brokering activities in their transfers. In related action, the General Assembly, prior to the Conference, had adopted a Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition (**resolution 55/255**) (see p. 1036), which was designed to strengthen cooperation among States in order to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit activities involving firearms and ammunition, and supplemented the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Other major activities relating to certain conventional weapons were carried out within the framework of preparations for the Second Review Conference of the 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 at the Review Conference itself, held in December. Regarding anti-personnel mines, the Third Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the 1980 Convention took place, as did the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction [YUN 1997, p. 503].

During the year, a number of activities contributed to a wider acceptance by Governments of the UN Register of Conventional Arms, which remained the most well-known instrument of transparency for conventional weapons. However, differences persisted among Member States regarding the Register's future development, especially on expanding its scope to include data on military holdings and procurement through national production, on the same basis as data on transfers. The question of the inclusion of weapons of mass destruction continued to be controversial.

### Small arms

**Expert meetings.** The Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/54 V [YUN 1999, p. 487], completed its study on the feasibility of restricting the manufacture and trade of small arms and light weapons to manufacturers and dealers authorized by States (third and final session, New York, 5-9 February). It also held informal meetings (Ottawa, Canada, 29 January-2 February) [A/CONF.192/PC/33 & A/CONF.192/2].

The Group identified and evaluated options and approaches at the national, regional and global levels related to manufacturing, stockpiles and surplus weapons, and trade, including brokering and related activities.

### Illicit traffic

**Reports of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 F [YUN 2000, p. 520], the Secretary-General, in a July report [A/56/182], described UN initiatives and regional and subregional efforts to assist States to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and to collect them. He described requests for assistance received from Albania, Cambodia, the Congo, Kenya, Niger and Papua New Guinea, and the UN response thereto.

In response to Assembly resolution 55/33 Q [YUN 2000, p. 519], the Secretary-General, in an August report [A/56/296], provided an overview of his ongoing consultations on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons. He presented the outcome of meetings convened under UN auspices, by regional and subregional organizations and by States or groups of States (see pp. 511-14). Annexed to the report were the views of 12 Member States on the types and quantities of surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons that had been destroyed, and on their methods of destruction.

### UN Conference

The United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (New York, 9-20 July 2001) [A/CONF.192/15] adopted the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. States participating at the Conference numbered 169. UN bodies, other international and regional organizations and NGOs also participated.

The Programme of Action contained commitments at the national, regional and global levels for combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, measures for enhancing cooperation among States and for assisting those affected, as well as a follow-up mechanism to oversee implementation and further development.

States were committed to develop, strengthen and implement agreed norms and measures to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit manufacture and trade. The Programme emphasized post-conflict regions and promoting responsible action by States regarding small weapons' export, import, transit and retransfer. States were also

committed to developing or strengthening national legislation and administrative measures and to criminalizing illicit activities; to applying unique markings on and accurate record-keeping of each weapon; to destroying illicit or surplus weapons as necessary; and to enhancing transparency. They agreed to support national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes; to further enhance cooperation among themselves in tracing and identifying illicit arms; and to assist affected States. The Programme of Action encouraged the United Nations and other international organizations to undertake initiatives to promote its implementation. It requested the Secretary-General, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA), to collate and circulate data and information on the Programme's implementation, provided by States on a voluntary basis. A conference would be convened no later than 2006 to review progress made in implementing the Programme. In the interim, biennial meetings would be held for that purpose, and a UN study would be undertaken to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to identify and trace small arms and light weapons.

A statement by the Conference President, annexed to the report, while noting that the Conference had taken a significant step forward, expressed disappointment that agreement could not be reached on the need to establish and maintain controls over private ownership of small arms and light weapons and the need to prevent the sales of those weapons to non-State groups.

#### Preparatory Committee

The Preparatory Committee for the Conference held its second (8-19 January) and third (19-30 March) sessions, both in New York [A/CONF.192/1]. At those sessions, the Committee considered a large number of proposals by Member States on the draft programme of action and documents transmitted by them, including a statement by South Africa [A/CONF.192/PC/31], on its unilateral destruction of surplus small arms; by Bulgaria [A/CONF.192/PC/37], views and suggestions on regional and subregional activities; by France [A/CONF.192/PC/38], a summary of the Franco-Swiss Seminar on the Traceability of Small Arms and Light Weapons (Geneva, 12-13 March); and by Namibia [A/CONF.192/PC/35], the text of the Declaration concerning Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the Southern African Development Community (see p. 511).

The Committee adopted a decision, based on a joint proposal by Brazil, Mali, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom [A/CONF.192/PC/57], to

proclaim the first day of the Conference "Small Arms Destruction Day", and to call on States to organize voluntarily on that day the public destruction of small arms and light weapons. It also recommended that the draft programme of action, drawn up on the basis of the Chairman's working paper, be forwarded to the Conference for further consideration and that the Conference be held at the ministerial level. The Committee adopted several procedural decisions.

**Communication.** On 9 July [S/2001/732], Colombia proposed an open debate on the question of small arms in the Security Council in August, under its Presidency. Among the proposed issues for consideration was the outcome of the Conference.

#### SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

On 31 August [meeting 4362], the Security Council President made statement **S/PRST/2001/21** on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council reaffirms the statement of its President of 24 September 1999 (S/PRST/1999/28) and its resolution 1209(1998) of 19 November 1998, and notes with grave concern that the destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons in many regions of the world increases the intensity and duration of armed conflicts, undermines the sustainability of peace agreements, impedes the success of peace-building, frustrates efforts aimed at the prevention of armed conflict, hinders considerably the provision of humanitarian assistance, and compromises the effectiveness of the Security Council in discharging its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. The Council expressed grave concern at the harmful impact of small arms and light weapons on civilians in situations of armed conflict, particularly on vulnerable groups such as women and children, and recalls in this regard its resolutions 1296(2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314(2000) of 11 August 2000.

The Council further notes with satisfaction the growing awareness within the international community of the problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons as a challenge that involves security, humanitarian and development dimensions. In this regard the Council welcomes recent global and regional initiatives such as the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects; the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons adopted by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; the resolution on small arms of the Council of Ministers of the European Union; the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons; and the extension of the Economic Community of

West African States Moratorium on the Production and Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons.

The Council welcomes the adoption of the Programme of Action of the United Nations Conference in the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and calls on all Member States to take the required measures to promptly implement the recommendations contained therein. The Council recognizes its responsibility in assisting in the implementation of this Programme of Action, and stresses that the success of this Programme depends on the political will and efforts of Member States to implement its measures at the national, regional and global levels, as well as on the provision of international cooperation and assistance and on the follow-up agreed by the Conference, including the convening of a review conference no later than 2006.

The Council reaffirms the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and, subject to the Charter, the right of each State to import, produce and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs. Bearing in mind the considerable volume of licit trade in small arms and light weapons, the Council underlines the vital importance of effective national regulations and controls for this trade. In this regard, arms-exporting countries should exercise the highest degree of responsibility in small arms and light weapons transactions, and all countries have the responsibility to prevent their illegal diversion and re-export, so as to stem the leakage of legal weapons to illegal markets. The Council also stresses the importance of international cooperation to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons.

The Council underlines the importance of practical disarmament measures in averting armed conflicts and encourages States and relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the appropriate cooperation of civil society actors in activities related to the prevention and combating of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, including facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of this problem.

The Council recognizes the important role of regional and subregional organizations in providing useful information and perspectives on the regional and subregional dimensions that characterize arms flows to conflicts, and underscores the importance of regional agreements and cooperation in this regard.

The Council emphasizes the importance of the effective collection and control of small arms and light weapons, and of their storage and destruction, as appropriate, in the context of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, as well as other measures that may contribute to the effective disposal of small arms and light weapons, and to prevention of the spread of these weapons to other regions. To this end, the Council welcomes the publication by the Secretary-General of the Handbook on Environmentally Sound Methods of Destruction of

Small Arms, Light Weapons, Ammunition and Explosives. The Council stresses the importance of incorporating, on a case-by-case basis, in the negotiation, consolidation and implementation of peace agreements, as well as in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations, appropriate provisions for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, taking into account the special needs of child soldiers.

The Council reiterates its call for the effective implementation of arms embargoes imposed by the Council in its relevant resolutions, and encourages Member States to provide the Sanctions Committees with available information on alleged violations of arms embargoes. The Council expresses its determination to continue to improve the efficiency of the arms embargoes imposed by the Council on a case-by-case basis, including through the establishment of specific monitoring mechanisms or similar arrangements as appropriate. The Council stresses the need to engage the relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations, business and financial institutions and other actors at the international, regional and local levels to contribute to the implementation of arms embargoes.

The Council stresses the need for cooperation and sharing of information among the Member States, and among the different Sanctions Committees on arms traffickers that have violated arms embargoes established by the Council. This information could also be provided to Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database or any other relevant database that may be developed for this purpose.

The Council stresses the need for innovative strategies to address the relationship between the illicit exploitation of natural and other resources and the purchase and trade in illegal weapons in those situations under its consideration. The Council expresses its intention to continue to consider employing effective measures to prevent the illicit exploitation of natural and other resources from fuelling those conflicts. In this regard, information on financial or other transactions fuelling the illicit flow of arms to those conflicts should be made available to the Council.

The Council requests the Secretary-General to include in his reports regarding relevant situations under consideration in the Council analytical assessments on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons including, to the extent possible and within available resources, availability, stockpiling, lines of supply, brokering, transportation arrangements and financial networks for these weapons, as well as their humanitarian impact, especially on children.

The Council recognizes the role of the Secretary-General in supporting the coordination of all United Nations activities to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. In this connection, the Council requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by September 2002 containing specific recommendations on ways and means in which the Council may contribute to deal with the question of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in situations under its consideration, taking into account the views of Member States, re-

cent experiences in the field and the contents of this statement.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 U** without vote [agenda item 74 (g)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Welcoming also* the initiative taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the declaration of a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

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

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

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

*Taking note* of the millennium report of the Secretary-General,

*Welcoming* the Programme of Action of the first United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in

Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

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

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

2. *Encourages* the establishment in the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion of national commissions to combat the proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible to ensure the smooth functioning of the said commissions;

3. *Welcomes* the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja on 31 October 1998, and encourages the international community to support the implementation of the said moratorium;

4. *Encourages* the involvement of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national committees to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and their participation in the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa;

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

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

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

8. *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;

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

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Assistance to

States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them”.

On 24 December [meeting 92], the Assembly, also on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 V** without vote [agenda item 74 (q)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 B of 12 December 1995, 52/38 J of 9 December 1997, 53/77 E and 53/77 T of 4 December 1998, 54/54 R of 1 December 1999, 54/54 V of 15 December 1999 and 55/33 Q of 20 November 2000,

*Recalling also* its decision 55/415 of 20 November 2000 to convene the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

*Welcoming* the adoption by consensus of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects by the Conference, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

1. *Decides* to convene a conference, no later than 2006, 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, the date and venue to be decided by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

2. *Also decides* to convene a meeting of States on a biennial basis, commencing in 2003, to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations and other appropriate international and regional organizations to undertake initiatives to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations and civil society to engage, as appropriate, in all aspects of international, regional, subregional and national efforts to implement the Programme of Action;

6. *Encourages* all States to promote and strengthen regional and subregional initiatives to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

7. *Continues to encourage* States to take appropriate national measures to destroy surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons, subject to any legal constraint associated with the preparation of criminal prosecutions, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered, and to submit, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on types and quantities destroyed as well as the methods of their destruction or disposition;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resources and expertise are made available to the Secretariat to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

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

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a United Nations study, commencing during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so, and with the assistance of governmental experts appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, while seeking the views of States, to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons and to submit the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

11. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on the implementation by those States of the Programme of Action;

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

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects”.

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

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/37 [YUN 2000, p. 522], the Secretary-General reported on the status, as at 31 May [A/56/163], of the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its three annexed Protocols [YUN 1980, p. 76]: on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I); on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II) [YUN 1996, p. 484]; and on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III); as well as the 1995 Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV) [YUN 1995, p. 221], which had taken effect on 30 July 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 530].

The accession of Bolivia, Mali, Nauru and the Republic of Korea and the succession of Yugoslavia brought the number of States parties to the Convention to 88 as at 31 December.

As decided by the Second Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II in 2000 [YUN 2000, p. 521], the Third Annual Confer-

ence was held in Geneva on 10 December [CCW/AP.II/CONF.3/4 (Parts I and II) & Corr.1,2]. The Conference reviewed the operation and status of amended Protocol II and examined 38 national reports received from 36 States parties, containing information on dissemination of information on the Protocol to armed forces and civilians; mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes; steps taken to meet technical requirements of the Protocol and other relevant information; legislation related to the Protocol; measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance; and other relevant matters. The Conference adopted a final document, containing conclusions and recommendations and an appeal to States that had not done so to accede to amended Protocol II as soon as possible. The Conference recommended that the Secretary-General, as depositary, and the President of the Conference exercise their authority to achieve the goal of universality of the Protocol and called on States parties to promote wider adherence. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/28 (see below), the Conference decided to convene the Fourth Annual Conference in December 2002.

### Second Review Conference

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/37 [YUN 2000, p. 522] and based on the decisions of the First Review Conference in 1995-1996 [YUN 1996, p. 484], the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention met (Geneva, 11-21 December) [CCW/CONF.II/2] to review the scope and operation of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and to consider proposals for amending them, as well as proposals for additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons. The Preparatory Committee for the Conference held its second (2-6 April) [CCW/CONF.II/PC.2/1] and third (24-28 September) [CCW/CONF.II/PC.3/1] sessions, as well as informal intersessional consultations, all in Geneva.

The Conference, which was attended by 65 States parties, a number of signatory States and non-parties, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund and NGOs, adopted by consensus its report and Final Declaration. The Declaration contained a decision to amend article I of the Convention by extending its scope of application to situations referred to in article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, while excluding situations of internal disturbances and tensions—riots and isolated and sporadic acts of violence—as not being armed conflicts. Other parts of that

decision contained some restrictions and explanations relating to the amendment.

The Final Declaration contained procedural decisions relating to: follow-up work on decisions of the Conference, to be overseen by a chairman-designate at a meeting of the States parties in December 2002; the establishment of a group of governmental experts to meet in 2002 to consider the issue of explosive remnants of war and to further explore the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines; promotion of compliance with the Convention and its annexed Protocols; and consideration of issues concerning small-calibre weapons and ammunition. The Conference decided to convene the next review conference five years following the entry into force of any amendments adopted, but not later than 2006. The Conference proposed that the next review conference consider further measures in relation to other conventional weapons, which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/540], adopted **resolution 56/28** without vote [agenda item 78].

#### **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 55/37 of 20 November 2000 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

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

*Also recalling with satisfaction* the adoption by the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995, of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV), and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), which entered into force on 30 July 1998 and 3 December 1998, respectively,

*Welcoming* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV,

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

*Recalling also* that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keeping the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems of landmines,

*Commending* the efforts of the Secretary-General and the President of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II towards the promotion of the goal of universality of amended Protocol II,

*Noting* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

*Noting also* that, in accordance with article 13 of amended Protocol II, a conference of States parties to that Protocol shall be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues in relation to the Protocol,

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

*Welcoming* the particular efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

*Welcoming also* the results of the Second Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva from 11 to 13 December 2000,

*Recalling* the decision of States parties to the Convention to convene the next review conference from 11 to 21 December 2001, preceded by three sessions of the preparatory committee for the review conference, on 14 December 2000, from 2 to 6 April 2001 and from 24 to 28 September 2001, respectively,

*Welcoming* the convening, in the context of the preparatory process, of the informal open-ended consultations of the States parties to the Convention and other interested States at Geneva from 27 to 31 August 2001, which provided for structured discussions, building on work by the respective Friends of Chair on several issues pertaining to the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and the Preparatory Committee for the Second Review Conference,

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, in particular the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early

date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

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

3. *Welcomes* the convening, on 10 December 2001, of the Third Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, in accordance with article 13 thereof, and calls upon all States parties to amended Protocol II to address at that meeting, inter alia, the question of holding the fourth annual conference in 2002;

4. *Welcomes also* the proposal contained in the Final Declaration of the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, adopted by consensus on 3 May 1996, that the next review conference consider the question of eventual further measures in relation to other conventional weapons which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects;

5. *Notes*, therefore, the proposals put forward by States parties and the International Committee of the Red Cross for consideration by the 2001 Review Conference, concerning, inter alia, the following issues:

(a) Compliance procedures and mechanisms;

(b) Explosive remnants of war;

(c) Extension of the scope of application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to non-international armed conflicts;

(d) Landmines other than anti-personnel mines;

(e) Small-calibre ammunitions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Conference, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

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

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

### Practical disarmament

The group of interested States, established in 1998 [YUN 1998, p. 531] to examine and support concrete projects of practical disarmament, met four times in 2001 (27 March, 17 May, 10 October and 13 December) to discuss practical disarmament measures in Cambodia, Kenya and Niger. The group continued to consider the provision of political and technical advice to several institutions involved in practical disarmament measures. Discussions in that regard focused on the Programme of Action adopted at the 2001 Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light

Weapons in All Its Aspects (see p. 499) and its relevance to other practical disarmament measures under consideration.

**Disarmament Commission action.** In 2001 [A/56/42], the Disarmament Commission allocated to Working Group II the item entitled "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms". The Group took note of a non-paper presented by the Chair, which was seen as a contribution to the Group's future work but required further discussion, elaboration and refinement. The non-paper was annexed to the Commission's report. On 26 April, the Working Group adopted its report by consensus.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 P** without vote [agenda item 74 (h)].

#### Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

*Noting with satisfaction* that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

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

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

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

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

1. *Stresses*, in the context of the present resolution, the particular relevance of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N", adopted by the Disarmament Commission by consensus at its 1999 substantive session;

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

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

4. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

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

#### Transparency

**Conference on Disarmament.** In 2001, the issue of transparency in armaments was considered during plenary meetings of the Conference on Disarmament [A/56/27] in connection with efforts to reach a comprehensive agreement on the establishment of subsidiary bodies on agenda items. Although the Conference did not establish or re-establish any mechanism to deal with transparency in armaments because it did not achieve

consensus on a programme of work, the Special Coordinator for the review of the agenda of the Conference (see p. 469) stated that there was general agreement on retaining the item.

### UN Register of Conventional Arms

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/33 U [YUN 2000, p. 524], the Secretary-General submitted the ninth annual report on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms [A/56/257 & Add.1,2], which was established in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 75] to promote enhanced levels of transparency on arms transfers.

The report presented information provided by 117 Governments on imports and exports during 2000 in the seven categories of conventional arms (battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large-calibre artillery systems, attack helicopters, combat aircraft, warships, and missiles and missile launchers). Governments also provided information on procurement from national production and military holdings. The report indicated a substantial increase in the number of submissions.

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

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 Q** by recorded vote (135-0-23) [agenda item 74 (s)].

#### 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 and 55/33 U of 20 November 2000 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 2000,

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

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

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

2. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto;

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

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

(a) *Recalls* its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

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

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

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

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the

region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

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

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 Q:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* None.

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

The First Committee adopted paragraphs 4 (b) and 6 by separate recorded votes of 123 to 4, with 13 abstentions, and 123 to none, with 17 abstentions, respectively. The Assembly retained the paragraphs by 133 to 4, with 12 abstentions, and 133 to none, with 17 abstentions, respectively.

### Transparency of military expenditures

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/43 [YUN 1999, p. 497], the Secretary-General, in August [A/56/267], presented reports received from 59 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].

Also in accordance with resolution 54/43, DDA facilitated and participated in a meeting of the Committee on Hemispheric Security of the Organization of American States (Washington, D.C., 4 May), which was devoted to arms transparency issues at the regional level.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/526], adopted **resolution 56/14** without vote [agenda item 64 (b)].

### Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998 and 54/43 of 1 December 1999 on objective information 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 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 that have no information to provide to submit nil returns;

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 conditions 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 report 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 standardized reporting system, 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 symposia 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 symposia 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 provide the Secretary-General, in time for deliberation by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth 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 fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

## Verification

In response to General Assembly resolution 54/46 [YUN 1999, p. 498], the Secretary-General submitted a September report [A/56/347] updating developments since 1999 on the verification of treaties. The report contained the views of one Member State (Qatar) on the recommendations contained in the expert study on verification in all its aspects, including the UN role in verification [YUN 1995, p. 233].

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/527], adopted **resolution 56/15** without vote [agenda item 65].

#### Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations,

*Reaffirming* its support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,

*Recalling* its resolutions 40/152 O of 16 December 1985, 41/86 Q of 4 December 1986, 42/42 F of 30 November 1987, 43/81 B of 7 December 1988, 45/65 of 4 December 1990, 47/45 of 9 December 1992, 48/68 of 16 December 1993, 50/61 of 12 December 1995, 52/31 of 9 December 1997 and 54/46 of 1 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the reports of the Secretary-General of 11 July 1986, 28 August 1990, 16 September 1992, 26 July 1993, 22 September 1995, 6 August 1997, 9 July 1999 and 10 September 2001, and the addenda thereto,

1. *Reaffirms* the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on further views received from Member States pursuant to resolutions 50/61, 52/31 and 54/46;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

## 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 Conven-

tion), which was adopted in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 503] and entered into force in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 498], totalled 122 as at 31 December. During the year, 13 States ratified or acceded to the Convention.

The Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention (Managua, Nicaragua, 18-21 September) [APLC/MSP.3/2001/1], convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 V [YUN 2000, p. 526], reviewed the general status and operation of the Convention. It noted that 30 countries had destroyed their stockpile of anti-personnel mines completely, while 17 others were in the process of doing so, and that considerable areas of mined land had been cleared over the past year, casualty rates had been reduced in several of the world's most affected States and victim assistance had improved. On 21 September, the States parties adopted the President's Action Programme, which outlined specific initiatives and activities envisaged for the intersessional period and identified priorities for the coming year. They also adopted a Declaration, in which the States parties, reaffirming their commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the inhumane effects of those weapons, called on all Governments and people to join in the common task to meet the challenges of mine action.

The Standing Committee on the general status and operation of the Convention noted that 34 States parties had reported that they had retained anti-personnel mines for training and development purposes. In 2001, the Standing Committee on mine clearance and related technologies became the Standing Committee on mine clearance, mine awareness and mine action technologies and the Standing Committee on victim assistance, socio-economic reintegration and mine awareness became the Standing Committee on victim assistance and socio-economic reintegration.

The Fourth Meeting of the States Parties was planned for September 2002 in Geneva.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 M** by recorded vote (138-0-19) [agenda item 74 (i)].

#### **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 and 55/33 V of 20 November 2000,

*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 es-

pecially 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 ensure their destruction,

*Wishing* to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, and noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global landmine problem,

*Recalling* the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,

*Recalling also* the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, and the Declaration of the Second Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment to implement completely and fully all provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling further* the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Managua from 18 to 21 September 2001, and the Declaration of the Third Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the unwavering commitment both to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the insidious and inhumane effects of those weapons,

*Noting with satisfaction* that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and twenty-two,

*Emphasizing* the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

*Noting with regret* that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information, as required under article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

7. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of intersessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and further developed at the Second and Third Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article II, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention at Geneva from 16 to 20 September 2002, and, on behalf of States parties and in accordance with article II, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh 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 56/24 M:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Micronesia, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States, Viet Nam.

## Regional and other approaches to disarmament

### Africa

In 2001, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Council of Ministers, at its seventy-fourth ordinary session from 5 to 8 July, and the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, at its thirty-seventh ordinary session from 9 to 11 July, both held in Lusaka, Zambia [A/56/457], requested assistance from the international community to eradicate small arms and light weapons from Africa.

At the subregional level, the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (Lusaka, July) [S/2001/700] renewed for a second three-year period the 1998 ECOWAS Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in West Africa [YUN 1998, p. 537] as from 5 July 2001.

On 9 March [A/CONF.192/PC/35], member States of the Southern African Development Community, meeting in Windhoek, Namibia, adopted a Declaration concerning Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the subregion.

### Standing Advisory Committee

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/34 B [YUN 2000, p. 528], the Secretary-General, in August [A/56/285], described the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa. At its fifteenth ministerial meeting (Bujumbura, Burundi, 16-20 April), the Standing Committee reviewed the geopolitical and security situation of its member States, examined cooperation on security matters among them and evaluated the implementation of its previous decisions.

In September, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) transmitted the report of the Committee's sixteenth ministerial meeting (Kinshasa, DRC, 13-17 August) [A/56/378-S/2001/890]. The Committee reviewed the geopolitical and security situation in Central Africa and intergovernmental cooperation in security matters there, and adopted its 2001-2002 work programme.

In December, the DRC transmitted the report of the subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflict in Central Africa (Kinshasa, 14-16 November) [A/56/680-S/2001/1155], organized by the Standing Committee. The conference adopted a plan of action for implementation at the national, subregional and international levels.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 A** without vote [agenda item 75 (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 and 55/34 B of 20 November 2000,

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

*Convinced* that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

*Recalling* the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Convinced* that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

*Bearing in mind* the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

*Recalling* the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa, the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa, and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,

*Bearing in mind* resolutions 1196(1998) and 1197(1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

*Recalling* the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 55/34 B;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and sub-regional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2000-2001, in particular by:

(a) Holding the Subregional Conference on the Question of Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central Africa at Bujumbura from 14 to 16 August 2000;

(b) Holding the fourteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bujumbura on 17 and 18 August 2000;

(c) Holding the fifteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bujumbura from 16 to 20 April 2001;

(d) Holding the meeting of experts on the texts governing the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Libreville from 2 to 5 July 2001;

(e) Holding the sixteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Kinshasa from 13 to 17 August 2001;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, 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;

9. *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;

10. *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;

11. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the decision taken at the fourteenth ministerial meeting to organize a subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflict, and requests the Secretary-General to lend all the necessary support for the holding of the conference;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

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

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

### Asia and the Pacific

In 2001, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), its Regional Forum (ARF) and the Council for Security and Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific continued to address issues related to security and stability in the region. The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific also contributed to confidence-building and stability in the region through its activities (see p. 521).

The ministers participating in the thirty-fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (23-24 July) and the eight meeting of ARF (25 July), both held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, emphasized the importance of confidence-building, acknowledging that it remained the foundation and main thrust of the ARF process.

The Department for Disarmament Affairs, together with the Institute of Security and International Studies, Chulalongkorn University and the Embassy of Sri Lanka, all based in Thailand, co-sponsored a regional seminar on "International security issues: a call for regional co-

operation" (Bangkok, 14 December). Discussions centred on the challenges posed by the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons in the region and how to tackle the issue within the context of the Programme of Action adopted by the 2001 UN Conference on small arms (see p. 499).

### Europe

During the year, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) continued its activities mainly through the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the NATO-Russian Permanent Joint Council, both established in 1997 [YUN 1997, pp. 518-19], as well as through the Partnership for Peace initiative, established in 1994 to promote bilateral cooperation between NATO and individual partner countries in the Euro-Atlantic area. In August/September, NATO collected weapons voluntarily handed over by Albanian militias in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The EU continued to implement its 1998 Joint Action on small arms [YUN 1998, p. 540] and published, in January, its second annual report on the implementation of the EU Code of Conduct for Arms Exports [ibid.]. States parties to the 1990 Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty) [YUN 1990, p. 79], at their Second Review Conference (Vienna, 28 May-1 June), reaffirmed the fundamental role of the Treaty as a cornerstone of European security.

On 18 June, negotiations were finalized on regional stability in Southern Europe, within the context of the 1995 General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (the Peace Agreement) [YUN 1995, p. 544]. The 20 participating States had achieved consensus on a concluding document containing a number of confidence- and security-building measures. The States parties to the 1996 Agreement on Subregional Arms Control [YUN 1996, p. 493], signed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, continued to implement the Agreement and considered proposals for voluntary measures to increase confidence and transparency.

The European Council, in July, adopted two regulations that provided the basis for a coherent and effective approach for EU action on anti-personnel landmines in third countries. The Council, in a 15 November resolution, welcomed the results of the UN Conference on small arms and called for negotiations on a legally binding international instrument regulating arms brokering.

In November, the 1999 Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe [YUN 1999, p. 397] launched

a regional plan to combat the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, which was modelled after the Programme of Action adopted by the UN Conference on small arms (see p. 499).

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in addition to efforts to promote conflict prevention and confidence-building measures, continued to play a leading role in the region regarding the issue of small arms and light weapons.

### Latin America

The General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) (San José, Costa Rica, 3-5 June) adopted a number of resolutions relating to peace, security and disarmament in the hemisphere, particularly regarding combating the illicit trafficking of firearms, confidence- and security-building measures, transparency in conventional weapons and anti-personnel mines. Regarding anti-personnel mines, OAS member States reaffirmed their goal of global elimination of those weapons, and of the advent of the western hemisphere as an anti-personnel-mine-free zone. At their eleventh summit (Lima, Peru, 23-24 November) [CD/1659], the heads of State and Government of Latin American countries and of Spain and Portugal (the Ibero-American Community) adopted the "Lima Declaration: United for Tomorrow", by which they condemned terrorism and reaffirmed support for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [YUN 1967, p. 13] and the Managua Declaration adopted by the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Mine-Ban Convention (see p. 509).

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 H** without vote [agenda item 74 (o)].

#### 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 and 55/33 O of 20 November 2000 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 fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

Also on 29 November [meeting 68], on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], the Assembly adopted **resolution 56/24 I** by recorded vote (151-1-1) [agenda item 74 (p)].

#### 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 and 55/33 P of 20 November 2000,

*Recognizing* the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

*Aware* that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

*Desirous* of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

*Noting with particular interest* the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which is a cornerstone of European security,

*Believing* that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

*Believing also* that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 I:

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

United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* India.

*Abstaining:* Bhutan.

## Other disarmament issues

### Terrorism

Following the terrorist attacks of 11 September on the United States, the Security Council (see p. 61) and the General Assembly (see below) noted the close connection between international terrorism and illicit arms-trafficking and the illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials, and called for multilateral cooperation in dealing with the problem.

In October, the Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) sponsored a symposium at which high-level experts discussed terrorism and its relationship to disarmament, as well as the contributions that disarmament multilateral treaties and institutions could make in addressing related threats. The experts considered an overview of the terrorist threat to international peace and security, focusing on aspects relating to nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and small arms and light weapons. It also discussed the question of financing weapons acquisitions by terrorists.

(See also p. 63.)

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 T** without vote [agenda item 74].

#### Multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Millennium Declaration stated that the responsibility for managing threats to international peace and security must be shared among the nations of the world,

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

*Emphasizing* that all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism, in particular General Assembly resolutions 49/60 of 9 December 1994 and 56/1 of 12 September 2001 and Security Council resolutions 1368(2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373(2001) of 28 September 2001, demonstrate the unity and solidarity of the international community in

the face of the common threat of terrorism and its determination to combat it,

*Recognizing* the close connection between international terrorism and illicit arms-trafficking and the illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials,

*Reaffirming* the importance of taking all necessary steps to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Noting with concern* the lack of sufficient progress in multilateral disarmament diplomacy,

*Determined* to build a common response to global threats in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as a 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. *Emphasizes* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism;

3. *Calls 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.

### Prevention of an arms race in outer space

In 2001, the Conference on Disarmament did not establish an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Nonetheless, many delegations continued to raise the issue of the militarization of outer space, particularly in connection with ongoing plans by the United States to develop a national missile defence system (see p. 480).

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/535], adopted **resolution 56/23** by recorded vote (156-0-4) [agenda item 73].

#### 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 re-

garding 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 means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

*Conscious* of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

*Recognizing* that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the

Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992 and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during its 2002 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/23:

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

Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* Georgia, Israel, Micronesia, United States.

### Seabed treaty

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/116 O [YUN 1989, p. 81], the Secretary-General, in a July report [A/56/172], presented the replies of three Governments in response to his request for information on technological developments relevant to the 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, adopted by the Assembly in resolution 2660 (XXV) [YUN 1970, p. 18], and to the verification of compliance with the Treaty.

### Disarmament and development

In response to General Assembly resolution 55/33 L [YUN 2000, p. 533], the Secretary-General, in July [A/56/183], described activities undertaken to implement the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development [YUN 1987, p. 83]. In that context, the Secretary-General noted that DDA, in collaboration with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, organized on 26 April in New York a symposium to examine the interrelationship between armed conflicts, military expenditures and development. DDA continued to seek the views of independent experts on the changing paradigm of disarmament and development.

The report contained information submitted by Sweden, on behalf of the EU, on the implementation of the action programme, pursuant to resolution 55/33 L.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 E** without vote [agenda item 74 (I)].

#### Relationship between disarmament and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

*Recalling also* the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 L of 20 November 2000,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,

*Welcoming* the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,

*Stressing* the growing importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations,

1. *Calls upon* the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate set out in the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

2. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, by 15 April 2002, their views and proposals for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as any other views and proposals with a view to achieving the goals of the action programme, within the framework of current international relations;

4. *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 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

### **Arms limitation and disarmament agreements**

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/33 K [YUN 2000, p. 534], the Secretary-General submitted a July report with later addendum [A/56/165 & Add.1] containing information from seven Member States on measures they had taken

to ensure the application of scientific and technological progress in the context of international security, disarmament and related areas, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

By **decision 56/416** of 29 November, the General Assembly took note of the report of the First Committee [A/56/545] on compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements.

Also on 29 November [meeting 68], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/536], adopted **resolution 56/24 F** by recorded vote (154-0-5) [agenda item 74 (b)].

#### **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 and 55/33 K of 20 November 2000,

*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 fully contribute to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 56/24 F:

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

*Against:* None.

*Abstaining:* France, Israel, Micronesia, United Kingdom, United States.

## Studies, information and training

### Disarmament studies programme

The Group of Governmental Experts on restricting the manufacture and trade in small arms and light weapons to manufacturers and dealers authorized by Governments, appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/54 V [YUN 1999, p. 487], completed its study in February. Its report [A/CONF.192/2] was submitted to the 2001 UN Conference on small arms (see p. 499). The Panel of Governmental Experts on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, appointed by the Secretary-General in response to Assembly resolution 55/33 A [YUN 2000, p. 499], also met during the year, as did the Group of Governmental Experts on disarmament and non-proliferation education, appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to Assembly resolution 55/33 E [YUN 2000, p. 535].

In 2001, the Assembly, in **resolution 56/24 Q**, requested the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of governmental experts, a report on the continuing operation and future development of the UN Register of Conventional Arms (see p. 507), for consideration in 2003. By **resolution 56/24 V**, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of governmental experts, a study on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit small

arms and light weapons, also to be considered in 2003.

### Disarmament Information Programme

During the year, a major focus of the Disarmament Information Programme was the information campaign on the 2001 UN Conference on small arms, launched by DDA in collaboration with the UN Department of Public Information. Other activities, carried out through DDA publications, web-site access, symposiums and exhibits, focused on multilateral disarmament agreements relating to weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons. DDA hosted a panel seminar on the implications for disarmament and the United Nations of the revolution in military affairs, and, in collaboration with the Global Security Institute, a symposium on lessons for today from the Cuban missile crises. In the wake of the terrorist attacks of 11 September, the Department sponsored a symposium on terrorism and disarmament (New York, 25 October). Efforts were made to raise awareness about the links between gender and disarmament, and to support weapons collection projects in communities that had suffered from conflicts or civil strife.

### 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 thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions (New York, 31 January–2 February; Geneva, 25–27 July) [A/56/418]. At its thirty-sixth session, the Board deliberated on the “revolution in military affairs”, the illicit trade in small arms, reducing nuclear danger and non-proliferation regimes. In July, it continued discussions on some of those items and also addressed nuclear-weapon-free zones as instruments of disarmament.

The Board agreed that, among other things, there existed a crisis of multilateral disarmament diplomacy and that the United Nations had important roles to play in addressing the crisis; the proposal contained in the Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 55/2 [YUN 2000, p. 49], for convening a major international conference on eliminating nuclear dangers would best be pursued through an incremental process given the lack of global consensus to convene the conference; and disarmament and non-proliferation regimes were inseparable and mutually dependent on the wider international

strategic environment. In response to Assembly resolution 55/33 N [ibid., p. 497], the Board forwarded to the Secretary-General specific measures to reduce nuclear danger (see p. 474).

#### UN Institute for Disarmament Research

The Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the UNIDIR Director covering the period from July 2000 to July 2001, as well as the report of the UNIDIR Board of Trustees on the proposed 2001-2002 programme of work and budget [A/56/359].

The Institute's research activities continued to focus on global security, regional security and human security. The report highlighted UNIDIR's networking initiatives with other research institutes, as well as disarmament entities in the UN system, and contained a list of publications issued during the reporting period.

The Board of Trustees recommended a subvention of \$213,000 from the UN regular budget for 2002, which the Assembly approved on 24 December (**resolution 56/255, section I**).

#### Disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

In 2001, 28 fellows participated in the UN disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, which began in Geneva on 3 September and ended in New York on 8 November. The programme included a study session in Geneva; study trips to Austria, The Hague (Netherlands), Germany and Japan; and a study session at UN Headquarters.

#### Regional centres for peace and disarmament

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 C** without vote [agenda item 75 (d)].

##### United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 55/34 F of 20 November 2000 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 understand-

ing 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 aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their programmes of activities and implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

#### Africa

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/34 D [YUN 2000, p. 539], the Secretary-General described the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa [A/56/137], covering the period from July 2000 to June 2001. The Centre was established in Lomé, Togo, in 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 85].

During the reporting period, the Centre provided substantive and political support to the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, to ensure the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Moratorium

on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa [YUN 1998, p. 537]. As part of its advocacy and outreach programme, the Centre in January, inaugurated the disarmament forum—a monthly briefing on disarmament, peace and security issues in Africa. In May, the Centre, with the support of the Government of Germany, launched the fellowship programme on peace, security and disarmament in Africa, which permitted three research fellows each year to conduct research on a topic related to peace, security and disarmament in the region.

In the course of the year, the Centre assisted a number of African countries, including Togo, Kenya and Guinea-Bissau, to address problems related to small arms and light weapons, and, in addition, organized or assisted in organizing conferences, seminars and training programmes on disarmament and security-related issues. Working with civil society organizations, the Centre provided assistance and technical support to the launching of a continent-wide campaign for peace.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 D** without vote [agenda item 75 (b)].

#### United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

##### *The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the provisions of Article II, 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 and 55/34 D of 20 November 2000,

*Aware* of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

*Taking into account* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

*Bearing in mind* the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

*Taking into account* the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity, in conformity with the relevant decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and emphasizing the need for the appropriate implementation of the Programme of Action by all States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, and commends the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, regional and subregional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;

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

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa”.

### *Asia and the Pacific*

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 55/34 H [YUN 2000, p. 540], the Secretary-General described the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific from August 2000 to July 2001 [A/56/266]. The Centre was inaugurated in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 1989 [YUN 1989, p. 88].

During the period under review, the Centre organized the thirteenth regional disarmament meeting in Asia and the Pacific on prospects for further confidence-building (Kathmandu, 9-11 March), which focused on issues relating to the Korean peninsula, denuclearization and non-proliferation, organized crime, terrorism, information technology and national security, and disarmament and the environment. The Centre organized a meeting on disarmament and the Pacific (Wellington, New Zealand, 27-30 March), which examined the region's security and disarmament concerns. The Centre organized a conference (Kanazawa, Japan, 28-31 August 2001) on "The Asia-Pacific region: evolution of the scope of security and disarmament in the twenty-first century", which discussed, among other things, stability and prosperity in North-East Asia, human security, disarmament and non-proliferation, and issues relating to the illicit trade in small arms.

The Centre continued to assist the five Central Asian States (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) in the drafting of a treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia (see p. 489), as well as Mongolia, to consolidate its nuclear-weapon-free status (see p. 489).

During the year, progress was made towards relocating the Centre to Kathmandu, which, for lack of sufficient extrabudgetary resources, continued to operate from Headquarters.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 F** without vote [agenda item 75 (f)].

#### **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific**

##### *The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of

measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General, in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation in the post-cold-war era,

*Noting* that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

*Commending* the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and sub-regional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Regional Centre for its organization of the thirteenth regional disarmament meeting in Asia and the Pacific, held at Kathmandu from 9 to 11 March 2001, the United Nations regional disarmament meeting on the theme "A Pacific Way to Disarmament", held at Wellington from 27 to 30 March 2001, and the meeting of the United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues on the theme "The Asia-Pacific region: evolution of the scope of security and disarmament in the twenty-first century", held at Kanazawa, Japan, from 28 to 31 August 2001,

*Welcoming* the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

*Noting* the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, as well as to Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of a United Nations-sponsored non-governmental expert group meeting on the theme "Ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status", held at Sapporo, Japan, on 5 and 6 September 2001,

*Appreciating highly* the important role that Nepal has played as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;
2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;
4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen

the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

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

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

#### *Latin America and the Caribbean*

As requested by the General Assembly in resolution 55/34 E [YUN 2000, p. 541], the Secretary-General reported on the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean from August 2000 to June 2001 [A/56/154]. The Centre was inaugurated in Lima, Peru, in 1987 [YUN 1987, p. 88].

The activities of the Centre related to firearms, ammunition and explosives; anti-personnel mines; nuclear issues; disarmament and development; civil-military relations; and information and public events.

A number of activities were carried out under a project on the regional clearing house on firearms, ammunition and explosives, an initiative designed to nurture national and regional expertise in the area of practical disarmament. In January, the Centre and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission were designated the implementing institutions for projects on illicit trafficking in firearms, ammunition and explosives, under a memorandum of understanding between DDA and OAS. A workshop organized by the Centre in February on civil-military relations in the region addressed such issues as democratic society's influence on armed forces and highlighted the need for greater participation of civil society in security-related matters. The Centre held a workshop (Lima, 28 March) on preparations for the third meeting of the States parties to the Mine-Ban Convention (see p. 509). On 30 May, it acted as an observer in the destruction of 33,421 anti-personnel mines in northern Peru, a first step to the destruction of 310,000 landmines. The Centre collaborated with, among others, the UN Mine Action Service to organize a workshop (Lima, 31 May-1 June) on international mine action standards, intended to assist in the develop-

ment and amendment of national mine action standards in the region.

The Centre also undertook activities relating to the 2001 UN Conference on small arms and participated in information and training events within and outside the region, including seminars, conferences, workshops and symposiums.

As at 31 December 2000, the balance of the Trust Fund for the Centre totalled \$61,608.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 29 November [meeting 68], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/56/537], adopted **resolution 56/25 E** without vote [agenda item 75 (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 and 55/34 E of 20 November 2000,

*Underlining* the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru to that end and the appointment of the Director of the Centre by the Secretary-General,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General, which concludes that the Regional Centre has launched projects aimed at furthering the understanding of the relationship between security and development, enhanced the role of the United Nations as a regional catalyst for activities on peace and disarmament and acted as a politically neutral platform for discussions on security and development issues,

*Noting* the agreement between the Regional Centre and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission to strengthen their cooperation with respect to their mutual interest in reducing firearms trafficking and related activities among States under their respective mandates, as well as to strengthen the capacity of those countries to deal with those problems,

*Noting also* 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,

*Bearing in mind* the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

*Also bearing in mind* the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

*Recognizing* the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources 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 vast range of activities carried out last year;

3. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to continue to provide assistance for the States of the region in all issues related to disarmament, including the effective implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and, in this connection, welcomes the holding of a regional seminar in Santiago, from 19 to 21 November 2001;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

5. *Invites* all States of the region to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to

fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development, and supports the role that the Regional Centre plays to promote those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

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

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".