

6. *Urges* the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to build on the agreements achieved at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly as noted in paragraph 5 above, and in this connection actively to consider the possibility of organizing an annual seminar/symposium covering issues relating to the environment, commencing in 1994, with international participation as wide as possible, including that of international organizations such as the United Nations;

7. *Also urges* the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to establish monitoring and implementation mechanisms to ensure compliance with the provisions of the 1991 Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection;

8. *Reiterates its call*, in welcoming the ban on prospecting and mining in and around Antarctica for the next fifty years by Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in accordance with the Madrid Protocol, for the ban to be made permanent;

9. *Also reiterates its call* that any move at drawing up an international convention to establish a nature reserve or world park in Antarctica and its dependent and associated ecosystems must be negotiated with the full participation of the international community;

10. *Reaffirms*, while welcoming the concrete steps taken by the Secretariat through the publication on Antarctica by the Department of Public Information, the need to promote further public awareness of the importance of Antarctica to the ecosystem, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide relevant materials on Antarctica through the Department of Public Information within existing resources;

11. *Encourages* the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to increase the level of cooperation and collaboration with a view to reducing the number of scientific stations in Antarctica and to handle tourism effectively through transparent environmental impact assessment studies;

12. *Urges* the international community to ensure that all activities in Antarctica are carried out exclusively for the purpose of peaceful scientific investigation and that all such activities will ensure the maintenance of international peace and security and the protection of the Antarctic environment and are for the benefit of all mankind;

13. *Urges* all States Members of the United Nations to cooperate with the Secretary-General on matters pertaining to Antarctica;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".

*81st plenary meeting  
16 December 1993*

**48/81. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including its resolution 47/58 of 9 December 1992,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

*Recognizing* the efforts realized so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security,

*Recognizing also* the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

*Recognizing further* that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, particularly in Europe and in the Middle East,

*Aware* of the recent positive developments in the Middle East peace process,

*Expressing its satisfaction* at the growing awareness of the need for joint efforts by all Mediterranean countries so as to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respect the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,<sup>86</sup>

*Expressing its concern* at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on this item,<sup>87</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the efforts by the Mediterranean countries in the continuation of initiatives and negotiations as well as the adoption of measures that will promote confidence- and security-building as well as disarmament in the Mediterranean region, and encourages them to pursue these efforts further;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development as well as other obstacles in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries;

5. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in facing the terrorist activities, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation;

6. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta in September 1992, concerning the Mediterranean;<sup>49</sup>

7. *Takes note also* of the "Helsinki Document 1992 - The Challenges of Change",<sup>88</sup> adopted in July 1992, whereby the heads of State or Government of the States participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe agreed, *inter alia*, to widen their cooperation and enlarge their dialogue with the non-participating Mediterranean States as a means to promote social and economic development, thereby enhancing stability in the region, in order to narrow the prosperity gap between Europe and its Mediterranean neighbours and protect the Mediterranean ecosystems;

8. *Takes note further* of the references concerning the Mediterranean region in paragraphs 37 and 38 of the communiqué adopted at the meeting of the Heads of Government of the countries of the Commonwealth, held at Limassol, Cyprus, from 21 to 25 October 1993;<sup>89</sup>

9. *Recalls* the decisions taken by the Second Ministerial Meeting of the Western Mediterranean Countries, held at Algiers in October 1991, and the decision concerning the forthcoming summit meeting of the Western Mediterranean countries to be held at Tunis;

10. *Recalls also* the final declaration adopted at the first regular session of the Presidential Council of the Arab Maghreb Union, held at Tunis in January 1990;<sup>90</sup>

11. *Recalls further* the Declaration of the European Council of Ministers on relations between Europe and the Maghreb,<sup>91</sup> issued at Lisbon on 25 June 1992, which underlines the views of the European Community and its member States on the principles and measures capable of strengthening stability and security and encouraging economic, social and cultural progress in the region;

12. *Takes note* of the final report of the international symposium on the future of the Mediterranean region, held at Tunis in November 1992;

13. *Notes* the seminar on the Mediterranean of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, held at Valletta in May 1993, as well as the two seminars held under

the auspices of the Western European Union at Madrid in October 1992 and at Rome in March 1993, dealing respectively with security and cooperation in the Western Mediterranean and with the southern dimension of European security;

14. *Recalls* the conclusions and recommendations of the first Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean,<sup>92</sup> held at Malaga, Spain, in June 1992, which, *inter alia*, launched a pragmatic process of cooperation that would gradually gain in strength and coverage, generate a positive and irreversible momentum and facilitate the settlement of disputes;

15. *Encourages* the continued widespread support among Mediterranean countries for the convening of a conference on security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, as well as the ongoing regional consultations to create the appropriate conditions for its convening;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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16 December 1993

#### 48/82. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolution 47/59 of 9 December 1992 and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* the report on the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,<sup>93</sup>

*Recalling further* paragraphs 15 and 16 of chapter III of the Final Document adopted by the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta in September 1992,<sup>49</sup>

*Noting* that great-Power rivalry is being replaced by a new and welcome phase of confidence, trust and cooperation, and that the improved international political environment following the end of the cold war has created favourable opportunities to renew comprehensive multilateral and regional efforts towards the realization of the goals of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

*Welcoming* the positive developments in international political relations, which offer opportunities for enhancing peace, security and cooperation and which have been reflected in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the freedom of navigation in the high seas, including in the Indian Ocean, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,<sup>94</sup>