Desirous of ensuring the implementation of the provisions of paragraphs 60 to 63 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly.

Calling upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

Bearing in mind the provisions of resolutions CM/Res.1342 (LIV) and CM/Res.1395 (LVI) Rev.1 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its fifty-fourth and fifty-sixth ordinary sessions, held at Abuja in May and June 1991 and at Dakar in June 1992, respectively,

Noting that the Government of South Africa acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 10 July 1991 and that it concluded a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency, which entered into force on 16 September 1991, and committed itself to early and full implementation of that agreement,

Noting also the announcement by South Africa that it had voluntarily abandoned its nuclear deterrent capability before accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and its standing invitation to the Agency to inspect past nuclear-weapon-programme activities and facilities and to verify its disclosure,

Recalling resolution G(XXXVII)/RES/625 on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone, adopted on 1 October 1993 by the General Conference of the Agency,

Stressing that the full disclosure of South Africa’s nuclear installations and materials is essential to the peace and security of the region and to the success of the commendable efforts exerted by the African States towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa,

Welcoming the progress made at the Third Meeting of the Group of Experts to Draw up a Draft Treaty or Convention on the Denuclearization of Africa, which was organized by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and held at Harare from 5 to 8 April 1993,

1. Takes note of the report of the Third Meeting of the Group of Experts to Draw up a Draft Treaty or Convention on the Denuclearization of Africa;

2. Reaffirms that the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity would be an important measure to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security;

3. Strongly renews its call upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

4. Takes note of the report of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the Agency’s verification activities in South Africa;

5. Calls upon South Africa to continue to comply fully with the implementation of its safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency;

6. Commends the Secretary-General for the diligence with which he has rendered effective assistance to the Organization of African Unity in organizing the meetings of the above-mentioned Group of Experts;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to take appropriate action to enable the Group of Experts designated by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity to meet during 1994 at Windhoek and Addis Ababa, in order to finalize the drafting of a treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, and to submit the text of the treaty to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session under an agenda item entitled “Final text of a treaty on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone”;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the progress made by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency in ensuring the full implementation of the safeguards agreement with South Africa.

81st plenary meeting
16 December 1993

48/87. Rationalization of the work of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, particularly paragraph 2 thereof, in which the Chairman of the First Committee was requested to continue his consultations on the further rationalization of the work and the effective functioning of the Committee, taking into account all the views and proposals presented to the Committee, including those related to the thematic clustering of agenda items,

Recalling also the ongoing efforts of the General Assembly aimed at revitalizing its work, and recalling further its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993,

Mindful that the United Nations has a central role and responsibility in the sphere of disarmament and international security,

Recalling the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, and the objectives and priorities set out therein, as well as the progress achieved in arms control and disarmament towards these ends,

Encouraged by the changed political climate in the post-cold-war era, which is conducive to further bilateral, regional and multilateral efforts in disarmament, and aware of the consequent need to adjust the work of the United Nations, including that concerned with disarmament and international security,

Desiring to enhance the effective functioning of the disarmament machinery of the United Nations,
Conscious of the need to improve the interrelationship between disarmament and arms regulation issues and the broader international security context,

Encouraged by the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to strengthen the Secretariat’s capabilities to enable it to discharge its tasks effectively,

1. Decides to enhance the effectiveness of the First Committee by:

(a) Addressing in a more systematic manner the issues of disarmament and related matters of international security;

(b) Streamlining its functioning and, as a first step towards that end, encouraging more detailed and focused discussion of the specific agenda items;

(c) Reviewing annually the time and resources allotted for its work;

2. Decides also, in relation to the restructuring and reorganization of the annual agenda of the First Committee, to adopt, in order to promote more detailed and focused discussions, a thematic approach whereby items presented by Member States are clustered in broad topic areas, such as:

(a) Nuclear weapons;

(b) Other weapons of mass destruction;

(c) Conventional weapons;

(d) Regional disarmament and security;

(e) Confidence-building measures, including transparency in armaments;

(f) Outer space (disarmament aspects);

(g) Disarmament machinery;

(h) Other disarmament measures;

(i) International security;

(j) Related matters of disarmament and international security;

3. Requests the Chairman of the First Committee to continue consultations on the further rationalization of the work of the Committee in terms of improving its effective functioning, taking into account relevant resolutions adopted by the Committee, as well as views and proposals presented to it on this issue;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to provide the appropriate means and adequate resources to the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat in order to ensure that it can carry out its mandated tasks, in particular those relating to deliberation and negotiation, taking into account existing resource constraints, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

5. Decides to review the question of further rationalization and improvement of the work of the First Committee at its forty-ninth session.

81st plenary meeting
16 December 1993

NOTES

1 Resolution S-10/2.

2 The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev.1).


4 The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 15: 1990 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IX.8), appendix III.


6 In paragraph 4 of its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, the General Assembly decided that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme.

7 A/46/506.


9 See BWC/CONF.III/23.

10 Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

11 BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.
III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

12 See resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex, article X.


14 See A/45/568.

15 A/45/568.

16 A/47/555.


18 Ibid., para. 31.

19 A/48/360.


23 A/C.1/47/7.


25 The Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IX.11).


28 On 26 August 1969, the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament decided to change its name to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. That negotiating body 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.


31 A/48/381, annex.


33 A/48/399.


35 A/45/435.

36 A/48/256.

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


39 Ibid., Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

40 Ibid., Forty-seventh Session. Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27), sect. III.F.


Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.


United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.


A/48/400.

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8, para. 35.

*The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook,* vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.

See A/43/398, annex I.

See A/44/603, annex I.


Ibid., *Thirty-fourth Regular Session,* 17-21 September 1990 (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)).

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.

See A/46/390, annex I.


Resolution 46/36 L, annex.

A/48/344 and Add.1.

A/48/324.


A/48/412.

A/48/469.


A/33/305.

See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings,* 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

A/48/326.
III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

70 A/48/325.
71 See A/CONF.170/L.2.
72 See resolution 45/62 A, annex.
73 A/48/358.
74 A/CN.10/137 of 27 April 1990.
76 See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.
77 A/48/389.
78 See A/45/474, annex.
80 A/46/708, annex, communiqué, para. 44.
82 A/48/482.
83 A/48/449.
86 Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.
87 A/48/514 and Add.1.
89 A/48/564, annex.
90 A/45/110, annex.
91 A/47/310, annex.
92 See A/C.1/47/8, annex, appendix.
97 A/47/467, annex.
99 See A/47/558, annex I.

100 A/48/339, annex I.


102 A/48/339, annex II, appendix I.