

tension and crisis, as an instrument for peaceful settlement of conflicts;

5. *Calls upon*, in particular, all States in whose regions military tensions exist, or armed conflicts occur, to make the best possible use of confidence-building measures, among other appropriate activities and if needed in cooperation with other States, to ease tensions and to contribute to peacemaking and peace-building;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to collect relevant information from all Member States;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Confidence-building measures".

90th plenary meeting
15 December 1994

49/78. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the relevant United Nations resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is GC(XXXVIII)/RES/21 of 23 September 1994,¹⁹ and noting the danger of nuclear proliferation, especially in areas of tension,

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

Aware of the importance that all nuclear facilities in the region be placed under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Encouraged by the recent positive developments in the Middle East peace process, which would be further strengthened by States of the region undertaking practical confidence-building measures in order to consolidate the non-proliferation regime,

1. *Calls upon* Israel and all other States of the region that are not yet party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons¹⁵ not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to accede to the Treaty;

2. *Calls upon* the States of the region that have not done so to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

90th plenary meeting
15 December 1994

49/79. 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 resolutions 32/152 of 19 December 1977, 35/153 of 12 December 1980, 36/93 of 9 December 1981, 37/79 of 9

December 1982, 38/66 of 15 December 1983, 39/56 of 12 December 1984, 40/84 of 12 December 1985, 41/50 of 3 December 1986, 42/30 of 30 November 1987, 43/67 of 7 December 1988, 45/64 of 4 December 1990, 46/40 of 6 December 1991, 47/56 of 9 December 1992 and 48/79 of 16 December 1993,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,⁴³ together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),⁴³ the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)⁴³ and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),⁴³

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

Noting with satisfaction that, the conditions set forth in article 5 of the Convention having been met, the Convention and the three Protocols annexed thereto entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Recalling also the commitment by the States that are parties to the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto to respect the objectives and the provisions thereof,

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 the existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

Noting with satisfaction that a group of governmental experts has been established to prepare a conference to review the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto in conformity with article 8, paragraph 3, of the Convention,

Also noting with satisfaction that the group of governmental experts has held three meetings in 1994, making significant progress, with priority given to the question of anti-personnel land-mines,⁷²

Noting also that the group of governmental experts and other international meetings have discussed possible restrictions on the use of other weapon categories at present not covered by the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto.

Reaffirming its conviction that a general and verifiable agreement on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons would significantly reduce the suffering of civilians and combatants,

Desirous of reinforcing international cooperation in the area of prohibitions or restrictions on the use of certain conventional weapons, in particular for the removal of minefields, mines and booby traps,

Noting in this respect its resolutions 48/7 and 49/215 on assistance in mine clearance,

1. *Registers its satisfaction* with the reports of the Secretary-General;⁷³

2. *Welcomes* the fact that additional States have signed, ratified or accepted the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions

⁷² See A/49/275.

⁷³ A/49/421, A/49/275 and Add.1 and A/49/357 and Add.1.

on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, which was opened for signature in New York on 10 April 1981, or have acceded to the Convention;

3. *Urgently calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention and upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately access to this instrument will be universal;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the three Protocols annexed thereto, to continue to inform it periodically of accessions to the Convention and the Protocols;

5. *Welcomes* the request made by States parties on 22 December 1993 that the Secretary-General convene at an appropriate time, in accordance with article 8, paragraph 3, of the Convention, a conference to review the Convention, and establish a group of governmental experts to prepare the review conference;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the group of governmental experts in reviewing the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II) and in discussing other weapon categories at present not covered by the Convention;

7. *Takes note* of the decisions by the group of governmental experts to hold an additional meeting at Geneva from 9 to 20 January 1995 and to request the Secretary-General to convene the review conference at Geneva during the period from 25 September to 13 October 1995;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue furnishing needed assistance and to ensure the provision of services to the group of governmental experts and to the conference to review the Convention;

9. *Again calls upon* the maximum number of States to attend the conference, to which the States parties may invite interested non-governmental organizations, in particular the International Committee of the Red Cross;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth 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".

90th plenary meeting
15 December 1994

49/80. Question of Antarctica

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Question of Antarctica",

Taking into account the debates on this item held since its thirty-eighth session,

Reaffirming the interest of the international community in information on Antarctica,

Welcoming the provision by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to the Secretary-General of the final report of the Eighteenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting,⁷⁴ held at Kyoto, Japan, from 11 to 22 April 1994,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, including for international peace and

security, the global and regional environment, its effects on global and regional climate conditions, and scientific research,

Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international cooperation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Recognizing that the Antarctic Treaty,⁷⁵ which provides, *inter alia*, for the demilitarization of the continent, the prohibition of nuclear explosions and the disposal of nuclear wastes, the freedom of scientific research and the free exchange of scientific information, is in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Conscious also of the interrelationship between Antarctica and the physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system,

Taking into account the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, adopted by the Antarctic Treaty Parties at Madrid on 4 October 1991,

Welcoming the designation, in the Protocol, of Antarctica as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science and the procedures contained in the Protocol regarding the protection of the Antarctic environment and dependent and associated ecosystems in the planning and conduct of all activities in Antarctica,

Commending the prohibition on mineral resource activities contained in the Protocol,

Welcoming the recognition by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of the value of Antarctica as an area for the conduct of scientific research, in particular research essential to understanding the global environment,⁷⁶

Welcoming also the continuing cooperation among countries undertaking scientific research activities in Antarctica, which may help to minimize human impacts on the Antarctic environment,

Welcoming further the increasing awareness of an interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

Affirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on Antarctica⁷⁷ and of the report of the Eighteenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting,⁷⁴

2. *Welcomes* the practice whereby the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties regularly provide the Secretary-General with information on their consultative meetings and on their activities in Antarctica, encourages the Parties to continue to provide to the Secretary-General and other interested States information on developments in relation to Antarctica, and requests the Secretary-General to submit that information in a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

⁷⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

⁷⁶ See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1))* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.L.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II, chap. 17, para. 17.104.

⁷⁴ See A/49/370.

⁷⁷ A/49/370.