Chapter VII

Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament, the principal United Nations negotiating forum on the issue, in 2009 overcame years of deadlock and agreed on an agenda jump-starting its work, as the Russian Federation and the United States, the two largest nuclear-weapon powers, committed themselves to disarmament in accordance with their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). However, as the year progressed, the Conference was unable to implement its agenda, revealing rifts among Member States on nuclear issues. The Disarmament Commission, which started a fresh three-year cycle, also agreed on a work programme aimed at achieving consensus on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, declaring a fourth disarmament decade and developing confidence-building measures in conventional weapons. However, progress was small, as seen also in a related postponement by the General Assembly of a decision to convene a fourth special session on disarmament.

United States President Barack Obama in September chaired the Security Council’s first summit on nuclear disarmament, attended by 13 heads of State and Government who called on NPT parties to comply fully with their obligations and on countries outside the Treaty to accede to it. The summit also called for a ban on nuclear testing and fissile material production. However, multilateral negotiations in both areas were sluggish. Though three more countries ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), bringing the parties to 151, nine States held back ratifications, preventing the Treaty’s entry into force. Meanwhile, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea—a CTBT non-signatory—conducted a second underground nuclear test in violation of Council resolution 1718(2006). The International Atomic Energy Agency continued its efforts to verify the peaceful nature of Iran’s nuclear programme and investigated allegations of a destroyed nuclear reactor in the Syrian Arab Republic. While negotiations on the scope of a treaty banning production of fissile material and verification measures were no longer controversial, national security concerns stalled progress, as delegations faced the question whether a treaty should cover existing stockpiles.

The entry into force of the central Asian and African nuclear-weapon-free zones spurred non-proliferation in those regions, while discussions on establishing a similar zone free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East made little headway. The three regional centres for peace and disarmament continued to fulfil their mandates despite budgetary constraints.

On conventional weapons, the General Assembly decided to meet in 2012 to begin work on a treaty to reinforce licit trade and stamp down illicit trade in small arms.

The year marked the tenth anniversary of the Convention banning anti-personnel mines, and countries agreed on the Cartagena Declaration—a shared commitment for a mine-free world. By the end of the year, the Convention on Cluster Munitions was four ratifications short for entry into force. Three more States either ratified or acceded to the chemical weapons Convention, but in a climate of concern that the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for destruction of all categories of chemical weapons in the world might not be met.

The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters discussed cyberwarfare, noting that in the area of dual use it shared similarities with biological and chemical warfare. The Secretary-General issued his first report on promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence. He said that young men were most often the perpetrators and victims of armed violence—which was the consequence of underdevelopment—while women, girls and boys suffered most from acute forms of sexual violence.

To enhance public awareness about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions and the need for their cessation, the General Assembly declared 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

UN machinery

Disarmament issues before the United Nations were considered mainly through the Security Council, the General Assembly and its First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee, the Disarmament Commission (a deliberative body) and the Conference on Disarmament (a multilateral negotiating forum meeting in Geneva). The Organization also maintained efforts to engage civil society organizations concerned with disarmament issues.

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs provided substantive and organizational support to UN bodies, fostered disarmament measures and disseminated impartial and up-to-date information.
The General Assembly, by decision 64/549 of 24 December, decided that the agenda item on general and complete disarmament would remain for consideration during its resumed sixty-fourth (2010) session.

Advancing the disarmament agenda

In his annual report on the work of the Organization [A/64/1], the Secretary-General noted that the world continued to face the twin risks from weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), especially nuclear weapons, their geographical spread, and possible acquisition by non-State actors and terrorists; and from the destabilizing accumulation and proliferation of conventional arms, which remained a security threat.

The momentum towards a world free from nuclear weapons had materialized in a variety of initiatives, including by civil society, nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States alike, but chiefly by the joint understanding for a follow-on agreement to the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I) resulting from the talks held in July in Moscow between President Barack Obama of the United States and President Dmitry Medvedev of the Russian Federation.

The second nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea on 25 May (see p. 384) required global action and highlighted the need for the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (see p. 512). The Secretary-General also expressed concerns about the nuclear programme of Iran (see p. 394), which had a responsibility to establish confidence in the programme’s exclusively peaceful nature.

In May, the Conference on Disarmament (see p. 498) reached an agreement on its programme of work, ending the stalemate that had virtually paralysed the world’s single multilateral negotiating body on disarmament for more than a decade.

In the area of conventional weapons, combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons remained one of the priorities of the Organization, and the Secretary-General called on Member States to negotiate and adopt a legally binding treaty on the import, export and transfer of conventional arms. After the success of the Mine-Ban Convention (see p. 553), the United Nations supported efforts for the entry into force of the new Convention on Cluster Munitions [ibid.], which had opened for signature in Oslo, Norway, in December 2008.

UN Office for Disarmament Affairs

Since its establishment in 2007 [YUN 2007, p. 524], the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) provided support for norm-setting in the area of disarmament through the work of the General Assembly and its First Committee, the Disarmament Commission, the Conference on Disarmament and other bodies. It fostered disarmament measures, encouraged regional disarmament efforts and provided information on multilateral disarmament issues and activities. The Office reinforced the advocacy potential of the Organization in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, for example through the sixty-second Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Annual Conference (Mexico City, 9–11 September), which addressed the theme “For Peace and Development: Disarm Now” (see p. 564), and the launch of the “WMD-WeMustDisarm” campaign [ibid.] in support of nuclear disarmament. Under the leadership of the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, the Office enhanced its engagement and cooperation with Member States, intergovernmental organizations and civil society.

UNODA carried out activities in support of multilateral efforts on disarmament and the non-proliferation of WMDs, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as in support of conventional disarmament, especially with regard to major weapons systems, small arms and light weapons, landmines and cluster munitions. Through its regional centres for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, the Office contributed to generating a more active involvement in disarmament and non-proliferation issues of regional and subregional stakeholders.

An important area of UNODA activities involved information dissemination, including raising public awareness of disarmament and non-proliferation issues, and maintaining close liaison with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, other research and educational institutions outside the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/95 [YUN 2006, p. 679], UNODA issued its flagship publication, The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook [Sales No. E.10.IX.1], in hard copy and on the UNODA website, continued the production of its quarterly e-publication, UNODA Update, and published four Occasional Papers.

Fourth special session devoted to disarmament

As in previous years, no progress was made in 2009 towards the convening of a fourth special session devoted to disarmament. Previously, the General Assembly had held three special sessions devoted to the subject—in 1978, 1982 and 1988. Only the first special session succeeded in producing a final document. The Assembly had been calling for a fourth special session since 1996 [YUN 1996, p. 447]. In 2002
it established a Working Group [YUN 2002, p. 487] to discuss the agenda and the possibility of establishing a preparatory committee for a fourth session. In 2006 [YUN 2006, p. 611], the Assembly established an open-ended group to consider objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of a preparatory committee.

By resolution 62/29 [YUN 2007, p. 526], the Assembly mandated the reconvening of the Working Group and requested it to submit a report, including possible substantive recommendations, to the Assembly’s sixty-second session. However, as the Group did not convene its organizational or substantive sessions during the year, the Assembly in 2008 decided [YUN 2008, p. 561] to continue work on convening the Group as soon as possible. With no related resolution adopted during its sixty-third session, the Assembly, by decision 64/515 of 2 December, included the item on convening the fourth special session in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth (2010) session.

Disarmament Commission

The Disarmament Commission, comprising all UN Member States, in 2009 was able to agree on a substantive agenda, but not on recommendations for achieving nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, nor on elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade. The Commission held 12 plenary meetings in the first session (New York, 13 April–1 May) [A/64/42] of its new three-year cycle of deliberations. The main agenda items were recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, addressed by the Commission’s Working Group I; elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, addressed by its Working Group II; and practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons, which was to be taken up upon the conclusion of the work of Working Group II on the elements of the draft declaration. Working Group I had six meetings from 22 to 29 April, holding extensive discussions on its agenda items. Working Group II held nine meetings between 20 and 30 April, exchanging views on a non-paper of the Chairman [A/CN.10/2009/WG.II/CRP.1], which was later revised twice to reflect the views and proposals expressed by delegations [A/CN.10/2009/WG.II/CRP.1/Rev.1 & 2]. Working Group II decided to continue the consideration of the revised non-paper at the Commission’s 2010 session. At its final meeting on 1 May, the Commission adopted its 2009 report to the General Assembly.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/393], adopted resolution 64/65 without vote [agenda item 98 (b)].

Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly.

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,


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,

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

2. Reaffirms the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. Recalls its resolution 61/98, by which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the Commission’s methods of work;

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

5. Also reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

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

7. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2010:

(a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;
(b) Elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade;
(c) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons. This item will be taken up upon the conclusion of the preparation of the elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, preferably by 2010 and in any case no later than 2011;
8. Requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2010, namely from 29 March to 16 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;
9. 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 sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;
10. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;
11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Report of the Disarmament Commission”.

Conference on Disarmament

The Conference on Disarmament, the Organization’s sole multilateral disarmament negotiating body, held 45 formal and 20 informal plenary meetings in a three-part session in 2009 (Geneva, 19 January–27 March, 18 May–3 July, 3 August–18 September) [A/64/27].

As in previous years, the Conference’s agenda included 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 WMDs and new systems of such weapons; a comprehensive programme of disarmament; and transparency in armaments.

The Secretary-General addressed the Conference at its meeting of 19 May [CD/PV.1135], referring to the new momentum for disarmament provided by a number of initiatives by States and their leaders, as well as to his five-point proposal [YUN 2008, p. 565] to revitalize the international disarmament agenda. He urged the Conference to seize the opportunity to move the disarmament agenda forward and called on the Conference to play its proper role as the world’s single multilateral negotiation body on disarmament. To facilitate the work of the Conference, the 2009 Presidents appointed seven Coordinators who chaired informal meetings on the agenda items and reported to the Presidents on their results, which were transmitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference.

On 29 May, the Conference ended its decade-long stalemate by adopting a programme of work [CD/1864] that provided for negotiations on a treaty to prohibit the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other explosive devices and allowed for substantive discussions on three other priority issues—assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons, prevention of an arms race in outer space and nuclear disarmament. The Conference, however, failed to achieve consensus on modalities for implementing the work programme and was thus unable to progress further during the remainder of its 2009 session.

On 13 March [CD/1859], the Russian Federation transmitted to the Conference the statement by its President on the conclusion of an agreement with the United States to succeed START I. On 27 March [CD/1860], France transmitted a letter concerning the visit to the former military facilities at Pierrelatte and Marcoule. On 20 April [CD/1861, CD/1862], the Russian Federation and the United States transmitted the Joint Statement by President Medvedev and President Obama regarding negotiations on further reductions in strategic offensive arms, made in London on 1 April. On 13 July [CD/1868], Italy transmitted the “L’Aquila statement on non-proliferation” adopted by the heads of State and Government of G8 member countries during the G8 Summit (L’Aquila, Italy, 8 July). On 16 July [CD/1869], the United States and the Russian Federation transmitted the “Joint Understanding for further reductions and limitations of Strategic Offensive Arms”, signed by Presidents Obama and Medvedev in Moscow on 6 July. On 12 August [CD/1871], Pakistan transmitted a press release issued by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs entitled “Pakistan subscribes to the goals of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation”. On 25 August [CD/1875], Egypt transmitted the introduction and the section on disarmament and international security of the Final Document of the XV Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement (Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 11–16 July). On 16 September [CD/1878], Canada, Japan and the Netherlands transmitted the “draft for discussion prepared by the International Panel on Fissile Materials: A treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, with article-by-article explanations”, of 2 September.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/393), adopted resolution 64/64 without vote [agenda item 98 (a)].
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,

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

Recognizing the address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

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

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

Considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

Acknowledging the support of the United Nations Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, for the work of the Conference on Disarmament,

Bearing in mind the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 29 May 2009 to establish four working groups and appoint three special coordinators, including one working group under agenda item 1 entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, which shall negotiate a 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 of 1995 and the mandate contained therein, without prescribing or precluding any outcome of discussions in the other three working groups, with a view to enabling future compromise and including the possibility of future negotiations under any agenda item, thus upholding the nature of the Conference,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2009 session,

Recognizing the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament,

Taking note of significant contributions made during the 2009 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Welcoming the enhanced engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament at its 2009 session according to decisions taken by the Conference,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2010 session,

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

2. Welcomes the consensus adoption of a programme of work for the 2009 session of the Conference on Disarmament, including the establishment of four working groups and the appointment of three special coordinators;

3. Takes note of the active discussions held on the implementation of the programme of work at the 2009 session of the Conference on Disarmament, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings;

4. Welcomes the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference on Disarmament, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. Requests all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work, including negotiations, in its 2010 session;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

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

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Report of the Conference on Disarmament”.

UN role in disarmament

Disarmament and development

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/52 [YUN 2008, p. 634], the Secretary-General in July reported [A/64/153] on trends to further strengthen within the United Nations the relationship between disarmament and development. The report contained information received from Cuba, Lebanon, Panama, the Philippines and Qatar on measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development. The Secretary-General noted that some examples of the UN focus on disarmament and development included the broad approach to the issue of small arms which he presented to the Security Council in 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 613]; the emphasis on a comprehensive approach in mine action; and the support by the United Nations to the Convention on Cluster Munitions [ibid., p. 623]. Member States themselves were giving increased attention to the relationship between disarmament and development within the UN framework. Earlier in the year, they embarked on discus-
sions on a possible arms trade treaty (see p. 544). The Council in 2008 held a debate on collective security and armament regulation that led to a presidential statement [ibid., p. 592] on the Council’s concern about increasing global military expenditure. The Council urged States to devote as many resources as possible to economic and social development, in particular to the fight against poverty and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Member States since 1981 had been providing information on their military spending through the Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures. Another example of the increased attention to the relationship between disarmament and development within the United Nations, the Secretary-General noted, was Assembly resolution 63/23, on “Promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence” [ibid., p. 635]. Those developments illustrated the commitment of the United Nations to promote an interrelated perspective on disarmament and development, in accordance with the action programme of the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development [YUN 1987, p. 82].

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/32 without vote [agenda item 96 (6)].

**Relationship between disarmament and development**

*The General Assembly,*

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

*Recalling also* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development, as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,


*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,

*Mindful* of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

*Bearing in mind* the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

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

*Recalling* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

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

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

3. *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;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2010, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

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

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts 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;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

Promoting development through reduction of armed violence

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/23 [YUN 2008, p. 635], the Secretary-General, following consultations with Member States, UN agencies, funds and programmes and the three UN regional centres for peace and disarmament (see p. 568), reported in August [A/64/228] on the relation between armed violence and development.

The report said that the risk factors and effects of armed violence were often similar, with young men making up the majority of perpetrators and victims of such violence. In some armed conflicts, women, girls and boys suffered from acute forms of sexual violence. Weak institutions, systemic inequalities, exclusion of minority groups, unequal gender relations, limited education opportunities, persistent unemployment, organized crime and illicit markets, as well as the availability of firearms, alcohol and drugs, shaped the onset, duration and severity of armed violence. The report stressed the need to tackle the risks and effects of armed violence and underdevelopment. That included implementing conventions and agreements associated with armed violence and development; improving the effectiveness of prevention and reduction policies through investment in the production, analysis and use of evidence; strengthening capacities to diagnose, articulate strategies and implement programmes; developing measurable goals, targets and indicators for armed violence prevention and reduction; building partnerships within the UN system and with regional organizations, national authorities and civil society; increasing resources for prevention and reduction; and fostering greater international action.

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, which advised the Secretary-General and served as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), held its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions (New York, 18–20 February; Geneva, 1–3 July) [A/64/286], discussing cyberwarfare and its impact on international security and ways to strengthen nuclear verification, including the role of the United Nations. At its July session, the Board also discussed “Conceptual issues leading up to the 2010 NPT Review Conference”, in view of developments in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation prior to the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

On cyberwarfare and its impact on international security, the Board’s deliberations showed that cyberwarfare remained a complex issue that had a significant impact on national, international and human security; while qualitatively different from biological or chemical weapons, in particular in the area of dual use, it shared similarities with them. The Board debated whether cyberwarfare was a disarmament/arms control issue or a law enforcement issue. Some members were of the view that cyberwarfare should be addressed within the context of arms control rather than disarmament. The Board discussed the need to distinguish between hostile and non-hostile cyberattackers, but several members stressed that Governments should not infringe upon civil liberties in their efforts to prevent cyberattacks. The Board also discussed the creation of social norms in cyberspace, but doubts were expressed as to whether such norm-setting would be possible in view of the gap in information technology capabilities among States. The Board recommended that the Secretary-General raise awareness among Governments and the general public of the emerging risks and threats related to cyberwarfare.

With regard to strengthening verification, including the role of the United Nations, the Board stressed that, in order for verification processes to be successful, they should be perceived as independent by all countries. Some Board members stressed that verification mechanisms were worthless if there were no ways to act against potential violators. Members emphasized the importance of taking into account the difference between making a deliberate choice for non-compliance and the lack of capability for compliance by a State. In connection with the verification of a fissile material cut-off treaty, many members said that it was important to address the meaning and scope of the treaty; which multilateral institution should undertake the verification; whether there should be separate international instruments for verification or whether internationally verifiable measures should be included in the basic instrument; and the costs involved. Mention was made of the need for a verification system to be legally binding. The Board recommended that the Secretary-General encourage Member States to provide feedback on all verification studies for lessons learned, and for a better understanding that a “one-size-fits-all” approach in the field of verification could be counterproductive. The Board also felt that, although the United Nations had primary responsibility in dealing with international peace and security, it could consider a role for regional organizations in verification matters.

On conceptual issues leading up to the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the Board in July recommended that the Secretary-General continue to provide his strong support for the positive political momentum in bilateral and multilateral nuclear disarmament
and non-proliferation through diplomatic channels and public statements, and encourage States to ratify the Additional Protocols of the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Board also recommended that, given new developments since the Secretary-General’s proposed five-point plan, he might consider advancing an updated version of the plan.

In its capacity as the UNIDIR Board of Trustees, the Advisory Board adopted the Institute’s 2009 programme and budget and approved for submission to the General Assembly the report of the Institute’s Director on activities from August 2008 to July 2009, as well as the proposed programme of work and budget for 2009–2010. The Board also recommended the granting of a continuing support for UNIDIR from the UN regular budget for the biennium 2010–2011.

**Multilateral disarmament agreements**

As at 31 December, the following number of States had become parties to the multilateral arms regulation and disarmament 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): 137 parties (two new parties)
- The Antarctic Treaty (1959): 47 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]: 105 parties
- Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (1967): 33 parties
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1968) [YUN 1968, p. 17, GA res. 2373(XXII), annex]: 190 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(XXV), annex]: 163 parties
- Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (1977) [YUN 1976, p. 45, GA res. 3172, annex]: 73 parties
- Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1979) [YUN 1979, p. 111, GA res. 34/68, annex]: 13 parties
- Treaty on Open Skies (1992): 34 parties (one new party)
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (1996): 151 parties (three new parties)
- Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (1997): 30 parties (one new party)
- Agreement on Adaptation of the cfe Treaty (1999): 4 parties

**Nuclear disarmament**

**Report of Secretary-General.** In response to General Assembly resolutions 63/46 [YUN 2008, p. 574], 63/47 [ibid., p. 565] and 63/49 [ibid., p. 583], the Secretary-General in July submitted a report on nuclear disarmament [A/64/139] in which he recalled his warning about the risk of proliferation of nuclear and other weapons and his setting of non-proliferation and disarmament as one of his six priorities for action. He reported that a new momentum for nuclear disarmament had been spurred on by additional calls for a world free of nuclear weapons made by former statesmen in the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany and Norway. Global initiatives of civil society, such as the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the World Institute for Nuclear Security and Global Zero, had also been launched.
The United States and the Russian Federation had both stated their commitment to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons in accordance with their disarmament obligations under NPT. In a joint statement on 1 April, Presidents Obama and Medvedev announced that they had decided to move further along the path of reducing and limiting strategic offensive arms in accordance with obligations of United States and Russia under article VI of NPT; and that they had decided to begin bilateral negotiations to work out a new, comprehensive, legally binding agreement on reducing and limiting strategic offensive arms to replace START, which was due to expire in December. Negotiations had begun, with meetings held in Washington, D.C., and Geneva in May and June.

In his 2008 address to an event at UN Headquarters hosted by the East-West Institute [YUN 2008, p. 565], the Secretary-General had put forward a five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament. He had urged all NPT parties, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to fulfil their Treaty obligations and undertake negotiations on effective measures leading to nuclear disarmament. He had encouraged States to make new efforts to bring the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) into force and called on the Conference on Disarmament to begin negotiations on a fissile material treaty immediately and without preconditions (see p. 509). He had expressed support for the entry into force of nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties and the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East. He had urged the nuclear-weapon States to assure non-nuclear-weapon States that they would not be the subject of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and underlined the need for further accountability and transparency with regard to nuclear disarmament measures.

Tangible progress had been made in several areas. The Treaty on a Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone had entered into force on 21 March. It was the first nuclear-weapon-free zone that required its parties to conclude with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and bring into force an additional protocol to their safeguards agreements within 18 months after the entry into force of the Treaty; and to comply fully with the provisions of CTBT. The African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty was close to entry into force, with only one additional State required to ratify it so as to reach the required number of 28. However, progress on the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East remained difficult.

The parties to NPT had concluded the third session of its Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference in New York on 15 May with an agreement on the provisional agenda and draft rules of procedure. However, deep differences persisted among parties on the three pillars of the Treaty—disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy—and the Committee could not reach agreement on substantive recommendations for the Review Conference. Nevertheless, States parties had cleared the path for the immediate start of substantive discussions at the 2010 Review Conference.

The Secretary-General welcomed the Conference on Disarmament’s agreement on its substantive programme of work for the 2009 session, after over a decade of stagnation and deadlock. That would allow the Conference to establish a working group to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. The Conference would also establish a working group on practical steps for progressive and systematic efforts to reduce nuclear weapons, with the ultimate goal of their elimination; a working group on the prevention of an arms race in outer space; and a working group to discuss international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

The Disarmament Commission had launched a new three-year cycle of deliberations in April. It had adopted an agenda that allowed for two working groups to be formed during the first year and the beginning of substantive deliberations on recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation; and elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, as mandated by the General Assembly. Discussions on those items would continue in 2010.

Progress was still slow, however, in some areas. CTBT had not entered into force because it lacked ratification by nine States listed in Annex 2 of the Treaty. In October 2008, the Secretary-General, as depository of the Treaty, had sent letters to the nine countries urging them to ratify it.

Nuclear-weapon States had continued to emphasize the importance of nuclear deterrence in their security policies. Complete nuclear disarmament was a precondition to ensuring regional peace and stability, preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons to non-State actors, making sure that all States possessing nuclear weapons—not just the five nuclear-weapon States—disarmed fully, and ensuring that the complete elimination of nuclear weapons from all arsenals was verifiable and irreversible. The Secretary-General noted that proposals for negotiating a universal nuclear-weapon convention were still referred to as premature.

On 25 May, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) had conducted a second underground nuclear test, in violation of Security Council resolution 1718(2006) [YUN 2006, p. 444]. The Council
condemned the test and on 12 June, by resolution 1874(2009) (see p. 384), it strengthened financial and arms-related sanctions and called on States to inspect cargo to and from the DPRK for prohibited items referred to in resolution 1718(2006). States were also called on to exercise vigilance over the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of small arms or light weapons.

IAEA continued its efforts to verify the peaceful nature of the nuclear programme of Iran (see p. 530). The Agency had also investigated allegations concerning a destroyed building at the Dair Alzour site in the Syrian Arab Republic and sought to clarify the presence of uranium particles there [ibid.].

The Secretary-General and the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs continued to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation globally through interaction with Governments and civil society.

Included in the report were replies from eight Member States—Cuba, El Salvador, Japan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mexico, Nicaragua and Qatar—to the Secretary-General’s invitation of February 2009 to inform him of measures they had taken with regard to the implementation of resolution 63/49 [YUN 2008, p. 583] concerning the follow-up to the International Court of Justice advisory opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (see p. 516).

Communication. On 8 May, Cuba, as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), transmitted the Final Document of the NAM Coordinating Bureau at its Ministerial Meeting (Havana, Cuba, 27–30 April) [A/63/858], which addressed disarmament and international security.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/37 by recorded vote (115-50-14) [agenda item 96 (j)].

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 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 de-alerting and de-targeting 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 a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States 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 the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

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

1. Calls for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through the de-alerting and de-targeting of nuclear weapons;

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

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

4. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 63/47 of 2 December 2008;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war, and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;
Chapter VII: Disarmament

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Reducing nuclear danger”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/37:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, 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, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.

Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,
Recalling the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and safe world, without nuclear weapons, and renewing the determination to do so,
Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,
Recalling its resolution 63/73 of 2 December 2008,
Convinced that every effort should be made to avoid nuclear war and nuclear terrorism,
Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, welcoming the results of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2010, the year of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, and noting the importance of achieving the success of the Review Conference,
Recalling the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,
Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,
Reaffirming that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, which is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,
Welcoming the recent global momentum of nuclear disarmament towards a world without nuclear weapons, which has been strengthened by concrete proposals and initiatives from political leaders of Member States, in particular by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, which currently together hold most of the nuclear weapons in the world,
Welcoming also the United Nations Security Council Summit on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, which confirmed the vision for a world without nuclear weapons,

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

Recognizing the importance of implementing Security Council resolution 1718(2006) of 14 October 2006 with regard to the nuclear test proclaimed by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea on 9 October 2006 and Council resolution 1874(2009) of 12 June 2009 with regard to the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea on 25 May 2009, while calling upon the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to return immediately and without preconditions to the Six-Party Talks, and reiterating strong support for the early resumption of the Talks,

1. Reaffirms the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty;

2. Stresses the importance of an effective Treaty review process, and calls upon all States parties to the Treaty to work together so that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons can successfully strengthen the Treaty regime and can establish effective and practical measures in all the Treaty’s three pillars;

3. Reaffirms the importance of the universality of the Treaty, and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms as well as to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

4. Encourages further steps leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with article VI of the Treaty, including deeper reductions in all types of nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of applying the principles of irreversibility and verifiability, as well as increased transparency, in a way that promotes international stability and undiminished security for all, in the process of working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to undertake reductions of nuclear weapons in a transparent manner, and invites all nuclear-weapon States to agree on transparency and confidence-building measures, while noting in this regard the increased transparency demonstrated by nuclear-weapon States on their nuclear arsenals, including the current number of their nuclear warheads;

6. Encourages the Russian Federation and the United States of America to fully implement the obligations under the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions and to undertake further steps in nuclear disarmament with greater transparency, including the conclusion of a legally binding successor to the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I), which is due to expire in December 2009, while welcoming the progress that has been made recently;

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

8. Calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take measures to reduce the risk of an accidental or unauthorized launch of nuclear weapons and to also consider further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security;

9. Stresses the necessity of a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination, in a way that promotes international stability and based on the principle of undiminished security for all;

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

11. Welcomes the adoption by the Conference on Disarmament of a programme of work for its 2009 session, and calls upon the Conference to start its substantive work when it convenes in January 2010, while taking into due consideration the increasing global momentum in favour of nuclear disarmament as well as progress and active engagement in deliberations at the Conference;

12. Calls for the immediate commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty at the 2010 session of the Conference on Disarmament and its early conclusion, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare and maintain moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of the treaty;

13. Calls upon all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

14. Stresses the importance of preventing nuclear terrorism, and encourages every effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear and radiological material;

15. Also stresses the importance of further efforts for non-proliferation, including the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements of the International Atomic Energy Agency to include States which have not yet adopted and implemented such an agreement, while also strongly encouraging further works for achieving the universalization of the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997, and the full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1540(2004) of 28 April 2004;

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

17. **Commends and further encourages** the constructive role played by civil society, including the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament;

18. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons”.

**RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/47:**

**In favour:** Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, 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, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Against:** Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, India.

**Abstaining:** Bhutan, China, Cuba, France, Iran, Israel, Myanmar, Pakistan.

Also on 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/53 by recorded vote (111-45-19) [agenda item 96 (i)].

**Nuclear disarmament**

The General Assembly,


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 1922 and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993 have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

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

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

Stressing the importance of the thirteen steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

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

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

Taking note of the positive signals by the Russian Federation and the United States of America regarding their negotiations on the replacement for the Treaty on the
Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I), which is due to expire by the end of 2009,

Urging the Russian Federation and the United States of America to conclude such negotiations urgently in order to achieve further deep cuts in their strategic and tactical nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

Recalling the entry into force of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") between the United States of America and the Russian Federation as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

Noting the recent positive statements by nuclear-weapon States regarding their intention to pursue actions to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, while reaffirming the need for urgent concrete actions by nuclear-weapon States to achieve this goal within a specified framework of time, and urging them to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament,

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 102 of the Final Document of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement at its Ministerial Meeting, held in Havana from 27 to 30 April 2009,

Recalling paragraph 112 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 15 and 16 July 2009, which called upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and at the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention,

Noting the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009, after years of stalemate, while reaffirming the importance of the Conference as the sole multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament,

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

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. Recognizes that the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of these weapons at the earliest possible time;

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

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

4. Recognizes that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

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

6. Also urges the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapons systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons;

7. Reiterates its call upon the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons within a specified framework of time;

8. Calls upon the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;
9. Urges the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

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

11. Underscores the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

12. Calls for the full and effective implementation of the thirteen practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

13. Urges the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

14. Calls for the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator and the mandate contained therein;

15. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2010 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

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

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

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

19. Also expresses its regret that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2009, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/46;

20. Reiterates its call upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament early in 2010, and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

21. Calls for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

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

23. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Nuclear disarmament”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/53:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, 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, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.

Fissile material

The Conference on Disarmament held two informal sessions on a fissile material cut-off treaty on 10 and 24 February [CD/1877, annex II]. The discussions focused on four topics: the definition of fissile materials, the scope of the treaty, stockpiles and plants, and verification.

Many delegations expressed preference for the definition of fissile materials contained in article XX of the IAEA Statute: it had proved reliable and experts in the field had acquired sufficient familiarity with it, thus facilitating the drafting and implementation of a treaty on fissile materials. Certain delegations pointed
out the close linkage between the issues of definitions and verification and observed that the adoption of excessively broad definitions might impair the conduct of verifications.

The scope of the treaty was no longer considered controversial. Several delegations stressed that the 1995 Shannon Report [CD/1299] remained the only one formally approved by consensus by the Conference on Disarmament that concerned the scope of a treaty. Some others stated that the wording on the scope of a treaty contained in document CD/1840 of 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 567] that called for negotiations without preconditions should also be taken into account. Other delegations stated that, in order to allow the Conference to proceed expeditiously towards the beginning of negotiations, discussions on the mandate should not be reopened.

The question of verification no longer appeared as contentious as in previous years, with most delegations in favour of an internationally verifiable treaty. The discussion on stockpiles was the most delicate and controversial, around the question whether the treaty should cover existing stocks of fissile materials or should only cover stocks manufactured after its entry into force. To a number of delegations, the question of stockpiles represented a priority national security concern. No delegation, however, considered reaching an understanding on stockpiles as a necessary precondition for starting negotiations on a treaty.

What clearly emerged from the sessions was that a treaty was ripe for negotiations. The only remaining contentious issue was that of fissile material stockpiles, which could be addressed within the framework of negotiations on the treaty.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/29 without vote [agenda item 96].

_Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices_

_The General Assembly,_


_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 non-proliferation,

_Welcoming_ after years of stalemate, the consensus adoption by the Conference on Disarmament of its decision (CD/1864) of 29 May 2009 on the establishment of a programme of work for its 2009 session, by which the Conference, inter alia, and without prejudice to any past, present or future position, established a Working Group to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995 and the mandate contained therein,

1. _Urges_ the Conference on Disarmament to agree early in 2010 on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. _Decides_ to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session an item entitled “Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

**Security assurances**

The Conference on Disarmament held two informal meetings on 12 and 26 February on “Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons” (or “negative security assurances”) [CD/1877, annex IV], with many delegations in support of the legitimacy of the call by non-nuclear-weapon States for negative security assurances.

It was noted that statements by nuclear-weapon States that they would not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States were insufficient, given that the statements were unilateral, conditional and revocable. Some delegations maintained that the assurances given in nuclear-weapon-free zones were insufficient, conditional and geographically limited. Nevertheless, the creation of such zones in Africa, South-East Asia, Central Asia and South America, as well as Mongolia’s nuclear-weapon-free status, constituted steps forward. In that spirit, some delegations called for the implementation of the relevant Council resolutions and the undertakings of the 1995 and 2000 NPT Review Conferences to make the Middle East a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

Furthermore, it was argued that granting negative security assurances would constitute a quid pro quo for States that renounced nuclear weapons and would help to combat proliferation. In that connection, granting legally binding assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States would be a confidence-building measure and a step towards the implemen-
tation by nuclear-weapon States of article VI of NPT concerning nuclear disarmament.

Several delegations stressed the need to start negotiations on a legally binding, non-discriminatory and universal international instrument that would provide assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States. It was proposed to establish an ad hoc committee within the Conference on Disarmament to prepare for and conduct such negotiations, in accordance with document CD/1693 of 2003, known as the five Ambassadors’ proposal [YUN 2003, p. 532], which provided guidance on the matter. Some delegations considered that the basic details of a possible treaty could be dealt with in due course during the negotiations. One delegation put forward the idea that Security Council resolution 984(1995) [YUN 1995, p. 192] on security assurances could be reaffirmed to strengthen the current legal framework, if necessary by having more States align themselves with it.

The discussions once again revealed the complexity of negative security assurances, and there was no consensus on the framework in which negotiations over a possible treaty on such assurances might be conducted.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/388], adopted resolution 64/27 by recorded vote (118-0-58) [agenda item 93].

**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,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

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

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

**Recognizing** that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

**Bearing in mind** paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003, which was reiterated at the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana and Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 15 and 16 September 2006, and 15 and 16 July 2009, respectively, 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,

1. **Reaffirms** the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. **Notes with satisfaction** that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. **Appeals** to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. **Recommends** that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be explored further in order to overcome the difficulties;

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

6. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth 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 64/27:

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

**Against:** None.

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

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Status

As at 31 December, 182 States had signed the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), adopted by General Assembly resolution 50/245 [YUN 1996, p. 454], and 151 had ratified it. During the year, instruments of ratification were deposited by Liberia, the Marshall Islands and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. In accordance with article XIV, CTBT would enter into force 180 days after the 44 States possessing nuclear reactors, listed in annex 2 of the Treaty, had deposited their instruments of ratification. By year’s end, 35 of those States had ratified the Treaty.

**Report of Secretary General.** Pursuant to Assembly resolution 63/87 [YUN 2008, p. 579], the Secretary-General reported in July and September [A/64/137 & Add.1], in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for CTBT, on the efforts of States that had ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so requested it.

**Communication.** On 12 May [A/64/81], Namibia, as President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, transmitted to the Secretary-General the text of a resolution adopted by the 120th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10 April) on advancing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and securing the entry into force of CTBT.

Preparatory Commission for the CTBT Organization

In advance of the entry into force of CTBT and the establishment of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), a Preparatory
The operation and maintenance activities for the Global Communications Infrastructure (GCI) focused on consolidating the enhanced capabilities of the new GCI network, whose availability continued to improve. The volume of data traffic carried by GCI and by special links to IDC and in the other direction, from IDC to remote sites, increased during the year. Through new software applications, the detection capacity of IDC and the reliability of its operation were strengthened, and the means of access of authorized users in States signatories to IDC data and data products were developed further.

The Preparatory Commission held its thirty-second (8–9 June) [CTBT/PC-32/2] and thirty-third (16–17 November) [CTBT/PC-33/2] sessions, both in Vienna, to consider the reports of its working groups and to discuss organizational, budgetary and other matters.

**Note by Secretary-General.** In July [A/64/155], the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly the report of the Commission’s Executive Secretary for 2008, pursuant to article IV, paragraph 1, of the Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for CTBT, annexed to Assembly resolution 54/280 [YUN 2000, p. 501].

### Conference on facilitating entry into force

The sixth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of CTBT (New York, 24–25 September) [CTBT-Art.XIV/2009/6], convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, was opened by Sergio Duarte, United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, and attended by the Secretary-General, Bernard Kouchner, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of France, and Taïb Fassi-Fihri, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco, shared the Conference presidency. The conference was attended for the first time by the United States, represented by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Michael Douglas, United Nations Messenger of Peace, also attended the Conference.

At the event, attended by 103 States, an exchange of views was held by ratifiers and signatories on facilitating the entry into force of the Treaty. The President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Jessica Mathews, made a statement on behalf of the 19 NGOs attending the Conference.

In their final declaration, participants reaffirmed that the ultimate objective of States was general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. They reiterated that the cessation of all nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, by constraining the development and improvement of nuclear weapons and ending the development of advanced new types of such weapons, constituted an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The end to all nuclear weapons testing was, thus, a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/397], adopted resolution 64/69 by recorded vote (175-1-3) [agenda item 102].

**Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty**

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that, after more than twelve years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

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

Recalling its resolution 63/87 of 2 December 2008,

Welcoming the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 24 September 2008,

Welcoming also the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2009, pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and noting the improved prospects for ratification in several Annex 2 countries,
1. Stresses the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. Welcomes the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the Treaty’s verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. Underlines the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. Urges all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;


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

7. Urges all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. Welcomes, since the last session of the General Assembly, the ratification of the Treaty by Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as the signature by Trinidad and Tobago, as significant steps towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. Urges all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

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

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/69:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, 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, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Abstaining: India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

Also on 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/57 by recorded vote (169-5-5) [agenda item 96 (¶)].

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

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/58 of 2 December 2008,

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

Noting with satisfaction the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament on the part of international leaders expressed, inter alia, during the Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament held on 24 September 2009, and underlining in this regard the urgent need for concrete, transparent, verifiable and irreversible steps to realize the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons,

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

Recognizing the continued vital importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives, and welcoming the recent ratifications of the Treaty by Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

Recalling that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
in its final document, inter alia, reaffirmed the conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament.

Welcoming the entry into force, on 21 March 2009, of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and the entry into force, on 15 July 2009, of the Treaty of Pelindaba, which establishes a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, and expressing the hope that these important steps will be followed by concerted international efforts to create nuclear-weapon-free zones in other areas in the world, especially in the Middle East,

Recalling the decisions entitled “Strengthening the review process for the Treaty”, “Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament” and “Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons” and the resolution on the Middle East, all of which were adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

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

Welcoming the progress towards a follow-up agreement to the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, as reflected in recent statements made by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and of the United States of America,

Welcoming also the outcome of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, at which the Committee adopted the provisional agenda and decisions relating to the organization of the work of the Review Conference,

Welcoming further the recent positive developments in the Conference on Disarmament, which led to the adoption of a programme of work on 29 May 2009,

1. Continues to emphasize the central role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its universality in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and calls upon all States parties to respect their obligations;

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

3. Reaffirms that the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons sets out the agreed process for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament, and in this regard renews its call upon the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate the implementation of the practical steps towards nuclear disarmament that were agreed upon at the 2000 Review Conference, thereby contributing to a safer world for all;

4. Reiterates its call upon all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions;

5. Urges the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to rescind its announced withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to re-establish cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to rejoin the Six-Party Talks, with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner;

6. Calls upon all Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to spare no effort to ensure a successful and constructive outcome of the 2010 Review Conference;

7. Stresses that the outcome of the 2010 Review Conference should build upon the positive results reached at the 1995 and 2000 Conferences, contribute significantly to the concrete implementation of the outcomes of both Conferences, advance the objective of a nuclear-weapon-free world, strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in all its aspects and contribute to achieving its full implementation and universality;

8. Calls upon all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review Conference;

9. Calls upon the States members of the Conference on Disarmament to pursue continued positive developments in that forum, in order to maintain the momentum that led to the adoption of a programme of work on 29 May 2009, and spare no efforts to ensure an early start to the substantive work of the Conference at the beginning of its 2010 session;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/57:

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

Against: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, India, Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Bhutan, Micronesia, Pakistan, Palau, United Kingdom.

Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 63/46 [YUN 2008, p. 574], 63/47 [ibid., p. 565] and 63/49 [ibid., p. 583], relating to 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 in July [A/64/139] presented information from eight States (Cuba, El Salvador, Japan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mexico, Nicaragua, Qatar) on measures they had taken to implement resolution 63/49 and towards nuclear disarmament.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/55 by recorded vote (124-31-21) [agenda item 96 (i)].

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,


Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

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

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

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty and the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Central Asia, as well as Mongolia’s nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

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

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

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Expressing its regret over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reach agreement on any substantive issues,

Expressing its deep concern at the lack of progress in the implementation of the thirteen steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

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

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

Taking note of the relevant portions of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 63/49,

1. Underlines once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;
2. Calls once again upon all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

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

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth 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 64/55:**

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

**Against:** Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

**Abstaining:** Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Moldova, Republic of Korea, Romania, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

**Prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons**

In 2009, no progress was made on a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, as the Conference on Disarmament was unable to undertake negotiations on the subject as called for in Assembly resolution 63/75 [YUN 2008, p. 582]. As in previous years, the Assembly reiterated its request to the Conference to commence negotiations.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/59 by recorded vote (116-50-12) [agenda item 97 (6)].

**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 paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly states 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, 35/152D of 12 December 1980 and 36/921 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 2009 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 63/75 of 2 December 2008, 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 64/59:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, 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, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Comoros, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan.

International Day against Nuclear Tests

The General Assembly declared 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests to increase awareness about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions and the need for their cessation as a means of achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world. The resolution (see below) was initiated by Kazakhstan, together with a large number of cosponsors, to commemorate the closure of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site on 29 August 1991.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/35 without vote [agenda item 96].

International Day against Nuclear Tests

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the promotion of peace and security is among the main purposes and principles of the United Nations embodied in the Charter,

Convinced that every effort should be made to end nuclear tests in order to avert devastating and harmful effects on the lives and health of people and the environment,

Convinced also that the end of nuclear tests is one of the key means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Welcoming the recent positive momentum in the international community to work towards this goal,

Emphasizing, in this context, the essential role of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia and mass media,

Acknowledging the related importance of education as a tool for peace, security, disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. Declares 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests, devoted to enhancing public awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

2. Invites Member States, the United Nations system, civil society, academia, the mass media and individuals to commemorate the International Day against Nuclear Tests in an appropriate manner, including through all means of educational-raising activities.

Non-proliferation issues

Non-proliferation treaty

Status

In 2009, the number of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) remained at 190. Regarded as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, the Treaty was adopted by the General Assembly in 1968, by resolution 2373(XXII) [YUN 1968, p. 17], and entered into force on 5 March 1970. It was extended indefinitely by Assembly resolution 50/70 in 1995 [YUN 1995, p. 189].

2010 review conference

Following the entry into force of NPT, quinquennial review conferences, as called for under article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty, were held beginning in 1975 [YUN 1975, p. 27], and the most recent in 2005 [YUN 2005, p. 397]. The Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference held its third and last session in 2009 (New York, 4–15 May) [NPT/CONF.2010/1] prior to the Review Conference. Delegations of 135 States parties, Palestine (observer), IAEA, six intergovernmental organizations and 77 NGOs attended the session.

The Committee held 25 meetings, devoted to three main clusters and three blocks of issues. The clusters dealt with implementation of the provisions of the Treaty related to: non-proliferation of nuclear weap-
ons, disarmament and international peace and security; non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, safeguards and nuclear-weapon-free zones; and the inalienable right of all NPT parties to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The blocks of issues addressed were: nuclear disarmament and security assurances; regional issues, including with respect to the Middle East and the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review Conference [YUN 1995, p. 189]; and other Treaty provisions, including article X.

The Preparatory Committee was able to adopt procedural arrangements for the 2010 Review Conference. However, delegations were unable to achieve consensus on substantive recommendations to the Conference, as differences persisted among States parties towards achieving nuclear disarmament, strengthening non-proliferation and ensuring the peaceful use of nuclear energy in conformity with NPT.

The Committee decided that the 2010 Review Conference would be held from 3 to 28 May in New York. The Committee unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Libran N. Cabactulan (Philippines) for the presidency of the Conference.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/31 by recorded vote (109-56-10) [agenda item 96 (b)].

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

The General Assembly,

Recalling its various resolutions in the field of nuclear disarmament, including its most recent, resolutions 62/24 of 5 December 2007, and 63/46, 63/49 and 63/75 of 2 December 2008,

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

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

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

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

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

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

Taking into consideration the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,

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

Noting with satisfaction that the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty finalized the procedural arrangements for the Review Conference,

1. Determines to pursue practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and paragraphs 3 and 4 (c) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

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

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

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

(c) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

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

(e) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;
The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

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

4. Urges the States parties to the Treaty to follow up on the implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty within the framework of Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty and their Preparatory Committees;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons". RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/31:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Pakistan, Peru, Samoa, Tonga.

Hague Code of Conduct

At the Eighth Regular Meeting of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (Vienna, 28–29 May), the 130 subscribing States discussed the strengthening of confidence-building measures, such as pre-launch notifications and annual declarations of ballistic missiles, space-launch vehicles and the importance of outreach activities to foster the universalization of the Code and thereby increase the number of subscribing States.

Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Security Council Committee on WMDs

The Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540(2004) [YUN 2004, p. 544] was set up in 2004 by the Security Council for a period of no longer than two years, with a mandate to report to the Council on the implementation of that resolution, which dealt with the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). The Committee’s mandate was extended for a further two years by resolution 1673(2006) [YUN 2006, p. 635]. By resolution 1810(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 585], the Council extended the mandate until 25 April 2011.

The Committee experts continued to update the matrices for Member States on the basis of new information about their efforts to implement resolution 1540(2004). Committee members and experts participated in seminars, workshops and conferences, explaining to participants the work of the Committee and the requirements of the resolution. The Committee also organized regional and subregional workshops on the implementation of the resolution.

On 2 March 2009 [S/2009/124], the Committee submitted to the Council its programme of work for the period from 1 February 2009 to 31 January 2010, featuring a new system of working groups dealing with monitoring and national implementation, assistance, cooperation with other Council committees, and transparency and media outreach.

The Committee established a working group to consider the modalities of a comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540(2004), as requested by resolution 1810(2008), and on 27 March submitted proposals [S/2009/170] for such a review.

As part of the review, the Committee held an open meeting (New York, 30 September–2 October) with broad participation from Member States and international organizations. A final document on the 2009 comprehensive review [S/2010/52] stated that the adoption of resolution 1540(2004) had prompted significant steps across the globe to prevent non-State actors from manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, developing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery. A large number of States had reported on
the measures taken in accordance with the resolution. Member States had forged new working relationships across government bureaucracies, enhanced regulatory frameworks and expanded their efforts to address the nexus between non-State actors and WMDs. Since 2006, Member States had made demonstrable progress in addressing the threat of proliferation of WMDs. Nearly 160 Member States had reported on their capabilities and gaps in stopping the proliferation of WMDs, and the number of States reporting to have implemented legislative measures to penalize the involvement of non-State actors in prohibited WMD proliferation activities had grown considerably.

During the year, reports on implementation of the resolution were submitted by the Sudan [S/AC.44/2004/(02)/153], Bhutan [S/AC.44/2004/(02)/154], Bangladesh [S/AC.44/2004/(02)/133/Add.1] and the Dominican Republic [S/AC.44/2004/(02)/156).

At its summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament of 24 September, the Council, by resolution 1887(2009) (see p. 525), reaffirmed the need for full implementation of resolution 1540(2004) by Member States.

New types of WMDs

Conference on Disarmament. The issue of radiological weapons had been on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament since 1979. In accordance with the joint initiative by the 2008 Presidents, and under the guidance of the Coordinator (Bulgaria), the Conference [A/64/27], under its programme of work, held two informal meetings on 16 February and 2 March on “New types of WMDs and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons”.

During the discussions [CD/1877, annex V], one delegation raised the issue of “State terrorism”, while others pointed out that the focus of the debate should be more on the nature of the weapon than on the user’s characteristics. Emphasis was again placed on preventing the emergence of new WMDs since the prevention of an arms race was, after all, the major goal of disarmament. Delegations raised issues that fell within broader themes already established in 2008: radiological weapons; new types of WMDs and new systems of such weapons and the importance of prevention; and preventing terrorists from acquiring radiological materials and WMDs.

Terrorism and WMDs

During the year, the United Nations continued to promote international action against terrorism through collaborative efforts with Member States and regional and international organizations, and through the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (see p. 70) and the Al-Qa’ida and Taliban Sanctions Committee (see p. 353).

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/60 [YUN 2008, p. 589], the Secretary-General in July [A/64/140 & Add.1] presented the views of 13 Member States and 10 international organizations, including UN agencies, on measures they had taken to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMDs, their means of delivery, and related materials and technologies.


At an International Symposium on Nuclear Security (Vienna, 30 March–3 April), more than 500 participants from 76 countries and international organizations discussed the status of nuclear security and directions for the future. The Agency also organized the International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems: Further Enhancing the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Regime (Cape Town, South Africa, 14–18 December). The Nuclear Security Series documents were expanded to contain nuclear security guidance that States could use in establishing their national nuclear security systems.

The Agency’s Illicit Trafficking Database programme continued to expand, with 107 participating States as at 30 June. Reports about incidents of illegal possession, movement and attempted sales of nuclear and other radioactive material showed a persistent picture of nuclear trafficking. The recovery rate of radioactive material reported lost or stolen remained low, the Director General said. During the period under discussion, only about 40 per cent of stolen or lost radioactive material was subsequently reported as recovered.

The Agency had established a process of developing integrated nuclear security support plans to consolidate the nuclear security needs of individual States into integrated plans for nuclear security improvements and assistance. As at 30 June, 49 such plans were developed by States and the Agency. The Agency offered services to evaluate and assess nuclear security arrangements in States through its nuclear security missions. Through the Nuclear Security Fund, 14 evaluation and advisory nuclear security missions were carried out between mid-2008 and mid-2009.

The Agency organized 57 nuclear security education and training events worldwide, which involved 1,400 participants in more than 105 countries. Par-
Participants were trained in physical protection, nuclear material accounting and control, registry of radioactive sources, regulatory systems, measures to combat illicit nuclear trafficking, response to nuclear security events and maintaining confidentiality of sensitive information. More than 300 training events had been conducted since 2003, in which about 8,000 participants from approximately 125 countries had been trained.

Between mid-2008 and mid-2009, the Agency provided technical assistance to 27 States to help establish effective border control, which included 985 radiation-monitoring instruments to detect any undeclared radioactive substance in cargo or in personal luggage. Moving radioactive material from a vulnerable to a secure location was an important IAEA contribution to nuclear risk reduction. The Agency conducted operations in seven States to improve the security of 575 radioactive sources; 31 of those sources were repatriated to the supplier State. Technical arrangements for increased security were applied to 539 radioactive sources in various countries.

The Agency assisted in the repatriation of high enriched uranium (HEU) research reactor fuel at the request of States. Between mid-2008 and mid-2009, the Agency was involved, in an auxiliary capacity, in the repatriation of four shipments of HEU fuel, totalling more than 40 kilograms (kg), to the United States; four shipments totalling 258 kg of spent fuel to the Russian Federation; and one shipment of 30 kg of fresh fuel to the Russian Federation. In June, the Agency assisted in repatriating HEU spent fuel from Romania to the Russian Federation by air—the first time that spent nuclear fuel had been transported in that manner.

IAEA action. On 18 September [GC(53)/RES/11], the IAEA General Conference, in a resolution on measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism, called on Member States to support international efforts to enhance nuclear security through bilateral, regional and international arrangements.

Communication. In a letter of 24 July to the Secretary-General [A/63/965-S/2009/514], the Non-Aligned Movement communicated its long-held positions on disarmament and international security as affirmed in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 11–16 July). The Movement stressed that reductions in deployments and in operational status could not substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons; it called on the United States and the Russian Federation to apply the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to further reduce their nuclear arsenals, both warheads and delivery systems, under the 2002 Strategic Offense Reductions Treaty (Moscow Treaty) [YUN 2002, p. 493]. The Movement emphasized the importance of observing environmental norms in preparing and implementing disarmament and arms limitation agreements; expressed satisfaction with the consensus among States on measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring WMDs; underlined the need to ensure that any action by the Security Council did not undermine the UN Charter, multilateral treaties on WMDs and international organizations established in that regard, as well as the role of the General Assembly; and stressed the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the role of security in that connection.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/38 without vote [agenda item 96 (g)].

Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 63/60 of 2 December 2008,
Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,
Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,
Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540(2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,
Welcoming the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,
Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,
Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,
Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction, and the need for international cooperation in combating it,
Chapter VII: Disarmament

Multilateralism in disarmament and non-proliferation

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/50 [YUN 2008, p. 591], the Secretary-General in July [A/64/117 & Add.1] presented the views of five Member States (Cuba, Lebanon, Qatar, Spain, United Arab Emirates) on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/34 by recorded vote (122-5-49) [agenda item 96 (m)].

Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly, Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007 and 63/50 of 2 December 2008 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,
Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

Stressing that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Noting that the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, welcomed the adoption of resolution 63/50 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 63/50,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Considering also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

5. Calls once again upon all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. Requests the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 63/50;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/34:

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

Against: Israel, Micronesia, Palau, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.
Nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament

Security Council summit. On 24 September, the Security Council held a summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament [meeting 6191] chaired by United States President Barack Obama and attended by 13 heads of State and Government, including the five nuclear-weapon States—China’s President Hu Jintao, France’s President Nicolas Sarkozy, Russia’s President Dmitry Medvedev and United Kingdom’s Prime Minister Gordon Brown. The Council adopted resolution 1887(2009) (see below), which called on States parties to NPT to comply fully with all their obligations under the Treaty and States that were not parties to accede to it so as to achieve its universality. The Council further called on States to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material.


SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION


The Security Council,

Resolving to seek a safer world for all and to create the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons, in accordance with the goals of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all,

Reaffirming the statement by its President adopted at its meeting held at the level of Heads of State and Government on 31 January 1992, including the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent the proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling that the above statement underlined the need for all Member States to resolve peacefully in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations any problems in that context threatening or disrupting the maintenance of regional and global stability,

Reaffirming that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,
Treaty, namely, non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and disarmament under strict and effective international control, and calls upon all other States to join in this endeavour;

6. Calls upon all States parties to the Treaty to cooperate so that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty can successfully strengthen the Treaty and set realistic and achievable goals in all three pillars of the Treaty, namely, non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and disarmament;

7. Calls upon all States to refrain from conducting a nuclear test explosion and to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, thereby bringing the Treaty into force at an early date;

8. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices as soon as possible, welcomes the adoption by consensus by the Conference of its programme of work in 2009, and requests all Member States to cooperate in guiding the Conference to an early commencement of substantive work;

9. Recalls the statements made by each of the five nuclear-weapon States, noted in resolution 984(1995) of 11 April 1995, in which they give security assurances against the use of nuclear weapons to non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and affirms that such security assurances strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

10. Expresses particular concern at the current major challenges to the non-proliferation regime that the Council has acted upon, demands that the parties concerned comply fully with their obligations under the relevant Council resolutions, and reaffirms its call upon them to find an early negotiated solution to these issues;

11. Encourages efforts to ensure the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy by countries seeking to maintain or develop their capacities in this field within a framework that reduces proliferation risk and adheres to the highest international standards for safeguards, security and safety;

12. Underlines that the Treaty recognizes in article IV the inalienable right of the parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II, and recalls in this context article III of the Treaty and article II of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

13. Calls upon States to adopt stricter national controls for the export of sensitive goods and technologies of the nuclear fuel cycle;

14. Encourages the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency on multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle, including assurances of nuclear fuel supply and related measures, as effective means of addressing the expanding need for nuclear fuel and nuclear fuel services and minimizing the risk of proliferation, and urges the Board of Governors of the Agency to agree upon measures to this end as soon as possible;

15. Affirms that effective Agency safeguards are essential to prevent nuclear proliferation and to facilitate cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and in that regard:

(a) Calls upon all non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty that have yet to bring into force a comprehensive safeguards agreement or a modified small quantities protocol to do so immediately;

(b) Calls upon all States to sign, ratify and implement an additional protocol, which, together with comprehensive safeguards agreements, constitute essential elements of the Agency safeguards system;

(c) Stresses the importance for all Member States to ensure that the Agency continues to have all the resources and authority necessary to verify the declared use of nuclear materials and facilities and the absence of undeclared activities, and for the Agency to report to the Council accordingly, as appropriate;

16. Encourages States to provide the Agency with the cooperation necessary for it to verify whether a State is in compliance with its safeguards obligations, and affirms the resolve of the Council to support the efforts of the Agency to that end, consistent with its authorities under the Charter of the United Nations;
17. **Undertakes** to address without delay any State’s notice of withdrawal from the Treaty, including the events described in the statement provided by the State pursuant to article X of the Treaty, while noting ongoing discussions in the course of the review of the Treaty on identifying modalities under which States parties to the Treaty could collectively respond to notification of withdrawal, and affirms that a State remains responsible under international law for violations of the Treaty committed prior to its withdrawal;

18. **Encourages** States to require as a condition of nuclear exports that the recipient State agree that, in the event that it should terminate, withdraw from, or be found by the Board of Governors of the Agency to be in non-compliance with its safeguards agreement, the supplier State would have the right to require the return of nuclear material and equipment provided prior to such termination, non-compliance or withdrawal, as well as any special nuclear material produced through the use of such material or equipment;

19. **Also encourages** States to consider whether a recipient State has signed and ratified an additional protocol based on the Model Additional Protocol in making nuclear export decisions;

20. **Urge** States to require as a condition of nuclear exports that the recipient State agree that, in the event that it should terminate its safeguards agreement with the Agency, safeguards shall continue with respect to any nuclear material and equipment provided prior to such termination, as well as any special nuclear material produced through the use of such material or equipment;


22. **Welcomes** the March 2009 recommendations of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540(2004) to make more effective use of existing funding mechanisms, including the consideration of the establishment of a voluntary fund, and affirms its commitment to promote full implementation of resolution 1540(2004) by Member States by ensuring effective and sustainable support for the activities of the Committee;

23. **Reaffirms** the need for full implementation of resolution 1540(2004) by Member States and, with the aim of preventing access to, or assistance and financing for, weapons of mass destruction, related materials and their means of delivery by non-State actors, as defined in that resolution, calls upon Member States to cooperate actively with the Committee and the Agency, including rendering assistance, at their request, for their implementation of resolution 1540(2004) provisions, and in this context welcomes the forthcoming comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540(2004) with a view to increasing its effectiveness, and calls upon all States to participate actively in this review;

24. **Calls upon** Member States to share best practices with a view to improved safety standards and nuclear security practices and raise standards of nuclear security to reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism, with the aim of securing all vulnerable nuclear material from such risks within four years;

25. **Calls upon** all States to manage responsibly and minimize to the greatest extent that is technically and economically feasible the use of highly enriched uranium for civilian purposes, including by working to convert research reactors and radioisotope production processes to the use of low enriched uranium fuels and targets;

26. **Also calls upon** all States to improve their national capabilities to detect, deter and disrupt illicit trafficking in nuclear materials throughout their territories, and calls upon those States in a position to do so to work to enhance international partnerships and capacity-building in this regard;

27. **Urge** all States to take all appropriate national measures in accordance with their national authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law, to prevent proliferation financing and shipments, to strengthen export controls, to secure sensitive materials and to control access to intangible transfers of technology;

28. **Declarations** its resolve to monitor closely any situations involving the proliferation of nuclear weapons, their means of delivery or related material, including to or by non-State actors as they are defined in resolution 1540(2004) and, as appropriate, to take such measures as may be necessary to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security;

29. **Decide** to remain seized of the matter.

### International Atomic Energy Agency

According to its annual report [GC(54)/4], the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continued to address global issues related to nuclear technology, providing advice in the application of nuclear technologies for development, promoting nuclear safety and security and carrying out nuclear verification activities.

The fifty-third session of the IAEA General Conference (Vienna, 14–18 September) adopted resolutions on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety; nuclear security; strengthening the Agency’s technical cooperation activities; strengthening the Agency’s activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications; strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol; implementing the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK); and IAEA safeguards in the Middle East.

In August [A/64/257], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the IAEA annual report for 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 593]. The Assembly took note of the report by resolution 64/8 (see p. 995) of 2 November.

### IAEA activities

During the year [GC(54)/4], IAEA assisted Member States in meeting their energy needs, responding
to climate change concerns, helping to ensure food security and access to clean water, and improving health care through the use of nuclear techniques.

The financial crisis did not substantially change the factors driving rising expectations for nuclear power. Specifically, nuclear power’s good performance and safety record and continuing concerns about climate change, security of energy supplies, high and volatile fossil fuel prices and energy demand growth remained key drivers. Both global energy demand and interest in nuclear power continued to grow during the year.

Construction started on 11 new nuclear power reactors, the largest number since 1987, and projections of future nuclear power growth were once again revised upwards. Growth targets were raised significantly in China, India and the Russian Federation. At year’s end, there were 437 nuclear power reactors in operation, with a total capacity of 370 gigawatts. Fifty-five reactors were under construction, the largest number since 1992. Of the 11 construction starts, 10 were in Asia, as were 36 of the 55 reactors under construction and 30 of the last 41 new reactors to have been connected to the grid.

More than 60 countries—mostly in the developing world—had informed the Agency that they might be interested in launching nuclear power programmes. Fifty-eight Member States participated in technical cooperation projects related to the introduction of nuclear power, while 17 prepared national nuclear power programmes.

The growing interest in nuclear power had resulted in a comeback of uranium mining after a two-decade slump. It was expected to make a 12 per cent increase over the previous year. The establishment of low-enriched uranium (LEU) reserves under the Agency’s auspices, envisaged to assure States of LEU supply in case they experienced disruptions for non-technical or non-commercial reasons, had been the subject of discussions. In June, the Director General provided two reports on supply assurance to the IAEA Board of Governors: a proposal for the establishment of an IAEA LEU bank, and a Russian Federation initiative to establish a reserve of LEU for the supply of LEU to IAEA for its Member States. In addition, a report was issued on the German proposal to set up a multilateral enrichment sanctuary project, with Agency involvement. In November, the Board authorized the Director General to sign an agreement with the Russian Federation to establish a reserve of 120 tonnes of LEU in that country for the use of Member States, to be made available through the Agency at the prevailing market price to a country experiencing a non-commercial supply disruption.

A major development in the area of nuclear fusion was the completion in March of site preparations for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor. The International Fusion Research Council (an advisory committee to IAEA) and the Fusion Power Coordinating Committee of the International Energy Agency held a joint meeting during the year. In addition, IAEA organized technical meetings on nuclear fusion topics that were attended by more than 450 experts.

Fifty per cent of all operating research reactors were over 40 years old. Progress was made, with Agency support, in developing cooperative networks in the Mediterranean, Eastern European, Caribbean and Central Asian regions. More than 20 Member States requested Agency advice on building new research reactors.

Early and rapid nuclear and nuclear-related molecular diagnostic technologies developed by the Agency were used to diagnose avian influenza, influenza A(H1N1) (swine flu) and Rift Valley fever, limiting the impact of those diseases on animal and public health. In South Africa, drought-resistant grain contributed to food security.

The incidence of cancer was growing rapidly in developing countries, with over 75 million people in low- and middle-income countries expected to suffer from it by 2020. The Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) was leading the IAEA response to the cancer crisis. Following years of close collaboration, the Agency in February launched a Joint Programme for Cancer Control with the World Health Organization. The number of PACT Model Demonstration Sites grew to seven, with Ghana joining Albania, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Yemen. PACT also provided opportunities for Member States to make contributions, as evidenced by India’s donation through PACT of a “Bhabhatron” radiotherapy unit to Viet Nam.

The Agency’s isotope studies and numerical models led to a better understanding of the impact of ocean acidification on marine resources. The results of those studies facilitated a scientific synthesis of the impacts of ocean acidification on marine biodiversity—the first of its kind—which was prepared for the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December (see p. 1015).

A significant development during the year was the creation by the European Union (EU) of a common legal framework for nuclear safety, based on the Agency’s main safety standards for nuclear installations and obligations under the Convention on Nuclear Safety. The EU was the first major regional body to adopt a binding legal framework on nuclear safety.

During the year, IAEA was informed of 211 events involving ionizing radiation. In most of those events no Agency action was required. In 22 events, however, the Agency took action, such as authenticating and verifying information with national authorities or offering its services.
The Agency continued its efforts to promote adherence to the various international legal instruments adopted under its auspices, in particular with respect to the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, which remained the only such instrument to enter into force. In parallel, the International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability, an advisory body to the Director General, continued to serve as a central forum on questions related to nuclear liability.

The Agency conducted 14 nuclear security advisory missions, with more than half dealing with physical protection and with legal, regulatory and practical measures for controlling nuclear and other radioactive material.

In September, the Board of Governors approved the Agency’s Nuclear Security Plan for 2010–2013. The plan recognized that the risk of malicious use of nuclear and other radioactive material continued to be a threat.

In Africa, the technical cooperation programme focused on building human and institutional capacity in the use of nuclear applications to achieve increased food security, better nutrition and health services. In Asia and the Pacific, the emphasis was on strengthening nuclear applications in health, agriculture and energy, with a focus on support for newcomers to nuclear power. In Europe, the focus was on safety and security standards in older nuclear plants and on mitigating the environmental degradation caused by uranium mining and milling. In Latin America, emphasis was placed on strengthening national regulatory frameworks and capacity-building for radiation safety. The programme was funded by contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund, extrabudgetary contributions and government cost-sharing. Overall, new resources topped $112 million, with approximately $86 million for the Fund.

IAEA safeguards

IAEA’s verification programme remained at the core of multilateral efforts to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Agency had an essential verification role under NPT as well as other treaties such as those establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Comprehensive safeguards agreements, concluded pursuant to NPT, and the Model Additional Protocols to those agreements, which granted the Agency complementary verification authority, had been approved by the IAEA Board of Governors in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 486]; they remained the principal legal instruments strengthening the Agency’s safeguards regime. In 2009, comprehensive safeguards agreements entered into force for eight States and additional protocols for six States.

During the year, safeguards were applied for 170 States with safeguards agreements in force with the Agency. States for which both comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols were in force numbered 89. For 52 of these States, the Agency concluded that all nuclear material remained in peaceful activities. For the other 37 States, the Agency had not completed all the necessary evaluations under their additional protocol in order to conclude that the declared nuclear material remained in peaceful activities. For 73 States with a comprehensive safeguards agreement in force but without an additional protocol, the Agency was only able to draw the conclusion that declared nuclear material remained in peaceful nuclear activities. Integrated safeguards were implemented in 44 States. The Agency could not draw any safeguards conclusions for 22 NPT non-nuclear-weapon States without safeguards agreements in force.

Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Since December 2002, IAEA had not implemented safeguards in the DPRK and, therefore, could not draw any conclusion regarding nuclear material in that country. In the context of the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement agreed between the Agency and the DPRK, and foreseen in the Initial Actions agreed at the six-party talks (China, DPRK, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United States), the Agency continued to implement monitoring and verification measures related to the shutdown of three installations and construction of one installation at the Yongbyon nuclear facility, and the construction of one installation at Taechon.

On 5 April, the DPRK launched a long-range rocket with the stated aim of placing a satellite in orbit. On 13 April, by statement S/PRST/2009/7 (see p. 384), the Security Council demanded that the DPRK conduct no further missile launches and adjusted the travel ban, assets freeze and arms embargo it had imposed by resolution 1718(2006). On 14 April, the DPRK informed the Agency that it had decided to cease all cooperation with IAEA immediately and requested Agency personnel to remove all their containment and surveillance equipment from the facilities, not allowing them to access the facilities thereafter. All Agency personnel were required to leave the country. The DPRK also informed the IAEA inspectors that it had decided to reactivate all facilities and to proceed with the reprocessing of spent fuel.

During 2009, until 14 April, IAEA neither observed any operation of the three shutdown installations at Yongbyon, nor any construction activities at the two installations under construction at Yongbyon and Taechon. On 15 April, following the DPRK’s decision to cease all cooperation, the Agency inspectors at Yongbyon removed all seals, switched off the sur-
veillance cameras and departed from the country the next day. Since that time, IAEA had not been able to implement the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement in the DPRK. Consequently, it was unable to make any statements in relation to nuclear material inventories in the DPRK.

Following the DPRK’s announcement on 25 May that it had conducted an underground nuclear test, the Security Council adopted resolution 1874(2009) (see p. 384), which required the DPRK to abandon its nuclear weapons programme, return to NPT and Agency safeguards, and re-enter the six-party talks without preconditions.

In a resolution of 18 September [GC(53)/RES/15] on implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between IAEA and the DPRK, the General Conference stressed its desire for a diplomatic resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue so as to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean peninsula; condemned the DPRK nuclear test of 25 May in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions; stressed the importance of Member States fully implementing their obligations pursuant to Council resolutions 1718(2006) [YUN 2006, p. 444] and 1874(2009) (see p. 384), including the DPRK’s non-proliferation obligations; deplored the DPRK’s actions to cease all cooperation with the Agency; recognized that the six-party talks were an effective mechanism for dealing with the DPRK nuclear issue; and called on the DPRK to return to the talks.

Iran

The IAEA Director General submitted four reports [GOV/2009/8, GOV/2009/35, GOV/2009/55, GOV/2009/74] to the Board of Governors on the implementation of Iran’s NPT safeguards agreement and relevant Council resolutions—1737(2006) [YUN 2006, p. 436], 1747(2007) [YUN 2007, p. 374], 1803(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 409] and 1835(2008) [ibid., p. 414]. During the year, while the Agency continued to verify the non-diversion of declared nuclear material in Iran, Iran did not provide the necessary cooperation to permit the Agency to confirm that all nuclear material in the country was in peaceful activities. Since March 2007, Iran had not implemented the modified text of its Subsidiary Arrangements on the early provision of design information and had not been forthcoming in providing information about the design of facilities.

Contrary to the requests of the IAEA Board of Governors and of the Security Council, Iran had not implemented the Additional Protocol, without which the Agency remained unable to provide credible assurances about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities. Nor did Iran cooperate with the Agency to address a number of outstanding issues regarding possible military dimensions to its nuclear programme. Those issues related to the alleged studies on the green salt project; high explosives testing; the design of a missile re-entry vehicle; the circumstances of the acquisition of the “uranium metal” document; procurement and research and development activities of military-related institutes and companies that could be nuclear-related; and the production of nuclear equipment and components by companies belonging to defence industries. Contrary to the decisions of the Council, Iran did not suspend its enrichment-related activities, and continued with the operation of the pilot fuel enrichment plant and the construction and operation of the fuel enrichment plant in Natanz. Moreover, in October Iran announced that it was building an additional enrichment facility, the Fordow fuel enrichment plant. Subsequently, Iran announced its intention to build 10 new enrichment plants and continued its work on heavy-water-related projects, again contrary to the requirements of the Council, including the construction of the IR-40 heavy water moderated research reactor at Arak and the operation of a heavy water production plant.

Since August 2008, Iran had declined to discuss outstanding issues related to possible military dimensions of its nuclear programme, asserting that the allegations were baseless and that the Agency’s information was based on forgeries. The Agency’s information, however, was extensive, broadly consistent and credible. In order to confirm that all nuclear material was in peaceful activities, the Agency needed to have confidence in the absence of possible military dimensions to Iran’s nuclear programme.

(See also p. 394.)

Syrian Arab Republic

The IAEA Director General submitted four reports [GOV/2009/9, GOV/2009/36, GOV/2009/56, GOV/2009/75] to the Board of Governors on the implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Agency continued its verification activities in relation to the allegations that an installation destroyed by Israel at Dair Alzour in Syria in 2007 had been a nuclear reactor under construction. Syria had not cooperated with IAEA since 2008 in connection with the unresolved issues related to Dair Alzour and the three other locations to which it was allegedly functionally related. In 2009, the Agency found anthropogenic (i.e. produced as a result of chemical processing) natural uranium particles at the miniature neutron source reactor near Damascus. Syria had yet to provide a credible explanation for the origin and presence of those particles; although it had provided some information about the experiments carried out at the reactor and the origin of the material, it did not cooperate fully by providing design information related to the reactor, the required nuclear material ac-
countancy reports and detailed explanations of experiments carried out with undeclared natural uranium.

**Middle East**

**Report of Director General.** In a report issued in August on the application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East [GOV/2009/44-GC(53)/12], the IAEA Director General noted that all States in the region except Israel were parties to NPT and had undertaken to accept comprehensive Agency safeguards. There continued to be a fundamental difference between Israel and other States of the region with regard to the application of those safeguards to all nuclear activities in the region. Israel took the view that Agency safeguards, as well as all other regional security issues, should be addressed in the framework of a regional security and arms control dialogue in the context of a multilateral peace process; the other States emphasized that they were all parties to NPT and that there was no automatic sequence that linked the application of comprehensive safeguards to all nuclear activities in the Middle East, or the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone, to the prior conclusion of a peace settlement. The Director General stated that he would continue his consultations regarding the early application of comprehensive safeguards on all nuclear activities in the region.

**General Conference.** In a resolution of 17 September [GC(53)/RES/16], the IAEA General Conference affirmed the need for all States in the region to accept the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities as a confidence-building measure, and to take steps to establish a mutually and effectively verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone. It requested the Director General to continue consultations with the States of the region to facilitate the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all nuclear activities. In a resolution of 18 September [GC(53)/RES/17], the General Conference expressed concern about Israel’s nuclear capabilities and called on the country to accede to NPT and place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive Agency safeguards.

**Report of Secretary-General.** Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/84 [YUN 2008, p. 597], the Secretary-General in October reported [A/64/124 (Part II)] that apart from the 17 September IAEA resolution on the application of safeguards in the Middle East, he had not received any additional information since his 2008 report [YUN 2008, p. 597].

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/394], adopted resolution 64/66 by recorded vote (167-6-6) [agenda item 99].

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 are resolutions GC(53)/RES/16, adopted on 17 September 2009 and GC(53)/RES/17, adopted on 18 September 2009,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously 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 in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, in-
viting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and eighty-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 without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/66:

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

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

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Côte d’Ivoire, India, Panama.

Radioactive waste

IAEA’s safety standards provided the global reference for the high safety level required for the use of nuclear power and other applications. The third review meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (Vienna, 11–20 May [JC/RM3/02Rev.2]) was attended by 45 Contracting Parties. The meeting emphasized policy and technical issues on the disposal of waste, decommissioning, disposed sealed sources, knowledge management, stakeholder involvement and international cooperation. At the end of 2009, with the addition of Cyprus, Georgia, Portugal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan, the Joint Convention had 52 Contracting Parties.

Although Member States had made significant progress in managing their radioactive waste and spent fuel safely, efforts were still needed to develop national strategies and to strengthen national infrastructure. In 2009 IAEA launched an international low-level waste disposal network to facilitate the sharing of experience among operators and to coordinate support to Member States with less advanced programmes. Several international meetings discussed long-term management strategies for disused radioactive sources. IAEA convened an international workshop on “Demonstrating the Safety and Licensing of Radioactive Waste Disposal” (Cape Town, 14 December) and an international conference on “Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems: Further Enhancing the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Regime” (Cape Town, 14–18 December). The Agency assisted seven Member States in managing 597 radioactive sources, of which 54 were classified as high activity sources. Most of the sources were conditioned and stored in the centralized storage facilities of the countries concerned. Of particular significance was the deployment of a mobile hot cell for operations in the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. In response to requests for technical assistance from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and to address issues of legacy uranium production sites, IAEA organized workshops and scientific visits to learn from similar projects in other countries. Sampling and analytical equipment was upgraded, and management and laboratory staff were trained.

In a resolution of 18 September [GC(53)/RES/10], the IAEA General Conference invited Member States to become party to the Joint Convention, welcomed
the efforts of the Convention’s Contracting Parties to enhance the transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the review process, and encouraged Member States to participate in the IAEA database on discharges of radionuclides to the atmosphere and the aquatic environment and in the Net-Enabled Waste Management Database on annual radioactive waste management data from Member States.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/45 without vote [agenda item 96 (d)].

Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recalling also 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 request, 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 in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

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

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

Desiring 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 radiological weapons;
2. Expresses grave concern regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;
3. Calls upon all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;
4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;
5. Also requests the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;
7. Expresses the hope that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;
8. Appeals to all Member States that have not yet taken the necessary steps to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management to do so as soon as possible;
9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled “Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes”.

Nuclear-weapon-free zones

Africa

encompassed over 30 million square kilometres (km), making it the largest of the five nuclear-weapon-free zones in the world.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/383], adopted resolution 64/24 without vote [agenda item 88].

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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


2. Calls upon African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

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

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

5. 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, 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;

6. Expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission 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;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty”.

Asia

Central Asia

The Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia entered into force on 21 March 2009 following ratification by Kazakhstan in December 2008, just over two years after the Treaty among the five Central Asian States was signed [YUN 2006, p. 644]. Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan had already ratified the Treaty. Encompassing an area of roughly 4 million square km, the Treaty covered the smallest of the nuclear-weapon-free zones, but the only one where nuclear weapons previously existed. It was the first such treaty to oblige Central Asian countries to accept enhanced IAEA safeguards on their nuclear material and activities. The Treaty also required parties to meet international standards regarding security of nuclear facilities—a move that could reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism or smuggling of nuclear and radioactive materials in the region. Furthermore, all Treaty signatories must comply with the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which outlawed all nuclear test explosions. The Treaty encompassed an environmental component that addressed concerns unique to the Central Asian region. Each of the five States hosted former Soviet nuclear weapons infrastructure and confronted common problems of environmental remediation for damage resulting from the production and testing of nuclear weapons.

Mongolia

Efforts to define and institutionalize Mongolia’s nuclear-weapon-free status, which it had been seeking since 2001, continued to be made through consultations for negotiating a draft trilateral treaty with the Russian Federation and China. In March and September, the three sides held preliminary meetings in Geneva to exchange views on a draft treaty. At the end of the second meeting, the Russia Federation and China presented a joint paper containing questions and comments on some provisions of the draft presented by Mongolia.

The General Assembly in resolution 64/52 (see below) decided to convene the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in April 2010 to strengthen the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/52 by recorded vote (166–3–6) [agenda item 96].

Second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia

The General Assembly,
Recognizing the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, under article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,
Recognizing also the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Central Asia, as well as the Antarctic Treaty, to the achievement of the objectives of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,
Recalling its resolution 63/56 of 2 December 2008 on Mongolia’s international security and nuclear-weapon-free status,
Urge regions that have not yet established nuclear-weapon-free zones treaties to accelerate efforts in this direction, particularly in the Middle East, through agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the principles adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1999,
Taking note of paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, in which the Heads of State and Government stated their belief that those nuclear-weapon-free zones were positive steps and important measures towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,
Recognizing the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives,
Recalling the adoption of the Declaration of Santiago de Chile by the Governments of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, during the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, held in Santiago on 7 and 8 November 2005,
Recalling also the support for nuclear-weapon-free zones expressed by the Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, and for the convening of the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, to be held in New York on 30 April 2010,

1. Decides to convene the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in New York on 30 April 2010;
2. Notes that the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among States parties and signatories, the treaty agencies and other interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;
3. Urges the States parties and signatories to treaties that have established nuclear-weapon-free zones to develop activities of cooperation and coordination in order to promote their common objectives in the framework of the Conference;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance and services as may be required for the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/52:

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

Against: Lithuania, New Zealand, Poland.

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

South-East Asia

The 10 States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok
Part One: Political and security questions

Treaty), which had opened for signature in 1995 [YUN 1995, p. 207] and entered into force in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 495], continued to establish an institutional framework for implementing the Treaty. At the forty-second Foreign Ministers Meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Phuket, Thailand, 19–20 July), the Ministers reviewed the implementation of the Treaty’s plan of action and agreed to exert greater efforts to ensure that programmes and activities indicated in the plan were carried out.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/39 by recorded vote (174–0–6) [agenda item 96 (c)].

Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)

The General Assembly, Recalling its resolution 62/31 of 5 December 2007, entitled “Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)”, Welcoming the desire of the South-East Asian States to maintain peace and stability in the region in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding and cooperation, Noting the entry into force of the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on 15 December 2008, which states, inter alia, that one of the purposes of the Association is to preserve South-East Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, free of all other weapons of mass destruction, Noting also the convening of the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, Reaffirming its conviction of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calling upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons, Convinced that the establishment of a South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, as an essential component of the Declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality, signed in Kuala Lumpur on 27 November 1971, will contribute towards strengthening the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and security as a whole, Noting the entry into force of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone on 27 March 1997 and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force in 2007, Welcoming the reaffirmation of South-East Asian States that the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone shall continue to play a pivotal role in the area of confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy and the approaches to conflict resolution as enshrined in the Declaration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Concord II (Bali Concord II), Reaffirming the inalienable right of all the parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Recognizing that by signing and ratifying the relevant protocols to the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, nuclear-weapon States undertake legally binding commitments to respect the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties,

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage of ships and aircraft, particularly those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

1. Welcomes the commitment and efforts of the Commission for the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to further enhance and strengthen the implementation of the Bangkok Treaty by implementing the Plan of Action for the period 2007–2012, adopted in Manila on 29 July 2007, and the recent decision of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Political-Security Community Council, established under the Charter of the Association, to give priority to the implementation of the Plan of Action;

2. Encourages States parties to the Treaty to resume direct consultations with the five nuclear-weapon States to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, existing outstanding issues on a number of provisions of the Treaty and the Protocol thereto;

3. Encourages nuclear-weapon States and States parties to the Treaty to work constructively with a view to ensuring the early accession of the nuclear-weapon States to the Protocol to the Treaty;

4. Underlines the value of enhancing and implementing further ways and means of cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled “Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/39:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mal-
dies, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, 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, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.


Latin America and the Caribbean

The 33 States parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [YUN 1967, p. 13] continued to consolidate the Treaty regime. In a resolution [AG/RES. 2442(XXXIX-O/09)] adopted at its thirty-ninth session (San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 2 and 4 June), the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) reaffirmed that the consolidation of the nuclear-weapon-free zone set forth in the Treaty constituted a demonstration of the commitment of Latin America and the Caribbean to complete and verifiable disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, Oas recognized that the Treaty had become a model for other nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions, and called on regional States that had not done so to sign or ratify the amendments to the Treaty. It reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Opanal); recognized Opanal’s work in ensuring compliance with Treaty obligations; and expressed support to Opanal’s cooperation and coordination mechanisms with other nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties.

Middle East

In response to General Assembly resolution 63/38 [YUN 2008, p. 602], the Secretary-General in July reported [A/64/124 (Part I) & Add.1] on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. He said that at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to npt (see p. 503), States parties reiterated their support for establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East; reaffirmed the importance of the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 npt Review and Extension Conference [YUN 1995, p. 205]; and recognized that the resolution remained valid until its goals and objectives were achieved. Furthermore, the Arab Summit (Doha, Qatar, 30–31 March 2009), emphasized that the success of the 2010 npt Review Conference required the implementation of the 1995 Middle East resolution and agreement on adopting practical and well-defined steps towards establishing the nuclear-weapon-free zone.

The Secretary-General said that he continued to carry out consultations with parties within and outside the region in order to explore ways and means to establish the zone. The major armed crisis in Gaza, the discontinuation of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations undertaken in the Annapolis framework [YUN 2007, p. 445] and limited progress towards Palestinian unity underscored the need for a renewed effort to resume direct talks on a two-State solution and comprehensive regional peace. He called upon all parties within and outside the region to resume dialogue with a view to creating stable security conditions and an eventual settlement that would facilitate the process of establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

The Secretary-General’s report included the views of 10 Governments—Cuba, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Mali, Mexico, Nicaragua and Qatar.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/387], adopted resolution 64/26 without vote [agenda item 92].

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,
Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of 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 region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desiring of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/38,

1. Urges all parties directly concerned seriously 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 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 yet 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(53)/RES/16, adopted on 17 September 2009 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-third 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 the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990 or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

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

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

South Pacific

As at 31 December, the number of States parties to the 1985 South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) [YUN 1985, p. 58] remained at 13. China and the Russian Federation had ratified Protocols 2 and 3, and France, the United Kingdom and the United States had ratified all three Protocols. Under Protocol 1, the States internationally responsible for territories situated within the zone would ap-
ply the relevant prohibitions of the Treaty to those territories; under Protocol 2, the five nuclear-weapon States would provide security assurances to parties or territories within the zone; and under Protocol 3, those five States would not carry out any nuclear tests in the zone.

Southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/44 by recorded vote (170-3-6) [agenda item 96 (i)].

Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,


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

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

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

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

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty, to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Noting the adoption of the Declaration of the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, where nuclear-weapon-free-zone States met for the purpose of strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone regime and contributing to the disarmament and the non-proliferation processes, and in particular to analyse ways of cooperating that could contribute to achieving the universal goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

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, and in that regard, noting with satisfaction the meeting of focal points of nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, held in Ulaanbaatar on 27 and 28 April 2009,

Reaffirming 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. Notes with satisfaction that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas are now in force;

3. Welcomes the ratification by all original parties of the Treaty of Rarotonga, and calls upon eligible States to adhere to the Treaty and the protocols thereto;

4. Also welcomes the entry into force, on 15 July 2009, of the Treaty of Pelindaba, which establishes a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa;

5. 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 adhered to them;

6. Urges all relevant States to cooperate in resolving outstanding issues with a view to the full implementation of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, which entered into force on 21 March 2009;

7. 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;

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

9. Welcomes the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives, and looks forward to the second Conference planned for 2010, which aims to further develop this collaboration;

10. Congratulates the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;
11. 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 the goals;
12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/44:

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

Against: France, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: India, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Pakistan, Palau.

First Meeting of Focal Points of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia

The focal points of the five nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia met in Ulaanbaatar (27–28 April), along with representatives of Egypt and Turkey as observers, and others from CTBTO and civil society. The sessions addressed the implementation of the Tlatelolco Declaration and coordination and cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones; preparations for the follow-up conference of States parties and signatories to treaties that established nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia; and preparations for the 2010 NPT Review Conference. Participants recalled that some nuclear-weapon States had yet to ratify protocols to the treaties and suggested that

Bacteriological (biological) and chemical weapons

Bacteriological (biological) weapons

Annual meetings of the States parties to the 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction [YUN1972, p. 5] (Biological Weapons Convention [bwc]) continued in 2009, covering international cooperation and capacity-building. Meetings of experts in August and of States parties in December sought to improve national implementation of agreed global norms and to promote universal adherence.

Meeting of States parties

As decided by the Sixth Review Conference of the States parties to bwc [YUN2006, p. 650], a meeting of those States was convened in 2009 (Geneva, 7–11 December) [BWC/MSP/2009/5]. It was attended by 100 States parties, six signatory States, two observer States, UNODA, UNIDIR, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (unicri) and 14 NGOs and research institutes. The European Union (eu), the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (opcw) and the World Health Organization (who) participated as observers.

Sessions were devoted to enhancing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes; promoting capacity-building in disease surveillance, detection and diagnosis; and containment of infectious diseases. One working session was devoted to reports from the Chairman and States parties on universalization activities [BWC/MSP/2009/4], and the report of the UNODA Implementation Support Unit [BWC/MSP/2009/2 & Add.1]. Participants stressed that States parties had a legal obligation to facilitate the exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of biological agents and toxins for peaceful purposes and not to hamper the economic and technological development of States parties. Participants agreed that although disease surveillance, mitigation and response were primarily national responsibilities, infectious diseases knew no boundaries and neither should efforts to combat them. They therefore noted that international organizations,
such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Plant Protection Convention secretariat, the World Organisation for Animal Health and WHO had a fundamental role to play in addressing disease and in supporting and financing national activities. It was recognized that infrastructure, equipment and technology were of little use without appropriately trained individuals, and that human resources should be developed for disease surveillance, detection, diagnosis and containment. Participants reviewed progress towards obtaining universality for the Convention and considered the Chairman’s report on universalization activities, as well as States parties’ reports on their activities to promote universalization.

**Meeting of experts.** A total of 103 States, including 96 States parties to the Convention, four signatory States and three observer States took part in the annual meeting of experts (Geneva, 24–28 August) [BWC/MSP/2009/MX/3 & Corr.1]. Among the nearly 500 participants were 16 NGOs and research institutes, UNODA, UNIDIR, UNICRI, FAO, WHO and other international scientific, professional, academic and industry bodies. Sessions were held on assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes; promoting capacity-building in disease surveillance, detection and diagnosis; and containment of infectious diseases.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/398], adopted resolution 64/70 without vote [agenda item 103].

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

The General Assembly,

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

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

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

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

Recalling the decision reached at the Sixth Review Conference to hold four annual meetings of the States parties of one week’s duration each year commencing in 2007, prior to the Seventh Review Conference, which is to be held no later than the end of 2011, and to hold a one-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,

1. Notes the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;
2. Welcomes the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;
3. Also welcomes the successful holding of meetings as part of the 2007–2010 intersessional process, and in this context also welcomes the discussion aimed at the promotion of common understanding and effective action on topics agreed at the Sixth Review Conference, and urges States parties to continue to participate actively in the remaining intersessional process;
4. Notes with satisfaction that the Sixth Review Conference agreed on several measures to update the mechanism for the transmission of information within the framework of the confidence-building measures;
5. Recalls the decisions reached at the Sixth Review Conference, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate in their implementation;
6. Urges States parties to continue to work closely with the Implementation Support Unit of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat in fulfilling its mandate, in accordance with the decision of the Sixth Review Conference;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction”. 


The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and Iraq in 2009 acceded to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (CWC), bringing the number of States parties to 188. The number of signatories remained 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].

Fourteenth session of Conference of States Parties

The fourteenth session of the Conference of States Parties to CWC (The Hague, Netherlands, 30 November–4 December) [C-14/5] was attended by 122 States parties, with two signatory States—Israel and Myanmar—attending as observers. The Conference noted that the final extended destruction deadline of 29 April 2012 for all categories of chemical weapons might not be fully met. It also noted that over 48 per cent of chemical weapons stockpiles remained to be destroyed as at 1 December 2009, and urged all possessor States parties to ensure their compliance with the final extended destruction deadline. The Conference extended the intermediate and final deadlines to 15 May 2011 for the destruction of category 1 chemical weapons by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It approved the report of OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2008. It requested the OPCW Executive Council to intensify consultations so as to develop concrete measures and recommendations to ensure the implementation of article XI, dealing with international cooperation in the peaceful uses of chemistry. In that regard, the Conference requested the OPCW Technical Secretariat to organize in 2010 a workshop for the exchange of ideas among States parties, chemical industry associations, NGOs and international institutions. The Conference appointed Ahmet Üzümcü (Turkey) as the next OPCW Director-General for a four-year term beginning 25 July 2010.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/46 without vote [agenda item 96 (k)].

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 63/48 of 2 December 2008, 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 63/48, four additional States have acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and eighty-eight,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Second Review Conference”), including the consensus final report, which addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

Emphasizing that the Second Review Conference welcomed the fact that, eleven years after its entry into force, the Convention remains a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control,

1. Emphasizes that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction is fundamental to the achievement of its objective and purpose, acknowledges progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. Underlines the fact that implementation of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons, the prohibition of the acquisition or use of chemical weapons, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use, or threat of use, of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

3. 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, be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

4. Reaffirms the obligation of the States parties to the Convention to destroy chemical weapons and to destroy or convert chemical weapons production facilities within the time limits provided for by the Convention;

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

6. Notes that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;
7. 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;

8. 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;

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

10. Emphasizes the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, and welcomes the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons;

11. Reaffirms that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

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

13. Notes with appreciation the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties, and also notes with appreciation the substantial contribution of the Technical Secretariat and the outgoing Director-General, Rogelio Pfirter, whose mandate expires in July 2010, to the continued development and success of the Organization;


15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth 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".
Conventional weapons

Towards an arms trade treaty

In 2009, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/240 [YUN 2008, p. 612], the Open-ended Working Group towards an Arms Trade Treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, held an organizational session (23 January) and two substantive sessions (2–6 March, 13–17 July) [A/AC.277/2009/1] in New York. Through the Group, Member States expressed their points of view concerning the goals and objectives, scope, principles and draft parameters of a potential arms trade treaty and other aspects to be addressed by such a treaty. The Working Group recognized the need to address the problems relating to unregulated trade in conventional weapons and their diversion to the illicit market. Considering that such risks could fuel instability, international terrorism and transnational organized crime, the Group stated that international action should be taken to address the problem.

The Assembly decided to convene a United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty in 2012 (see below).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/48 by recorded vote (151-1-20) [agenda item 96 (2)].

The arms trade treaty

The General Assembly,

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


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

Reaffirming the inherent right of all States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

Recalling its commitment to the principles of political independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, and acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the foundations for collective security,

Acknowledging the right of all States to manufacture, import, export, transfer and retain conventional arms for self-defence and security needs and in order to participate in peace support operations,

Acknowledging also the right of States to regulate internal transfers of arms and national ownership, including through national constitutional protections on private ownership, exclusively within their territory,

Recalling the obligations of all States to fully comply with arms embargoes decided by the Security Council in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming its respect for international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and the rights and responsibilities of every State under the Charter,

Noting and encouraging relevant initiatives undertaken at the international, regional and subregional levels between States, including those of the United Nations,

Taking note of the role played by non-governmental organizations and civil society to enhance cooperation, improve information exchange and transparency and assist States in implementing confidence-building measures in the field of responsible arms trade,

Recognizing that the absence of commonly agreed international standards for the transfer of conventional arms that address, inter alia, the problems relating to the unregulated trade of conventional arms and their diversion to the illicit market is a contributory factor to armed conflict, the displacement of people, organized crime and terrorism, thereby undermining peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable social and economic development,

Acknowledging the growing support across all regions for concluding a legally binding instrument, negotiated on a non-discriminatory, transparent and multilateral basis, to establish the highest possible common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, including through several regional and subregional workshops and seminars held in order to discuss the initiative launched by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/89, as well as those sponsored by the European Union and organized through the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in different regions around the world,

Taking due note of the views expressed by Member States on the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, submitted to the Secretary-General at his request,

Welcoming the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, which states that, in view of the complexity of the issues of conventional arms transfers, further consideration of efforts within the United Nations to address the international trade in conventional arms is required on a step-by-step basis in an open and transparent manner to achieve, on the basis of consensus, a balance that will provide benefit to all, with the principles of the Charter at the centre of such efforts,

Mindful of the need to prevent the diversion of conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, from the legal to the illicit market,

1. Calls upon all States to implement, on a national basis, the relevant recommendations contained in sec-
tion VII of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, recommends that all States carefully consider how to achieve such implementation in order to ensure that their national import and export control systems are of the highest possible standard, and urges those States in a position to do so to render assistance in this regard upon request;

2. **Endorses** the report of the Open-ended Working Group established by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/240 to further consider those elements in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts where consensus could be developed for their inclusion in an eventual legally binding treaty on the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, which provides a balance giving benefit to all, with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other existing international obligations at the centre of such considerations;

3. **Stresses** the need, as was underlined by consensus in the Open-ended Working Group, to address, inter alia, the problems relating to the unregulated trade in conventional weapons and their diversion to the illicit market, considering that such risks can fuel instability, transnational organized crime and terrorism, and that international action should be taken to address the problem;

4. **Decides**, therefore, to convene a United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty to meet for four consecutive weeks in 2012 to elaborate a legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms;

5. **Also decides** that the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty will be undertaken in an open and transparent manner, on the basis of consensus, to achieve a strong and robust treaty;

6. **Further decides** to consider the remaining sessions of the Open-ended Working Group in 2010 and 2011 as a preparatory committee for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

7. **Requests** the Preparatory Committee, at its four sessions in 2010 and 2011, to make recommendations to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty on the elements that would be needed to attain an effective and balanced legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms, bearing in mind the views and recommendations expressed in the replies of Member States and those contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts and the report of the Open-ended Working Group, and to present a report containing those elements to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

8. **Decides** to establish a fifth session of the Preparatory Committee in 2012 of up to three days' duration to decide on all relevant procedural matters, including the composition of the Bureau, the draft agenda and the submission of documents, for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

9. **Requests** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on proposed treaty elements and other relevant issues relating to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

10. **Decides** that intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies, having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly, may participate as observers in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, and requests the Committee to take decisions on the modalities of attendance of non-governmental organizations at its sessions;

11. **Stresses** the need to ensure the widest possible and effective participation in the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty in 2012;

12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to render the Preparatory Committee and the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information and relevant documents;

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

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/48:

**In favour:** Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Zambia.

**Against:** Zimbabwe.

**Abstaining:** Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Yemen.

**Small arms**

**UN Programme of Action on illicit trade in small arms**

The Third Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects [YUN 2008, p. 614] had stressed the importance of re-
regional approaches to implement the 2001 Programme of Action [YUN 2001, p. 499] and the usefulness of convening regional meetings coordinated by the United Nations.

UNODA and regional sponsors organized a Pacific regional meeting (Sydney, Australia, 22–23 June) and a meeting for States in the Great Lakes region, the Horn of Africa and bordering States, and Southern Africa (Kigali, Rwanda, 8–9 July). The Sydney meeting issued draft regional implementation guidelines that covered national legislation for the control of small arms; illicit brokering; stockpile management; marking, record-keeping and tracing; and regional cooperation. The guidelines, tailored towards the region, aimed for achievement by the time of the Second Review Conference of the Programme of Action in 2012. The Kigali meeting emphasized the importance of the globally agreed sub-themes contained in the outcome document of the Third Biennial Meeting of States, namely to effectively respond to the problems of illicit arms brokering activities; to improve arms and ammunition stockpile management; and to implement the International Tracing Instrument. The meeting stressed that small arms control measures should be linked to wider peace and security and development efforts. Moreover, measures to curb small arms and light weapons supply would be more effective if demand factors were addressed simultaneously.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/50 by recorded vote (180-0) [agenda item 96 (x)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 63/72 of 2 December 2008 as well as all previous resolutions entitled “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects”, including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,

*Emphasizing also* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),

*Recalling* the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

*Underlining* the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

*Welcoming* the early designation of Mexico as the Chair of the fourth biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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

*Bearing in mind* the importance of regular national reporting, which could greatly facilitate the rendering of international cooperation and assistance to affected States,

*Noting* the analysis of national reports prepared for the biennial meetings of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research,

*Taking into account* the importance of regional approaches to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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

*Welcoming* the holding of such regional meetings in Australia, Nepal, Peru and Rwanda,

*Recognizing* that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

*Recognizing also* the efforts undertaken by nongovernmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Welcoming* the coordinated efforts within the United Nations to implement the Programme of Action, including through developing the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which forms an integrated clearing house for international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building in the area of small arms and light weapons,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/72,

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Encourages* all initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful 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 calls upon all Member States to
contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

3. Encourages States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;

4. Recalls its endorsement of the report adopted at the third biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action, and encourages all States to implement the measures highlighted in the section of the report entitled “The way forward”;

5. Encourages all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

6. Decides that, in conformity with the follow-up to the Programme of Action, the fourth biennial meeting of States to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action shall be held in New York from 14 to 18 June 2010;

7. Recalls that the meeting of States to consider the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons shall be held within the framework of the biennial meeting of States;

8. Encourages States at the fourth biennial meeting of States to promote substantive discussions on possible practical measures by sharing lessons learned in the implementation of practical measures highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

9. Encourages States, as appropriate and where applicable, to develop common positions on issues relevant to the implementation of the Programme of Action and to present such common positions to the fourth biennial meeting of States;

10. Encourages States that have not yet done so to submit their national reports and, for those in a position to do so, to use the reporting template prepared by the United Nations Development Programme, and to include therein information on progress made in the implementation of the measures highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

11. Encourages States to also submit, well in advance of the fourth biennial meeting of States, their national reports on the implementation of the International Tracing Instrument;

12. Calls upon all States to implement the International Tracing Instrument by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

13. Encourages States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of these national reports;

14. Also encourages States to identify, in cooperation with the Chair-designate, well in advance of the fourth biennial meeting of States, priority issues or topics of relevance in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including their implementation challenges and opportunities, as well as any follow-up to the third biennial meeting of States;

15. Recalls its decision to convene an open-ended meeting of governmental experts for a period of one week, no later than in 2011, to address key implementation challenges and opportunities relating to particular issues and themes, including international cooperation and assistance;

16. Also recalls its decision to convene a conference to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, for a period of two weeks in New York, no later than in 2012;

17. Encourages interested States and international, regional and other relevant organizations in a position to do so, to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action as well as the International Tracing Instrument in preparation for the fourth biennial meeting of States;

18. Encourages States to make use of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research clearing house for matching assistance needs with potential donors as additional tools to facilitate global action on small arms and light weapons;

19. Emphasizes the need to facilitate the implementation at the national level of the Programme of Action through the strengthening of national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure;

20. Also emphasizes the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

21. Recognizes the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective;

22. Encourages States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

23. Encourages civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

24. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects”.

Chapter VII: Disarmament
RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/50:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, 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, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Assistance to States for curbing illicit small arms traffic

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 63/66 [YUN 2008, p. 619] and 63/72 [ibid., p. 617], the Secretary-General in July reviewed [A/64/173] activities undertaken by the UN system, intergovernmental organizations and Member States to curb the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects [YUN 2001, p. 499]. He noted that efforts to develop and implement small arms control measures had continued, with an increased emphasis not only on curbing the supply of illicit small arms and light weapons, but also on simultaneously stemming demand for those weapons. The reinvigoration of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (casa) mechanism, which brought together 22 UN system partners working to prevent violence and mitigate the impact of small arms and light weapons, was a reflection of the growing acknowledgement among UN entities of the importance of a coherent approach to small arms issues. CASA had been strengthening its coordination role, culminating in the endorsement of a strategic framework for 2009–2013 that included small arms demand and armed violence reduction issues. CASA had enhanced its capacity for information sharing since the launch in 2008 of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System [YUN 2008, p. 613], a web-based tool for stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action. The UN system had been effective in setting technical standards in specific areas, such as mine action and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. In the same vein, CASA had embarked on a project to develop international small arms control standards—a set of internationally accepted and validated technical standards that provided comprehensive guidance to practitioners and policymakers on legal, policy and operational issues surrounding small arms control. The project envisaged the completion of a set of standards by the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action, scheduled for June 2010.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/30 without vote (agenda item 96 (a)].

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

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/66 of 2 December 2008 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,

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

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

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

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

Recalling also the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable
Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,

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

Welcoming also the adoption, at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Abuja in June 2006, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Welcoming further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish a Small Arms Unit responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community’s Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Welcoming, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

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

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 June to 7 July 2006,

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

2. Encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of the General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. Encourages the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

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

5. Encourages the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;

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

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

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

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

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

Stockpile management

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/72 [YUN 2006, p. 661], the Secretary-General in 2007 established a Group of Governmental Experts to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus. The Group in 2008 issued recommendations [YUN 2008, p. 615] on measures to address the problem at the national, regional and global levels.

Acting on a recommendation of the Group, UNODA in 2009 embarked on a project for the development of technical guidelines for the management of stockpiles of conventional ammunition, which would be made available for States to use on a voluntary basis, in order to assist them in improving their national stockpile management capacity.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/51 without vote [agenda item 96 (r)].

Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus

The General Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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

*Recalling* its decision 59/515 of 3 December 2004 and its resolutions 60/74 of 8 December 2005 and 61/72 of 6 December 2006, as well as its resolution 63/61 of 2 December 2008, by which it welcomed the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus and decided to include the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session,

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

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

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

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

5. *Takes note of* the replies submitted by Member States in response to the request of the Secretary-General for views regarding the risks arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus and regarding national ways of strengthening controls on conventional ammunition;

6. *Strongly encourages* States to implement the recommendations of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;

7. *Continues to encourage* States in a position to do so to contribute, on a voluntary and transparent basis, to the development within the United Nations of technical guidelines for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition, which would be available for States to use on a voluntary basis, in order to assist States in improving their national stockpile management capacity, preventing the growth of conventional ammunition surpluses and addressing wider risk mitigation;

8. *Reiterates its decision* to address the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in a comprehensive manner;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus".

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

**Status**


**Group of Governmental Experts**

The Group of Governmental Experts, established by the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to ccw [YUN 2001, p. 504], met in 2009 for two sessions (Geneva, 16–20 February, 14–17 April)
[CCW/GGE/2009-II/2]. States parties in 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 621] had mandated the Group to continue negotiations on a new protocol to the Convention that would address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions while striking a balance between military and humanitarian considerations. The Group discussed the draft protocol’s general provision and scope of application; definitions; protection of civilians, the civilian population and civilian objects during armed conflict; general prohibitions and restrictions; stockpile, storage, destruction, transfers, clearance and destruction of cluster munitions and their remnants; recording, retaining and transmission of information on the use or abandonment of cluster munitions; victim assistance; and other issues. The Chair’s efforts, backed by the Friends of the Chair, resulted in incremental changes in the national positions of some key delegations. Despite their cooperation and flexibility, and despite some concessions by some key players, the text still remained unacceptable to many delegations. Based on the work of the two sessions and informal consultations held in August, the Chair, in his personal capacity, submitted a draft protocol [CCW/MSP/2009/WP.1] to the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties.

**Meeting of High Contracting Parties**

The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to ccw (Geneva, 12–13 November) [CCW/MSP/2009/5] took note of the draft protocol submitted by the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts. The Meeting decided that the Group would continue its negotiations, informed by the Chair’s draft protocol and taking into account document CCW/GGE/2009-II/2, Annex I, on cluster munitions, along with other proposals by delegations; and that the Group would report to the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2010.

The Meeting emphasized the importance of compliance with the Convention and its annexed Protocols by all High Contracting Parties. It expressed satisfaction at the establishment and maintenance of a compliance database and a roster of experts, and decided to keep the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines under consideration. The Meeting decided to establish an Implementation Support Unit within the UN Secretariat to assist States parties in their work.

**Protocol V on explosive remnants of war**

**Meeting of Experts**


**Third Conference of High Contracting Parties to Protocol V**

The Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V (Geneva, 9–10 November) welcomed 13 more countries that, since the Second Conference [YUN 2008, p. 622], had consented to be bound by Protocol V, bringing the total to 61 States parties. The Conference decided to continue the consideration of clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war and reiterated its invitation to all States in need of assistance to bring their case to the attention of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and make full use of the Protocol’s implementation mechanism. The Conference decided to continue consideration of assistance to victims at future meetings. It also encouraged High Contracting Parties to identify themselves as requiring assistance or in the position to provide assistance for the purpose of matching needs and resources.

The Conference took note of the concept for a Web-based information system for Protocol V and decided to develop it. It decided that the Meeting of Experts should continue to consider the exchange of information on national procedures and experience in the implementation of Protocol V and the identification of the UN structure that could serve as the focal point for collecting and transmitting such information. It approved the draft “Guide to National Reporting under ccw Protocol V” and recommended that States parties use it in order to provide comprehensive information. It decided that the 2010 Meeting of Experts should complete the elaboration of the “Guide for the implementation of Part 3 of the Technical Annex”, and continue to address one specific technical issue related to the implementation of article 9 and Part 3 of the Technical Annex, inviting States parties to share their technical approaches and experience in the matter.

The Conference adopted its report [CCW/PV/CONF/2009/9], which contained the provisional agenda of the 2010 Conference and the mandate of the 2010 Meeting of Experts.
Amended Protocol II on Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices

Group of Experts

The Group of Experts on Amended Protocol II on Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Geneva, 20–21 April) reviewed the operation and status of the Protocol; considered matters arising from States parties’ reports and the development of technologies to protect civilians against indiscriminate effects of mines; and addressed the issue of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Two Friends of the President were appointed to assist him in his work. Abderrazzak Laassel (Morocco) helped review the operation and status of the Protocol, matters arising from reports by States parties, and the development of technologies to protect civilians against indiscriminate effects of mines [CCW/AP.II/CONF.11/3]; while Reto Wollenmann (Switzerland) helped review the issue of IEDs [CCW/AP.II/CONF.11/2]. Both reports were presented to the Eleventh Annual Conference (see below).

Annual Conference of States Parties

The Eleventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the ccw Convention (Geneva, 11 November) appealed to States that had not acceded to the Protocol to do so. It encouraged the States parties and the ccw secretariat to intensify their efforts to implement the Plan of Action to Promote the Universality of ccw [YUN 2006, p. 664], in particular by organizing national and regional seminars aimed at promoting and explaining ccw and its Protocols; and decided that the Group of Experts should analyse the implementation of the reporting obligations by States parties and the content of their national annual reports. The Conference also decided that the Group of Experts should consider the legal possibility and the feasibility of terminating the original ccw Protocol II and explore practical steps to address the challenges posed by IEDs. The Conference adopted its final document [CCW/AP.II/CONF.11/4 & Corr.1], which contained the mandate and dates of the 2010 Group of Experts.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/395], adopted resolution 64/67 without vote [agenda item 100].

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 63/85 of 2 December 2008,
Welcoming the results of the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting 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, held from 7 to 17 November 2006 in Geneva,
Welcoming also the results of the 2008 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held on 13 and 14 November 2008 in Geneva,
Welcoming further the results of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held on 12 November 2008 in Geneva,
Welcoming the results of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held on 10 and 11 November 2008 in Geneva,
Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,
1. Calls upon all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;
2. Calls upon all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;
3. Emphasizes the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);
4. Welcomes the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;
5. Also welcomes the adoption by the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention of a Plan of Action to promote universality of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and expresses appreciation for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, the Chair of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, the President of the Second Confer-
ence of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the President of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. Recalls the decision by the Third Review Conference to establish a Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention, and, with recognition of the value and importance of the programme, encourages States to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme;

7. Welcomes the commitment by States parties to continue to address the humanitarian problems caused by certain specific types of munitions in all their aspects, including cluster munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of these munitions;

8. Expresses support for the work conducted in 2009 by the Group of Governmental Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to continue its negotiations to address urgently the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, while striking a balance between military and humanitarian considerations, in accordance with the mandate given to it by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties, in November 2008;

9. Welcomes the commitment of States parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation, and also welcomes the holding of the second Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol, from 22 to 24 April 2009 in Geneva, as a mechanism for consultation and cooperation among the States parties;

10. Notes the decision of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to establish an informal open-ended Group of Experts, and welcomes the holding of the first session of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on 20 and 21 April 2009 in Geneva, to exchange national practices and experiences and to assess the implementation of the Protocol;

11. Also notes 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;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, to be held on 9 and 10 November 2009, for the Eleventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, to be held on 11 November 2009, and for the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to be held on 12 and 13 November 2009, as well as for any continuation of work after the meetings;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1 and the Protocols thereto;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth 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”.

Cluster munitions
As at 31 December, the Convention on Cluster Munitions [YUN 2008, p. 623] had been signed by 104 States and ratified by 26. The Convention required four more ratifications for entry into force. The First Meeting of the States Parties was scheduled to be held in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic in 2010. The Convention prohibited all use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions causing unacceptable harm to civilians and provided for support to victims and affected communities.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION
On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/36 without vote [agenda item 96].

Convention on Cluster Munitions
The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 63/71 of 2 December 2008,
Recalling also the conclusion of negotiations on the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Dublin on 30 May 2008 and the opening for signature of the Convention in Oslo on 3 December 2008, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters pending its entry into force,
Noting the signature of the Convention on behalf of many States and the growing number of ratifications by signatories, which now approaches that required for entry into force of the Convention in accordance with its terms,
1. Welcomes the offer of the Government of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to host the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions following its entry into force;
2. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention following its entry into force.

Anti-personnel mines
1997 Convention
The number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mine-Ban Convention), which
was adopted in 1997 [YUN 1997, p. 503], remained at 156 on the tenth anniversary of its entry into force in 1999 [YUN 1999, p. 498].

**Second Review Conference**

The Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Mine-Ban Convention was held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 30 November to 4 December [APLC/CONF/2009/9], pursuant to a decision of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties [YUN 2008, p. 624]. The Conference was attended by 108 States parties. Nineteen States non-parties, one signatory that had not ratified the Convention (Poland) and a number of international, regional and NGOs attended as observers. At its first six plenary meetings, the Conference reviewed the status and operation of the Convention and concluded that, while progress continued to be made, challenges remained. The Conference agreed to extend deadlines for destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas under article 5 of the Convention by Argentina (until 1 January 2020), Cambodia (1 January 2020), Tajikistan (1 April 2020) and Uganda (1 August 2012). The Conference decided to hold annually, until a third review conference in 2014, a meeting of the States parties and intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees. The Conference adopted three documents, included in its report: "Review of the operation and status of the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction: 2005–2009", emphasizing that while great progress had been made in ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines, much more needed to be done; "Ending the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines: the Cartagena Action Plan 2010–2014", with the aim of supporting enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention; and "A shared commitment for a mine-free world: the 2009 Cartagena Declaration". In the Declaration, States parties reaffirmed their adherence to the Convention's goals and appealed to those countries that had not ratified the Convention to do so.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/56 by recorded vote (160-0-18) [agenda item 96].

**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,*


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, including children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

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

Recalling that 2009 marks the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,

Noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,


Recalling also the ninth meeting of the States parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 24 to 28 November 2008, at which the international community monitored progress on implementation of the Convention, supported continued application of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005–2009, and established priorities for achieving further progress towards ending, for all people and for all time, the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines,

Recalling further the preparatory process for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, entitled “The Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World”, to be held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 29 November to 4 December 2009, and the two preparatory meetings held in 2009 pursuant to the decisions of the ninth meeting of the States parties,

Noting with satisfaction that one hundred and fifty-six States have ratified or acceded to the Convention and have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention,

Emphasizing the desirability of achieving 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;
Chapter VII: Disarmament

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

3. Stresses the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005–2009;

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

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

6. Renew its call upon all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

7. Urges all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

8. Reiterates its invitation and encouragement to 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 attend the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, entitled “The Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World”, at the highest possible level and, pending a decision to be taken at the Second Review Conference, to participate in the future meetings programme;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the next meeting of the States parties, pending a decision to be taken at the Second Review Conference, and on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Second Review Conference and future meetings as observers;

10. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/56:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, 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, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam.

Practical disarmament

The Disarmament Commission [A/64/42] included in its agenda the item “Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons”, but noted that the item would be taken up upon the conclusion of the elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, preferably by 2010 and in any case no later than 2011.

Transparency

While there was a decline in the number of States participating in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, there was an increase in the percentage of reports that referred to small arms. A Group of Governmental Experts was unable to reach a consensus on the inclusion of small arms as a new item in the Register. With respect to the Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures, 2009 marked the lowest level of reporting since 2001.

Conference on Disarmament. During the general debate of the Conference [A/64/27], delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on “Practical disarmament an item also discussed at two informal meetings (17 February, 5 March) [CD/1877, Annex VII] where little real progress was achieved. Following the two meetings, the coordinator proposed that the issue of “increase in military expenditure and the necessity to make more effective the existing transparency measures”, which arose during 2008 and was mentioned by several delegations in 2009, be highlighted for future discussions. Delegations said that the proposal was inspir-
ing in its effort to shed light on common positions, and in principle they had no objection to it. Some delegations questioned the mandate of the informal discussion under the role of the Conference and commented on the work on military expenditure that was under way elsewhere, for instance in the framework of the General Assembly’s First Committee. Delegations expressed support for continuing discussions, thus allowing Member States to share information on their policies and initiatives to increase transparency in armaments.

**UN Register of Conventional Arms**

In response to General Assembly resolution 63/69 [YUN 2008, p. 628], the Secretary-General in July submitted the seventeenth annual report on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms [A/64/135 & Add.1–3], established in 1992 [YUN 1992, p. 75] to promote enhanced levels of transparency on arms transfers. The report presented information for the year 2008, provided by 80 countries, on imports and exports 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 conventional arms transfers, military holdings, procurement through national production, and international transfers of small arms and light weapons. The report highlighted numerous activities undertaken by UNODA, in collaboration with Governments and regional organizations, to enhance awareness of the Register and encourage greater participation in it. Furthermore, UNODA produced background publications which could be accessed on its website.

In August [A/64/296], pursuant to resolution 63/69, the Secretary-General forwarded to the Assembly the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development. The report examined ways to improve the relevance of and promote universal participation in the Register; provided up-to-date data and analysis on information reported by States; assessed the operation of the Register, including regional priorities and relevance; and examined issues related to the further development of the Register, taking into account advanced armament technology, security and capacity concerns and emerging tactical methods. The Group considered expanding the reporting categories and adding new categories to the Register, representing both a new class of equipment that was just beginning to be widely used in combat operations and a category of small arms and light weapons. However, the Group was unable to reach consensus on expanding the Register’s scope and adapting it to new political and military circumstances.

The Group encouraged increased and consistent participation by States in the Register in order to promote universality. In that regard, it recommended that the UN Secretariat continue to assist Member States to build capacity to submit meaningful reports, including capacity to report on small arms and light weapons, and encourage States to submit “nil” returns where appropriate. The Group recommended that the Secretary-General seek the views of Member States, including whether the continued absence of small arms and light weapons as a main category in the Register had limited its relevance and affected decisions on the participation of Member States in the instrument.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/54 by recorded vote (153–0–23) [agenda item 96 (w)].

**Transparency in armaments**

The General Assembly,


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 2008,

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

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

Noting the focused discussions on transparency in armaments that took place in the Conference on Disarmament in 2009,

Noting with concern the reduction in reporting to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms in the last two years,
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. Endorses the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained in the consensus report of the 2009 group of governmental experts;

3. Calls upon Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 31 May annually, with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, the recommendations contained in paragraphs 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto, the recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 114 of the 2003 report of the Secretary-General, the recommendations contained in paragraphs 123 to 127 of the 2006 report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 71 to 75 of the 2009 report of the Secretary-General;

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

5. Also invites Member States in a position to do so to provide additional information on transfers of small arms and light weapons on the basis of the optional standardized reporting form, as adopted by the 2006 group of governmental experts, or by any other methods they deem appropriate;

6. 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 to seek the views of Member States, including whether the absence of small arms and light weapons as a main category in the Register has limited its relevance and directly affected decisions on participation;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist Member States to build capacity to submit meaningful reports, including capacity to report on small arms and light weapons;

(d) Requests the Secretary-General, with a view to the three-year review cycle of the Register, to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2012 to review 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;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 reports on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

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

9. 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;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/54:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslovak Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.
Also on 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/40 without vote [agenda item 96].

**National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology**

*The General Assembly,*

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

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

*Recalling also* that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

*Considering* that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

*Convinced* that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

*Welcoming* the electronic database established by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in which all information exchanged pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 57/66 of 22 November 2002, 58/42 of 8 December 2003, 59/66 of 3 December 2004, 60/69 of 8 December 2005 and 62/26 of 5 December 2007, entitled “National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology”, can be consulted,

*Reaffirming* the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so, without prejudice to the provisions contained in Security Council resolution 1540(2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent relevant Council resolutions, to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make that information accessible to Member States;

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

**Transparency of military expenditures**

In response to General Assembly resolution 62/13 [YUN 2007, p. 579], the Secretary-General, in a report issued in June with later addenda [A/64/113 & Add.1,2], presented reports from 58 States on their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data were available. As requested by the resolution, UNODA organized a workshop on transparency in armaments for West African States (Dakar, Senegal, 9–10 June), which devoted one session to the United Nations Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/381], adopted resolution 64/22 without vote [agenda item 86 (b)].

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

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001, 58/28 of 8 December 2003, 60/44 of 8 December 2005 and 62/13 of 5 December 2007 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

*Recalling also* its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, 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 geographical regions,

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

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

*Noting* the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,
Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Noting that the continuing operation of the standardized reporting system should be reviewed with a view to improving its further development and to broadening participation in it,

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,

Recalling the establishment of a group of governmental experts, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to review the operation and further development of the Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures, commencing in 2010, taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the subject and the reports of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the Standardized Instrument under the current political and economic circumstances,

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

2. Recommends the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other 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 complementarities among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

4. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, within available resources:
   (a) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbaile to Member States requesting the submission of data to the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;
   (b) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States, taking into account in his 2010 report the information received from Member States in accordance with paragraph 6 (b) below;
   (c) To transmit the report of the group of governmental experts to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session;
   (d) 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;
   (e) 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 complementarities among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;
   (f) 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;
   (g) To promote international and regional/subregional symposiums and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions;
   (h) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

6. Encourages Member States:
   (a) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;
   (b) To continue to provide the Secretary-General with their views and suggestions on ways and means to improve the future functioning of and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure, which could be taken into account by the group of governmental experts during its mandated activity;

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

Verification

On 2 December, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth (2011) session the item entitled “Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification” (decision 64/512).
Other disarmament issues

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Conference on Disarmament. Delegations discussed the prevention of an arms race in outer space at two informal meetings on 10 and 24 February [CD/1877, Annex III], drawing on the discussions in 2008 on transparency and confidence-building measures and on legally binding instruments. Several delegations noted that the issue to be addressed was the placement or use of weapons in space and not the militarization of space, which had already occurred. On legally binding instruments, discussions focused on the Russian-Chinese draft “Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space and of the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects”, which had been submitted in 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 631]. In a letter of 18 August to the Conference, China and the Russian Federation transmitted their answers [CD/1872] to the principal questions and comments on their draft. Many delegations supported continued discussions on the draft treaty and welcomed the contributions made by the Russian Federation and China.

On transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, most delegations supported the view that such measures could foster greater trust and serve as a complementary or even as a stand-alone measure. Some delegations, however, opposed the idea of those measures serving as a substitute for a legally binding instrument, as they did not believe that they could fill the gaps in the legal regime. Most delegations expressed interest in starting substantive discussions on outer space within the framework of an agreed programme of work in the Conference. Some delegations expressed optimism that a possible shift in the position of the new United States Administration could add a new element to the discussions.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/68 [YUN 2008, p. 633], the Secretary-General in July issued a report with a later addendum [A/64/138 & Add.1], containing proposals from 13 countries (Argentina, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic on behalf of the EU, Lebanon, Mexico, Nicaragua, Qatar, Russian Federation, Syria, Ukraine) on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

The EU drew attention to its draft code of conduct for outer space activities. The draft code covered civil as well as military outer space activities and was based on three principles: freedom of access to space for all for peaceful purposes; preservation of the security and integrity of space objects in orbit; and due consideration for the legitimate defence interests of States. The voluntary code would be applicable to all outer space activities conducted by States and non-governmental entities under the jurisdiction of a subscribing State, including the activities carried out within the framework of international intergovernmental organizations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/389], adopted resolution 64/28 by recorded vote (176-0-2) [agenda item 94].

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,
Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,
Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,
Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,
Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,
Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,
Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,
Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,
Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,
Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,
Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued
the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions.

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992.

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of 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 48/474 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2009,

Taking note of the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,

Taking note also of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. Reaffirms the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;

2. Reaffirms its recognition, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. Emphasizes the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. Calls upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. Reiterates that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. Invites the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space” as early as possible during its 2010 session;

7. Recognizes, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. Urges States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/28:

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

Chapter VII: Disarmament

561
San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, 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, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Also on 2 December [meeting 55], the Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/49 without vote [agenda item 96 (c)].

Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007 and 63/68 of 2 December 2008,

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

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

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, including resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, emphasize the need for increased transparency and confirm the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,

Noting the constructive debate which the Conference on Disarmament held on this subject in 2009, including the views expressed by Member States,

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,

Noting further the presentation by the European Union of a draft code of conduct for outer space activities,

Noting the contribution of Member States which have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43 and paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures;

2. Invites all Member States to continue to submit to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a final report with an annex containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to resolutions 61/75, 62/43, 63/68 and the present resolution;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities”.

Observance of environmental norms

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/51 [YUN 2008, p. 636], the Secretary-General in July submitted a report with a later addendum [A/64/118 & Add.1] containing information from Cuba, the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Lebanon, Mexico, Spain and the United Arab Emirates on measures they had adopted to promote the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/33 without vote [agenda item 96 (n)].

Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,


Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of agreements on 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 submitted pursuant to resolution 63/51,

Noting that the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned...
Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, welcomed the adoption of resolution 63/51, the first resolution adopted without a vote by the General Assembly on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. Reaffirms that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. Calls upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. Welcomes the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;

4. Invites all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

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

Science and technology and disarmament

By decision 64/514 of 2 December, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth (2010) session the item “Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament”.

The Assembly took related action on the same day in resolution 64/25 (see p. 609) on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, calling on Member States to promote the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in that field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information. It requested the Secretary-General to study those threats as well as cooperative measures to address them, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts.

Studies, research and training

UN Institute for Disarmament Research

The Secretary-General presented to the General Assembly the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (unidir) [A/64/261] covering activities from August 2008 to July 2009, as well as the report of the UNIDIR Board of Trustees on the proposed 2009 and 2010 programmes of work and estimated budget. During the reporting period, UNIDIR’s work centred on three areas: global security and disarmament, regional security and disarmament, and human security and disarmament. The report outlined UNIDIR’s activities regarding networking, dissemination and outreach to researchers, diplomats, government officials and NGOs; publications; and research activities for 2009–2011.

By means of the report, the Board of Trustees transmitted a recommendation for a subvention for the Institute from the UN regular budget for the biennium 2010–2011. The Director highlighted that such a subvention, which guaranteed the Institute’s independence, currently covered only about 20 per cent of its core costs, or about 10 per cent of the overall budget. The Director also reported on the status of voluntary funds from Governments and philanthropic foundations, which comprised about 90 per cent of the Institute’s budget and financed all operational costs.

The General Assembly, in section III of resolution 64/245 of 24 December (see p. 1406), having considered the Secretary-General’s request for a subvention to UNIDIR resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees [A/64/270] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [A/64/7/Add.7], approved a subvention for the Institute in the amount of $558,200 from the UN regular budget for the 2010–2011 biennium.

Disarmament studies

The Group of Governmental Experts on the continuing operation and further development of the UN Register of Conventional Arms concluded its work and submitted a report [A/64/296] (see p. 556) on that topic. The report was mandated by General Assembly resolution 63/69 of 2 December 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 628] and endorsed by resolution 64/54 of 2 December 2009 [ibid.].

Disarmament fellowships

Twenty-four fellows participated in the 2009 UN disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, which began in Geneva on 24 August and concluded in New York on 22 October.
The programme continued to be structured in three segments: a study session in Geneva, study visits to disarmament-related intergovernmental organizations and to Member States; and a study session at UN Headquarters in New York.

**We Must Disarm campaign**

On 13 June, the Secretary-General launched an advocacy campaign under the slogan “WMD-WeMustDisarm” to mark the 100-day countdown leading to the International Day of Peace on 21 September. He was joined in the campaign by United Nations Messenger of Peace Michael Douglas and actor Rainn Wilson. The campaign reached out to youth using a range of electronic media.

**Annual DPI/NGO conference**

Some 1,300 participants from more than 55 countries representing over 340 NGOs associated with the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) participated in the sixty-second annual DPI/NGO conference (Mexico City, 9–11 September), titled, “For Peace and Development: Disarm Now”. DPI, the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, UNODA and the Government of Mexico jointly organized the event, which adopted a document titled “Disarming for Peace and Development”. Participants urged Governments, the United Nations and civil society to work together and strengthen the regime of nuclear and conventional disarmament and non-proliferation. They urged the integration of security-related themes into the possible follow-up of the Millennium Development Goals; full implementation of Council resolution 1325(2000) [YUN 2000, p. 1113], in particular ensuring representation of women at all levels of decision-making on conflict prevention, management and resolution; and full implementation of Council resolution 1820(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 1265] to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict.

On 18 September [S/2009/477], Mexico transmitted to the Council the NGO Declaration: Disarming for Peace and Development, adopted at the conference.

**Regional disarmament**

Throughout 2009, regional organizations remained engaged with disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Regional and subregional initiatives aimed at preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction, curbing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, promoting confidence- and security-building measures and advancing the prospects of additional nuclear-weapon-free zones. The year saw two major developments: the entry into force of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia (see p. 534) and of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone established under the Treaty of Pelindaba (see p. 533).

The General Assembly in resolution 64/41 (see below) noted that regional disarmament endeavours by countries, 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. The Assembly affirmed that global and regional approaches to disarmament complemented each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/41 without vote [agenda item 96 (f)].

**Regional disarmament**

The General Assembly,


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
Chapter VII: Disarmament

565

Chapter VII: Disarmament

565

characters 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 sub-regional levels;

4. Welcomes the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. Supports and encourages efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Regional disarmament”.

Conventional arms control at regional and subregional levels

The Secretary-General, in response to General Assembly resolution 63/44 [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/42 by recorded vote (174-1-2) [agenda item 96 (g)].

Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 64/42:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania,
Confidence-building measures

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/45 [YUN 2008, p. 645] on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context, the Secretary-General in June presented a report with a later addendum [A/64/114 & Add.1] containing the views of 11 Member States (Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, El Salvador, Greece, Lebanon, Mexico, Panama, Poland, Spain, Ukraine) on the issue.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/391], adopted resolution 64/43 without vote [agenda item 96 (h)].

Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,
Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,
Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 entitled "Prevention of armed conflict", in which it calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,
Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,
Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,
Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,
Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,
Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socio-economic conditions of their people,
Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. Calls upon Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
2. Reaffirms its commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;
3. Reaffirms the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;
4. Calls upon Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;
5. Urges States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;
6. Emphasizes that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;
7. Encourages the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;
9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".
Central Africa Standing Advisory Committee


At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee noted that since its meeting in 2008 [YUN 2008, p. 646], there had been sharply contrasting developments in the geopolitical and security situation among its members (Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe). On the one hand, there had been notable progress in consolidation of democratic processes and the smooth functioning of institutions; on the other, the region had been confronted with a number of security situations. The Committee also focused on the status of bilateral relations between the DRC and Rwanda; developments in the situation among the members of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries; implementation of the 2007 Sao Tome Initiative, which comprised a code of conduct for defence and security forces and a draft legal instrument on control of small arms and light weapons; cross-border crime; disarmament and arms limitation programmes; and the Committee’s financial situation.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee additionally discussed the implementation of the Brazzaville Programme of priority activities on proliferation of small arms and light weapons and disarming civilians; implementation of the Yaoundé Agreement of 6 May 2009 on piracy in the Gulf of Guinea; report on the activities of the UN Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa; and women, peace and security: implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325(2000) [YUN 2000, p. 1113], 1820(2008) [YUN 2008, p. 1265], 1888(2009) (see p. 1137) and 1889(2009) (see p. 1141). Congo and Gabon pledged to contribute $10,000 each to the Committee’s trust fund.

Report of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 63/78 [YUN 2008, p. 647], the Secretary-General in July [A/64/163] described the activities of the Committee between July 2008 and June 2009, which included the Committee’s twenty-eighth ministerial meeting. The Secretary-General noted that Committee members adopted the Code of Conduct for the Defence and Security Forces in Central Africa, annexed to the Secretary-General’s report, demonstrating their commitment to a set of principles guaranteeing the good governance of those forces. Moreover, in drafting a legal instrument on the control of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, Committee members continued to pool their ideas on elements for inclusion in the future instrument and lessons to be drawn from the implementation of similar instruments.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/61 without vote [agenda item 97 (e)].

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 63/78 of 2 December 2008,

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

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,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

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,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on 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 development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

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, and welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States for that purpose,

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

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms limitation programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 8 May 2009 of the Code of Conduct for the Defence and Security Forces in Central Africa and the major strides made by States in the drafting of a legal instrument on the control of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, and encourages interested countries to provide their financial support to the implementation of the “Sao Tome Initiative”;

4. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

5. *Also encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to continue their efforts to render the early-warning mechanism for Central Africa fully operational as an instrument for analysing and monitoring the political situation in the subregion within the framework of the prevention of crises and armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance for its smooth functioning;

6. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue their assistance to the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Welcomes* the adoption on 8 May 2009 of the Libreville Declaration calling upon States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

10. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

11. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa”.

### Regional centres for peace and disarmament

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/58 without vote [agenda item 97 (c)].

#### United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007 and 63/76 of 2 December 2008 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

*Noting* that in paragraph 127 of the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, the Heads of State and Government emphasized 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,
Chapter VII: Disarmament

1. Reiterates the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to advancement in disarmament and 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 that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. Appeals to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. Emphasizes the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament”.

Africa

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/80 [YUN 2008, p. 649], the Secretary-General in June reported [A/64/112] on the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa between July 2008 and June 2009. The Centre was established in Lomé, Togo, in 1986 [YUN 1986, p. 85]. The Secretary-General noted that the revitalized Centre expanded its scope of action and achieved continental reach. It undertook and initiated activities covering an increased number of issues related to peace and disarmament, and did so in a majority of African subregions. The continental scope of the Centre’s programmes went hand-in-hand with a strengthening of its partnerships with the African Union and subregional organizations. The numerous requests that the Centre had received, along with an upsurge of interest on the part of the States of the region, indicated that the Centre had achieved its goal of becoming recognized as the major expertise centre on peace and disarmament in Africa. The Secretary-General expressed his appreciation to Austria, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Togo and the United Kingdom, as well as to the EU: their contributions in cash and in kind, in addition to funds from the UN regular budget, had provided the opportunity to develop and implement key peace and security programmes.

As at 31 December 2008, the balance of the trust fund for the Centre stood at $264,480.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/62 without vote [agenda item 97 (f)].

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly, Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation, Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,


Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting peace, security and disarmament at the regional level,

Taking into account the need to strengthen the existing cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular its institutions in the fields of peace, security and disarmament, as well as with relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa for greater effectiveness, and considering the focus of its resolution 63/310 of 14 September 2009 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, and in particular the need to address the problems related to peace and disarmament, and the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its two-hundredth meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009, in which the Council welcomes the increased collaboration between the Regional Centre and the African Union and regional organizations in the areas of peace, security and disarmament,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that an increase in the Regional Centre’s human and operational capacity would enable it to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,
The revitalization of the Regional Centre and the progress made in covering all of Africa and widening its scope of activities related to peace and disarmament in implementation of the recommendations made by the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa established by resolution 60/86 of 8 December 2005.

Noting the timely implementation by the Secretary-General of its resolution 62/216 of 22 December 2007 concerning the future work programme of the Regional Centre, as well as its staffing and funding,

Deeply concerned that, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General, despite the decision taken in Khartoum in January 2006 by the Executive Council of the African Union, in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations, no such funds have been received to ensure its operations,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. Notes the successful conclusion of the process of revitalization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa through the strengthening of its financial and human capacities;
3. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the Regional Centre to align its actions with the priorities identified in the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;
4. Welcomes the undertaking by the Regional Centre of new initiatives and projects in the fields of security sector reform and practical disarmament measures, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;
5. Also welcomes the efforts made by the Regional Centre to revitalize its activities and extend its operations to cover all of Africa, in order to respond to the evolving needs of the continent in the areas of peace, security and disarmament;
6. Urges all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to support the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;
7. Urges, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre's trust fund in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to facilitate closer cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of peace, security and disarmament;
9. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for greater achievements and results;
10. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

Asia and the Pacific

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/77 [YUN 2008, p. 651], the Secretary-General in June reported [A/64/111] on the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific between July 2008 and June 2009 on promoting global disarmament and non-proliferation norms; enhancing regional dialogue on disarmament, non-proliferation and security matters; and outreach and advocacy activities. The Centre, inaugurated in 1989 [YUN 1989, p. 88] and located in Kathmandu, Nepal, organized workshops, seminars and, in 2008, two conferences [YUN 2008, p. 650]. The Centre launched a new project aimed at enhancing international and regional cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons in the region. It was essential that Member States, in particular those from the region, took full ownership of the Centre and provided political and financial support to its operations and activities benefiting the region.

As at 31 December 2008, the Centre’s trust fund balance stood at $537,792.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/63 without vote [agenda item 97 (d)].

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and named 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 physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,
Recalling the Regional Centre’s 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,
Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including conferences held.
on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 24 to 26 November 2008 and in Niigata, Japan, from 26 to 28 August 2009.

Concerned by the report of the Secretary-General, in which he indicates that in order to be able to carry out its mandate fully and effectively, the Regional Centre needs to rely on a stable core team of skilled professional and support staff,

Appreciating the timely execution by Nepal of its financial commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. Welcomes the physical operation of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific from Kathmandu in close cooperation with Member States;

2. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has allowed the new office of the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

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. Reaffirms its strong support for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. Underlines the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

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

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific”.

Latin America and the Caribbean

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was inaugurated in Lima, Peru, in 1987 [YUN 1987, p. 88]. In a report issued in June [A/64/116], submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/74 [YUN 2008, p. 654], the Secretary-General described the work of the Centre from July 2008 to June 2009 in the areas of armed violence and public security; conventional and small arms instruments; and promotion of regional non-proliferation. The Centre focused on the issue of armed violence, which had been identified as a primary security concern in the region, and contributed to the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective. In particular, the Centre assisted in building the capacity of States to combat illicit firearms trafficking. As a result of the Centre’s efforts and joint initiatives, States were better equipped to confront armed violence and illicit firearms trafficking, which had a negative impact on sustainable development in the region. Similarly, States of the region gained greater access to standardized tools to assist in the development of firearms legislation and small arms policies. The Centre’s dependency on extrabudgetary funds for both projects and operational costs continued to represent a challenge, and the Centre had therefore intensified its resource mobilization efforts to guarantee the sustainability of its operation.

As at 31 December 2008, the balance of the trust fund for the Centre stood at $1,236,976.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 55], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First Committee [A/64/392], adopted resolution 64/60 without vote [agenda item 97 (a)].

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,


Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided by the Regional Centre to many countries in the region for the development of plans to reduce and prevent
armed violence from an arms control perspective and for promoting the implementation of relevant agreements and treaties,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development, referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), as well as to promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction and to promoting peace and disarmament education projects during the period under review,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

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, disarmament, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. Expresses its satisfaction for the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. Expresses its appreciation for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. Appeals to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to make and to increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. Invites all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

6. Recognizes that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as in the relationship between disarmament and development;

7. Encourages the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”.