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Documentation of the Work of the United Nations General Assembly First Committee

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General Assembly First Committee (GA1)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons
- II. Addressing Conflict Situations in the Middle East

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
GA 1/1	Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons	17 votes in favour and 0 votes against
GA 1/2	Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons	17 votes in favour and 1 vote against
GA 1/3	Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons	13 votes in favour and 3 votes against

Summary Report

The General Assembly First Committee held its annual session to consider the following items on its agenda:

- I. Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons
- II. Addressing Conflict Situations in the Middle East

The Session was attended by delegates from 32 Member States. On Monday, the inaugural day of the Committee's sessions, the Committee adopted the agenda as Topic I and Topic II, beginning its deliberations on the topic of "Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons."

By Tuesday, the Dias had received a total of three proposals, covering a wide range of sub-topics related to the issue of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, including: Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZs), transparency, Member States' commitments to obligations, nuclear energy agencies, and cooperation amongst stakeholders. As discussions continued, both in formal and informal sessions, delegates began to rework, review, and expand their proposals.

On Wednesday, three clearly defined blocs and working papers had emerged. Their working papers were subjected to constant review by the Dias and the Under-Secretary-General (USG) in charge of the General Assembly as well. By Thursday, deliberations continued in the formal sessions, and blocs continued to improve on the quality of their working papers, which were again subjected to further reviews by the Dias and the Under-Secretary-General Research.

By Friday, as the conference neared its end, the delegates put the finishing touches on the different working papers as they implemented the final set of reviews, corrections, and comments made by the Dias and the Deputy Secretary-General. After all recommended adjustments had been made, three draft resolutions were approved by the Dias, none of which was subjected to formal amendments. The Committee then moved into voting procedure and adopted all three resolutions. The resolutions addressed a wide range of issues such as: the reduction of nuclear stockpiles; increasing the efficiency of the International Atomic Energy Agency and other similar bodies; the introduction of amendments to existing treaties such as the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT); the creation of education and enlightenment programmes; and the creation of more NWFZs where necessary. The overall effort of the body throughout the conference was characterised by cooperation and a willingness to achieve multilateral solutions that are acceptable across the board.

Code: GA1 1/1

Committee: The General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly First Committee,

Acknowledging the *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* (TPNW) (2017) which is geared towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Alarmed by the deadlock in the negotiation of treaties by the Conference on Disarmament,

Reaffirming the position of the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (NPT) (1968) which is geared towards the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament, general and complete disarmament,

Noting with approval the progress made by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in its stockpile reduction research,

Recognizing the efforts of the Committee on Disarmament in negotiating the *Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty* (FMCT) which is aimed at preventing the continued production of fissile material,

Appreciating the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Statute (1956) which establishes the IAEA as an international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to inhibit its use for any military purpose,

Deeply disturbed by the expulsion of IAEA inspectors from certain Member States nuclear facilities and cancellation of accreditation of IAEA inspectors, also the lack of commitment and transparency of some Member States to the IAEA,

Fully aware of the essential contributions of the IAEA to global nuclear safety as stated in its report to the General Assembly in 2014 and its further commitment to World peace,

1. *Proposes* that practical steps are adopted in the reduction of stockpile of existing nuclear weapons,
 - a. By utilizing research of the UNIDIR which would practically apply in nuclear weapon and fissile material stockpile reduction;
 - b. Artificial intelligence, particularly machine learning, would be provided with comprehensively analyzed data which allows for objective and comprehensive analysis of safe stockpile reduction options;
 - c. A comprehensive amendment of the FMCT to address fissile material stockpile reductions, UNIDIR research and artificial intelligence stockpile reduction methods would be applied to fissile material stockpile reductions;
 - d. All local contracts must also provide for a transition to renewable energy within a stipulated timeline;
2. *Recommends* that Member States pay their assessed contributions;
 - a. To aid the Conference on Disarmament in the logistics of negotiating various deadlocked frameworks;

- b. To enable funding for the enlightenment of Member States on the benefits of ratifying treaties and Nuclear Weapon stockpile reduction. This would be done through workshops and seminars;
3. *Suggests* collaborating with the IAEA;
- a. In regional safeguard agreements, explicitly concerning the inspection of nuclear facilities of a party to the contract who utilizes atomic energy for non-military purposes; parties to such regional agreements would gradually transition to renewable energy;
 - b. By urging Member States who utilize nuclear energy for non-military purposes to complete safeguard agreements with the IAEA, pending the Member States transition to renewable energy;
 - c. By strongly condemning the actions of certain Member States and emphasizing that stringent measures be applied to demand compliance and commitment from other erring states;
 - d. By suggesting that all Member States support the IAEA with funds to cover more grounds in its supervision and monitoring of Member States. The IAEA needs access to funds in order to expand its supervision and possess equal or at least commensurate bargaining power with Member States who are parties to regional agreements.

Code: GA1 1/2

Committee: The General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The United Nations General Assembly First Committee,

Acknowledging Article 1.1 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945), which states that the purposes of the United Nations include “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...”,

Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 which states that international cooperation is vital to achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recalling the General Assembly resolution 71/258 which led to the creation of *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* (TPNW) (2017), which prohibits nuclear weapons to lead towards their total elimination,*

*Bearing in mind the *Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty* (CTBT) (1996) which aims at eliminating nuclear weapons by constraining the development and qualitative improvements of new types of nuclear weapons,*

*Remembering the *Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Resolution 67/28* which establishes a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East in 2012,*

*Recalling that the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (NPT) (1968), which serves as the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime,*

Guided by the General Assembly resolution 3621 F (1974) which provides for the possibility of a single-state Nuclear-Weapon- Free Zone (SS-NWFZ),

Emphasizing the Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) which recognizes the threat of non-state proliferation and calls upon Member States to develop and enforce all appropriate measures against the proliferation of all Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), including nuclear weapons and it requires that all States use domestic legislation to criminalize non-state actor involvement in WMD proliferation,

*Aware of the critical role played by the International Monitoring System in providing checks on, possession of nuclear weapons as set forth by the *Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty* (CTBT) (1996),*

*Reiterating the need for renewed and concerted implementation of the *Chemical Weapons Convention* (1980),*

Guided by the safety standards and protocols instituted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in detecting non-peaceful nuclear usage in constructing nuclear facilities,

Deeply concerned about the current situation, conflicts and proxy wars in the Middle East,

Noting with regret the possible dangers inherent in the development of nuclear devices by non-state actors,

Further recalls the efforts made by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA),

Aware of the continuous state of unrest of the Middle East Region and the damages caused by the employment of weapons of mass destructions and nuclear weapons during wars in the middle east,

1. *Calls for* all Member States, especially states with Nuclear Weapons to sign and ratify the following treaties: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) as they;
 - a. Restrain Member States who sign these treaties from transferring or receiving nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, control over such weapons, or any assistance with activities prohibited under the treaty;
 - b. Require Member States with nuclear stockpiles to hand them over to the United Nations (UN);
2. *Urges* Member States to fully cooperate with the IAEA by hosting various missions of the IAEA, such as the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS), Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) and International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS);
3. *Requests* the peaceful, reduced and monitored use of nuclear materials while trying to achieve total disarmament by creating a smaller committee which will comprise of representatives from each region in order to examine and counsel Member States on their use of nuclear materials;
4. *Further urges* that a system be put in place for the enlightenment and education of children and youths on chemical and nuclear safety and other related affairs through;
 - a. The creation of more centres like the Doha Centre for chemical biological radiological and nuclear training;
 - b. Including courses and topics on chemical and nuclear safety in already existing educational curriculums at all levels, especially in developing countries;
 - c. Campaigns carried out to educate youth on the dangers of the use of WMD to prevent future creation of nuclear weapons;
 - d. Programs on chemical safety and security management conducted to combat nuclear terrorism and other related matters;
5. *Strongly encourages* Member States to work with civil societies and Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as the Atom project which encourages denuclearization;
6. *Appeals* to Member States to stick to the protocols guiding the Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone (WMDFZ) in the Middle East by;
 - a. Introducing a WMDFZ in the Middle East treaty;
 - b. Ratifying and signing of the said treaty by all Member States of the Middle Eastern region and neighbouring regions;
 - c. Putting a halt in the production of nuclear weapons;
 - d. Gradual disarmament of existing nuclear weapons;

- e. Addressing the already existing conflicts in the Middle East;
7. *Affirms* the potential and usefulness of peaceful nuclear technology as an incentive for nuclear disarmament through;
 - a. Specifically providing clean and sustainable energy;
 - b. Encouraging the peaceful use of nuclear energy programs;
 - c. Reallocation of Member State funds and Nuclear materials previously used in their Nuclear arsenals in areas as health and medicine and alternative source of energy;
 8. *Recommends* that stringent withdrawal clauses be included in all Nuclear Weapons Treaties;
 9. *Demands* a new treaty declaring the Middle East a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone;
 10. *Authorizes* all Middle Eastern Countries to adopt the Single-State Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty.

Code: GA1 1/3

Committee: The General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Achieving Multilateral Consensus against the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly First Committee,

Cognizant of Article 1.1 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945) and its goal of maintaining international peace and security,

Recognizing the actions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC), the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and other organizations in promoting disarmament,

Noting with satisfaction the successes of regional Nuclear Weapon Free Zones (NWFZs) established under the Treaty of Tlatelolco (1967), the Treaty of Rarotonga (1985), the Treaty of Bangkok (1997), the Treaty of Pelindaba (1996) which necessitated the establishment of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) for the purpose of ensuring states compliance with the treaty, and the Treaty on Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in Central Asia adopted in 2006,

Alarmed by the dangers that nuclear weapons and the misuse of nuclear material pose to the wellbeing of society through environmental catastrophe and societal damage,

Acknowledging the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (1968) aimed at fostering non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy,

Recognizing the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) (1996) banning all nuclear explosions, for both civilian and military purposes and in all environments,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 71/258 resulting to the creation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) (2017) which prohibits participation in any nuclear weapon activity including undertakings not to develop, test, acquire, produce, possess, stockpile, or use nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing the further collaboration of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) with Member States to decrease the number of nuclear weapons in order to secure that weapons-grade fissile materials are used for non-militarized purposes like medical appliances,

Firmly Convinced that the world is better off without nuclear weapons,

- 1. Encourages Member States to adhere to previously established treaties, agreements, and resolutions concerning nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), calling upon all Member States to take substantive action in working towards the common goals of the CTBT and engaging in good faith with the operating activities of the CTBT preparatory commission;*
- 2. Calls for increased cooperation between the General Assembly and the IAEA by:*

- a. Inviting Member States to provide further regular budget funding for the Office of Nuclear Security and to the IAEA, and more specifically states having existing nuclear power program to assist disarmament programs and the world equal energetic development;
 - b. Encouraging all Member States and Observers to be members of and commit to funding the agency;
 - c. Imploring the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to assist the IAEA in financing nuclear technology programs towards peaceful usage and in providing technical support and expertise;
 - d. Suggesting to Member States the benefits of developing the capacity to utilize nuclear energy for peaceful purposes through the IAEA, such as:
 - i. Guided nuclear safety and energy aid program for Member States, especially those without nuclear resources, that will improve their general knowledge base and awareness regarding nuclear energy and the various ways it can be utilized for the betterment of the international community, and act as an incentive for agreeing to conform to the principles of the observation committee;
 - ii. Providing further access to think tanks, that could formulate research for nuclear energy and focus greater efforts on developing initiatives for eventual disarmament;
 - iii. Recommending facility specialists to work with regional authorities for the creation of nuclear power plants, to help formulate more detailed protocols for nuclear disarmament, and helping to convert nuclear weapons to usable nuclear energy material;
3. *Suggests* that the UNODA, in accordance with reports submitted to the General Assembly, to cooperate in emergency meetings of the Security Council to address pressing issues and recommend sanctions in case of emergencies, such as a breach of a treaty and withdrawals of treaties to quickly open multilateral discussions for diplomatic resolutions;
 4. *Invites* Member States who have had success in establishing NWFZs, such as Treaty of Tlatelolco and Treaty of Pelindaba, to engage and collaborate with regional actors by attending meetings and providing detailed reports on the process of implementing necessary frameworks to draft a treaty establishing the NWFZ in regions that have not been declared as NWFZs such as the Middle East;
 5. *Encourages* Member States that have uranium enrichment facilities to transition their usage towards peaceful purposes, promoting the usage of clean nuclear energy which can be used for water desalination in developing nations;
 6. *Calls on* Member States in possession of advanced nuclear technologies to share resources and technological innovations and best practices with developing Member States, to spur the growth of peaceful uses of nuclear technology;

7. *Recommends* the implementation and development of regional networks to assist countries with nuclear dismantling and nuclear technology programs towards peaceful usage while dealing with the challenges they are facing thereby:
 - a. Enabling them to meet the international standards by offering them more regular contact with countries facing similar issues;
 - b. Enhancing State growth of knowledge and resources by facilitating the information exchange and cooperation to ensure the safety, security, and safeguards of peaceful nuclear energy applications;
 - c. Ensuring more cooperation and collaboration between different actors in terms of capacity-building and technical assistance, and in terms of outreach in non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control issues, furthering in the sharing of information by creating and participating in dialogue of sharing of short- and long-term strategies;
8. *Remains* committed to working towards a world free of nuclear weapons and eventual universal disarmament.