

Yearbook of the United Nations · Volume 3



1977

**YEARBOOK
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UNITED
NATIONS
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Foreword

Each year the major international concerns of the world community are reflected in the activities of the United Nations—in its debates, resolutions, conferences and in the initiatives taken to deal with the global problems of our time. The present volume provides the record of those activities during 1977, the thirty-second year of the United Nations. It is a record neither of triumph nor of defeat, but rather a testimony to the immense problems facing us during this last quarter of the twentieth century and to the manifold and continuous efforts to deal with them.

It is my belief that this *Yearbook*, along with those which have preceded it and which will follow, can be of great value as a primary reference source on the state of our world. Here scholars and diplomats will find a comprehensive record of what has transpired within the United Nations and, in so doing, understand how this Organization can best serve to strengthen international peace and security and promote social progress and economic equity. It is a lesson which must be learned if our common survival is to be assured.



KURT WALDHEIM
Secretary-General

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	OAS	Organization of American States
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	OAU	Organization of African Unity
CCD	Conference of the Committee on Disarmament	UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination	UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America	UNEF	United Nations Emergency Force
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
EEC	European Economic Community	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UNFDAC	United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	UNFICYP	United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Office of)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ICITO	Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
ICJ	International Court of Justice	UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission	UNMOGIP	United Nations Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan
IDA	International Development Association	UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine
IFC	International Finance Corporation	UPU	Universal Postal Union
ILO	International Labour Organization	WFP	World Food Programme
IMCO	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization	WHO	World Health Organization
ITC	International Trade Centre	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit	WTO	World Tourism Organization
NGO	Non-governmental organization	Y.U.N.	<i>Yearbook of the United Nations</i>

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON DOCUMENTS

To assist readers who wish to make a more detailed study of subjects discussed in Part One of this *Yearbook of the United Nations*, documentary references are provided at the end of each chapter and subchapter. These references give the symbols and titles of documents of the principal organs of the United Nations dealing with the subject concerned, records of voting and texts of adopted resolutions. Also listed are the numbers of the meetings of the various organs at which the subject dealt with was discussed. These meeting numbers indicate the relevant discussion records.

For those unfamiliar with United Nations documentation, the following information may serve as a guide to the principal document symbols:

A/- refers to documents of the General Assembly; A/32/-, to documents issued for consideration at its thirty-second (1977) session; and A/32/1, to the first document in the series, A/32/2, to the second document, and so forth. A/C.- refers to documents of six of the Assembly's Main Committees, e.g. A/C.1/- is a document of the First Committee, A/C.2/-, a document of the Second Committee. The symbol for documents of the seventh Main Committee, the Special Political Committee, is A/SPC/- . A/AC.- documents are those of *ad hoc* bodies of the Assembly, e.g. A/AC.105/- refers to a document of the Assembly's Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Documents of limited circulation are so designated by "L", e.g. A/SPC/32/L.5 would refer to the fifth document that was of limited circulation issued by the Special Political Committee for the thirty-second session of the Assembly.

E/- refers to documents of the Economic and So-

cial Council. E/AC.- and E/C.- documents are those of Committees of the Council, e.g. E/AC.6/- refers to a document of the Economic Committee, and E/C.2/- to a document of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. E/CN.- documents are those of the Commissions of the Council, each of which also has its own number. E/ICEF/- indicates documents of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

S/- refers to documents of the Security Council.

T/- refers to documents of the Trusteeship Council.

DC/- refers to documents of the Disarmament Commission.

DP/- refers to documents of the United Nations Development Programme.

ID/- refers to documents of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

ITC/- refers to documents of the International Trade Centre.

TD/B/- refers to documents of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

UNEP/- refers to documents of the United Nations Environment Programme.

U.N.P. designates United Nations sales publications.

Full titles are given for documents of the International Court of Justice.

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PART ONE

The United Nations

Political and security questions

Chapter I

Disarmament and related matters

During 1977, discussions and debates on disarmament and related matters continued to be held under the auspices of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD) and in the United Nations General Assembly.

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament held two sessions—from 15 February to 29 April and from 5 July to 30 August—at which it continued its discussion of matters relating to nuclear disarmament, non-nuclear and collateral measures, general and complete disarmament, and the organization of its own work.

At its 1977 session, the General Assembly had 17 disarmament items on its agenda and adopted 24 resolutions relating to them. Among the reports before the Assembly were those of CCD, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean, and the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament. Also, the Assembly had before it two reports of expert groups assembled to assist the Secretary-General with studies on the economic and social consequences of the arms race and of military expenditures and on the reduction of military budgets, as well as the Final Document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (held at Geneva in June/July 1977).

Many of these resolutions were concerned with nuclear disarmament. One called for the prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests (resolution 32/78) while another dealt with matters relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (resolution 32/87 F). Five resolutions

were concerned with nuclear-free zones: ratification of Additional Protocols I and II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (resolutions 32/76 and 32/79); implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (resolution 32/81); and the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East (resolution 32/82) and in South Asia (resolution 32/83). A related resolution dealt with the security needs of non-nuclear-weapon States (resolution 32/87 B).

The Assembly also adopted a resolution concerning the strategic arms limitation talks (resolution 32/87 G), adopted resolutions by which it called for implementation of the objectives of the Disarmament Decade (resolution 32/80) and asked the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the World Disarmament Conference to continue its work (resolution 32/89), and took various actions concerning the special Assembly session on disarmament in 1978 (resolutions 32/88 A and B and decisions 32/423 A and B).

Additional questions dealt with in resolutions were: implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (resolution 32/86); chemical weapons (resolution 32/77); napalm and other incendiary weapons (resolution 31/152); banning of new weapons of mass destruction (resolutions 32/84 A and B); the Review Conference for the Treaty banning sea-bed weapons (resolution 32/87 A); reduction of military budgets (resolution 32/85); economic and social consequences of the arms race (resolution 32/75); preparation of a study on the interrelationship between disarmament and international security (resolution 32/87 C); regional aspects of disarmament (resolution 32/87 D); and publication of a disarmament periodical (resolution 32/87 E).

Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD) was in session from 15 February to 29 April and from 5 July to 30 August 1977. During this period, the Committee held 39 formal meetings and 35 informal meetings on various subjects, including its schedule of work, its procedures, a comprehensive negotiating programme, cessation of nuclear-weapon tests, prohibition of chemical weapons, and prohibition of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons.

Representatives of the following 30 States continued their participation in the work of the Committee: Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Sweden, the USSR, the United Kingdom, the United States, Yugoslavia and Zaire. As in previous years, France, though a member of the Committee, did not participate.

In a message to CCD at the opening meeting of the session, the United Nations Secretary-General stressed that the arms race was a hazard to international security and that changes in the world had increased the need for release of resources through disarmament for economic and social development. Despite the conclusion of disarmament agreements negotiated by CCD during the past decade, the Secretary-General felt it was clear that no significant breakthrough to halt the ever-accelerating growth of the world's arsenal, whether nuclear or conventional, had been achieved. He considered it most unfortunate that the greatest increases in arms spending in recent years had been for conventional weapons in areas of the world where the arms race was as yet relatively unknown, and it was certainly most desirable and urgent that suppliers of arms to those regions, together with the countries of the regions themselves, find some mutually satisfactory means of curbing this dangerous trend.

Looking to the future, the Secretary-General believed there was general agreement that the most urgent attention in the disarmament effort should be directed towards an early halting of the nuclear arms race and the reduction and ultimate elimination of those weapons of mass destruction. He reviewed the most vital areas of work that would be taken

up by the Committee at its 1977 session and expressed the view that its deliberations could contribute to setting the new and positive course in disarmament negotiations that the United Nations sought.

In accordance with its agenda, CCD continued to work on the following matters: (a) further effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament; (b) non-nuclear measures; (c) other collateral measures; and (d) general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

In its 1977 report to the General Assembly, the Committee provided a detailed account of the year's work; this is summarized below.

Nuclear disarmament

Members of the Committee continued their work in 1977 on several questions related to the halting of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament. This question was considered the priority goal of any disarmament effort and it was felt that the process should begin with the cessation of all nuclear-weapons testing.

In a statement at the opening meeting of the session, the United States cited passages from the inaugural address of President Jimmy Carter to the effect that armaments should be limited to those necessary for domestic safety and that the ultimate goal of the United States was the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

The USSR, at the same meeting, pointed out that one of the corner-stone items of the programme drawn up at the Twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1976 was to devise and apply international measures designed to halt the accelerating arms race and to reduce the accumulated stockpiles of weapons.

The United Kingdom also stressed the need to end the nuclear arms race and begin the reduction of nuclear weapons as the first step towards their elimination; it noted that, under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons¹ (non-proliferation

¹ See Y.U.N., 1968, pp. 16-19, resolution 2373(XXII) of 12 June 1968, annexing text of Treaty. Article VI states that: "Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes 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 and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

Treaty), three of the nuclear-weapon States (the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States) had assumed the obligation to work towards nuclear disarmament.

India said it considered the concepts of a nuclear balance-of-terror and arms control to be incorrect, as they implied a legitimization of the existence of nuclear weapons; they also implied that lasting world peace could be based on fear of such weapons. In Yugoslavia's view, developments in the application of nuclear energy for military purposes, as well as the advancement of military technology as a whole, had far outpaced the tempo of negotiations in ccd. Pakistan, maintaining that the tasks of prevention of further development and perfection of nuclear weapons and ultimately of their destruction and complete elimination were fundamental, held that the initiative towards those objectives must come from the major nuclear powers which possessed the preponderance of armaments.

Question of a comprehensive nuclear-weapon test-ban agreement

Bearing in mind the General Assembly's request of 10 December 1976 that ccd continue to give the highest priority to the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-weapon test-ban agreement,² members of the Committee continued to consider specific proposals relating to such an agreement.

In the discussions, many members, including Canada, Italy, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the USSR, specifically attached highest priority to the achievement of such an agreement. The German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Iran, Japan and Mongolia said such a ban would be a decisive step towards the achievement of nuclear disarmament.

The USSR noted that its 1975 proposal calling for conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests had been referred by the General Assembly for consideration to a special negotiating body that was to include all the nuclear-weapon States.³ The USSR introduced in ccd an amendment to its proposed draft treaty; it had submitted the amendment to the General Assembly in 1976. The amendment added a provision (article II, paragraph 3) concerning the possibility of on-site inspection on a voluntary basis.⁴ The USSR believed this new provision opened the way to a generally acceptable understanding on the question of control. In view of the delay in beginning negotiations by the special body, ccd, in the USSR's

view, could play a useful role in the preparation of a treaty.

On the verification question, the USSR noted that a number of States, including Canada, Egypt, Iran, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Mexico, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States, had responded positively to its indication that it was prepared to take part in finding an acceptable solution to the problem of control. To assist in the solution, the USSR would participate in the work of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events, set up by ccd in 1976.

The United States and the United Kingdom continued to express the view that verification of a complete test-ban must be adequate.

Japan proposed the establishment of a verification committee, consisting of experts from both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States, which could request additional seismic data if required and decide whether or not an on-site inspection was called for.

Canada hoped that the precedents on verification contained in the USSR/US Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes, signed on 28 May 1976, which included both national means and, in some cases, on-site inspection, would assist in solving the verification problem.

Sweden submitted the text of a draft treaty banning nuclear-weapon-test explosions in all environments by which, it said, assurance of compliance was based on verification by challenge, i.e. an international exchange of seismological data and a verification procedure involving on-site inspection on a voluntary basis. Sweden noted that the draft proposed the creation of a consultative committee of parties to the treaty and contained a provision for appeal to the United Nations Security Council as the last step in the verification procedure.

² See Y.U.N., 1976, p. 25, text of resolution 31/66.

³ See Y.U.N., 1975, pp. 47-49, resolution 3478(XXX) of 11 December 1975, annexing text of draft treaty.

⁴ This new provision stated: "In case a State Party to this Treaty has doubts regarding the nature of a seismic event that occurred in the territory of another State Party to this Treaty, it has the right to raise the question of carrying out an on-site inspection in order to ascertain the true nature of that event. The State Party to the Treaty that raised this question must cite appropriate grounds in support of the necessity of carrying out the inspection. The State Party to the Treaty which is the object of doubts regarding its compliance with the Treaty, recognizing the importance of this question, may take a favourable position regarding the carrying out of an inspection in its territory, provided it finds the grounds convincing, or it may take another decision. Such an inspection shall be carried out according to rules established by the inviting State Party." See also Y.U.N., 1976, p. 16.