

hostile purposes, which are incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health, would serve the cause of strengthening peace and averting the threat of war,

*Taking into account* the profound interest of States and peoples in the adoption of measures to preserve and improve the environment and to modify or moderate the climate solely for peaceful purposes for the benefit of present and future generations,

1. *Considers it necessary* to adopt, through the conclusion of an appropriate international convention, effective measures to prohibit action to influence the environment and climate for military and other hostile purposes, which are incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health;

2. *Takes note* of the draft international convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health, submitted to the General Assembly by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,<sup>45</sup> as well as other points of view and suggestions put forward during the discussion of this question;

3. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to proceed as soon as possible to achieving agreement on the text of such a convention and to submit a report on the results achieved for consideration by the General Assembly at its thirtieth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents relating to the discussion by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session of the item entitled "Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health";

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirtieth session an item entitled "Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other hostile purposes, which are incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health".

*2309th plenary meeting  
9 December 1974*

#### ANNEX

**Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: draft convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health**

*The States Parties to this Convention,*

*Guided* by the interests of consolidating peace and wishing to contribute to the cause of saving mankind from the danger of using new means of warfare, limiting the arms race and bringing about disarmament,

*Taking into account* that, under conditions of continuous scientific and technological progress, new possibilities arise for using the results of this progress not only for peaceful but also for military purposes,

*Considering* that action to influence the environment and climate for military purposes may represent an exceptional danger to universal peace and security as well as to human well-being and health,

*Expressing* the profound interest of States and peoples in the adoption of measures to preserve and improve the environment for the benefit of present and future generations,

*Desiring* to contribute to the deepening of confidence among peoples and to the further improvement of the international situation,

*Striving* to co-operate in implementing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Have agreed* on the following:

#### ARTICLE I

Each of the Parties to this Convention undertakes not to develop meteorological, geophysical or any other scientific or technological means of influencing the environment, including the weather and climate, for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health, and, furthermore, never under any circumstances to resort to such means of influencing the environment and climate or to carry out preparations for their use.

#### ARTICLE II

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the activities referred to in article I consist of those active influences on the surface of the land, the sea-bed and the ocean floor, the depths of the earth, the marine environment, the atmosphere or on any other elements of the environment that may cause damage by the following means:

(a) Introduction into the cloud systems (air masses) of chemical reagents for the purpose of causing precipitation (formation of clouds) and other means of bringing about a redistribution of water resources;

(b) Modification of the elements of the weather, climate and the hydrological system on land in any part of the surface of the earth;

(c) Direct or indirect action to influence the electrical processes in the atmosphere;

(d) Direct or indirect disturbance of the elements of the energy and water balance of meteorological phenomena (cyclones, anticyclones, cloud front systems);

(e) Direct or indirect modifications of the physical and chemical parameters of the seas and oceans, the seashore, seabed and ocean floor that may lead to a change in the hydrological system, water interchange process and ecology of the biological resources of the seas and oceans;

(f) Direct or indirect stimulation of seismic waves by any methods or means that may produce earthquakes and accompanying processes and phenomena, or destructive ocean waves, including tsunamis;

(g) Direct or indirect action on the surface of an area of water that may lead to a disturbance of the thermal and gaseous interchange between the hydrosphere and the atmosphere;

(h) The creation of artificial continuous electromagnetic and acoustic fields in the oceans and seas;

(i) Modification of the natural state of the rivers, lakes, swamps and other aqueous elements of the land by any methods or means, leading to reduction in the water-level, drying up, flooding, inundation, destruction of hydrotechnical installations or having other harmful consequences;

(j) Disturbance of the natural state of the lithosphere, including the land surface, by mechanical, physical or other means, causing erosion, a change in the mechanical structure, desiccation or flooding of the soil, or interference with irrigation or land improvement systems;

(k) The burning of vegetation and other actions leading to a disturbance of the ecology of the vegetable and animal kingdom;

(l) Direct or indirect action to influence the ionized or ozone layers in the atmosphere, the introduction of heat and radiant energy absorbing agents in the atmosphere and the contiguous layer, or other action that might lead to disturbances of the thermal and radiation equilibrium of the earth-atmosphere-sun system.

2. Subsequently, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, the list of actions enumerated in paragraph 1 of this article may be supplemented or amended depending upon the progress of scientific and technological research.

<sup>45</sup> See the annex to the present resolution.