

PAKISTAN

Conclusion of an International Convention to Assure  
Non-nuclear Weapon States against the Use or Threat  
of use of Nuclear Weapons

The first special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Disarmament recognized that steps should be taken by the nuclear powers to assure non-nuclear States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. While noting the unilateral declarations made by some nuclear powers at the special session in this connexion, the General Assembly called upon them to urgently "conclude effective arrangements, as appropriate, to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

2. Pakistan has consistently expressed the view that, to be credible and effective, assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons should be extended in a multilateral context and in legally binding form. Therefore, Pakistan welcomed the initiative of the Soviet Union at the thirty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly, proposing the "Conclusion of an International Convention on the Strengthening of Guarantees of the Security of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States".

3. During the consideration of this item in the General Assembly, separate draft Conventions were presented by the Soviet Union and Pakistan. These differed in certain respects, but both had the same objective i.e. to obtain, at the international level, legal and credible assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

4. The General Assembly adopted two resolutions on this item, which have called on the Committee on Disarmament to evolve "effective arrangements" or "appropriate international arrangements" on this subject. To this end, the Committee is to consider the draft Conventions submitted by Pakistan and the Soviet Union and to report to the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

5. In pursuance of the above-mentioned decisions, Pakistan proposes that the Committee on Disarmament give early consideration during its 1979 session to the conclusion of an International Convention to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The draft Convention circulated on this subject by Pakistan at the thirty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly provides a sound basis for initiating negotiations on this item and is hereby submitted to the Committee on Disarmament.

6. The conclusion of an International Convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons will be of special significance to those states which are not parties to the opposing global military alliances. Its adoption will greatly enhance the climate of world peace and security.

7. It is suggested that the Committee on Disarmament should hold discussions on this draft Convention, and such other proposals and suggestions as may be submitted on the subject, at an early date. Suitable working arrangements should be also established under the aegis of the Committee to enable concrete negotiations to begin on the draft Convention as soon as possible this year..

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ANNEX

Draft International Convention to Assure  
Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use  
or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons

The States Parties to this Convention,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of the arms race, in particular the nuclear arms race and the threat to mankind due to the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that only nuclear disarmament and prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, will assure complete security in the nuclear era,

Desirous of safeguarding the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States against 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 devise effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Bearing in mind the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States,

Also bearing in mind that the non-nuclear-weapon States have called for legally binding and credible assurances from nuclear-weapon States that they will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against them,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I.

The nuclear-weapon States Parties to this Convention, as a first step towards the complete ban on the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, pledge themselves not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the nuclear security arrangements of some nuclear-weapon States.

This undertaking is without prejudice to the obligations of States Parties to this Convention arising from treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

#### Article II

The nuclear-weapon States Parties to this Convention also undertake to avoid the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in any contingency and to achieve nuclear disarmament, resulting in the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, in the shortest possible time.

#### Article III

Any State Party to this Convention which has reason to believe that there has been or is likely to be a breach of the obligations of the States Parties arising from articles I and II of this Convention may request an urgent meeting of the Security Council, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, with a view to preventing such a breach or redressing the situation arising therefrom.

#### Article IV

This Convention shall be concluded for an indefinite period of time. It shall lapse once nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons has been achieved.

#### Article V

1. Any State Party to this Convention may propose amendments to this Convention. The text of each proposed amendment must be submitted to the depositary, who shall immediately transmit it to all States Parties.
2. An amendment shall enter into force for each State Party to this Convention which accepts the amendment after the documents concerning its acceptance have been deposited with the depositary by the majority of States Parties. Subsequently, the amendment shall enter into force for each of the remaining States Parties on the date of the deposit by them of the document concerning its acceptance.

#### Article VI

1. This Convention is open for signature by all States. Any State which does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.
2. This Convention is subject to ratification by the States which have signed it. The instruments of ratification or the documents concerning accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who is hereby designated the depositary.
3. This Convention shall enter into force following the deposit of the instruments of ratification by ... States including the two leading nuclear-weapon States i.e. the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or documents concerning accession are deposited after the entry into force of this Convention, the Convention shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of the instruments of ratification or documents concerning accession.

5. The depositary shall immediately notify all States Parties to this Convention of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or document concerning accession, the date of the entry into force of this Convention or of any amendments thereto, and also of the receipt by him of other notifications.

6. This Convention shall be registered by the depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

#### Article VII

This Convention, the Russian, Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish texts of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall duly forward certified copies of the Convention to the Governments of the States which have signed or acceded to the Convention.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized for that purpose by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, which was opened for signature on ...

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