

NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY (NATO Parliamentarians)

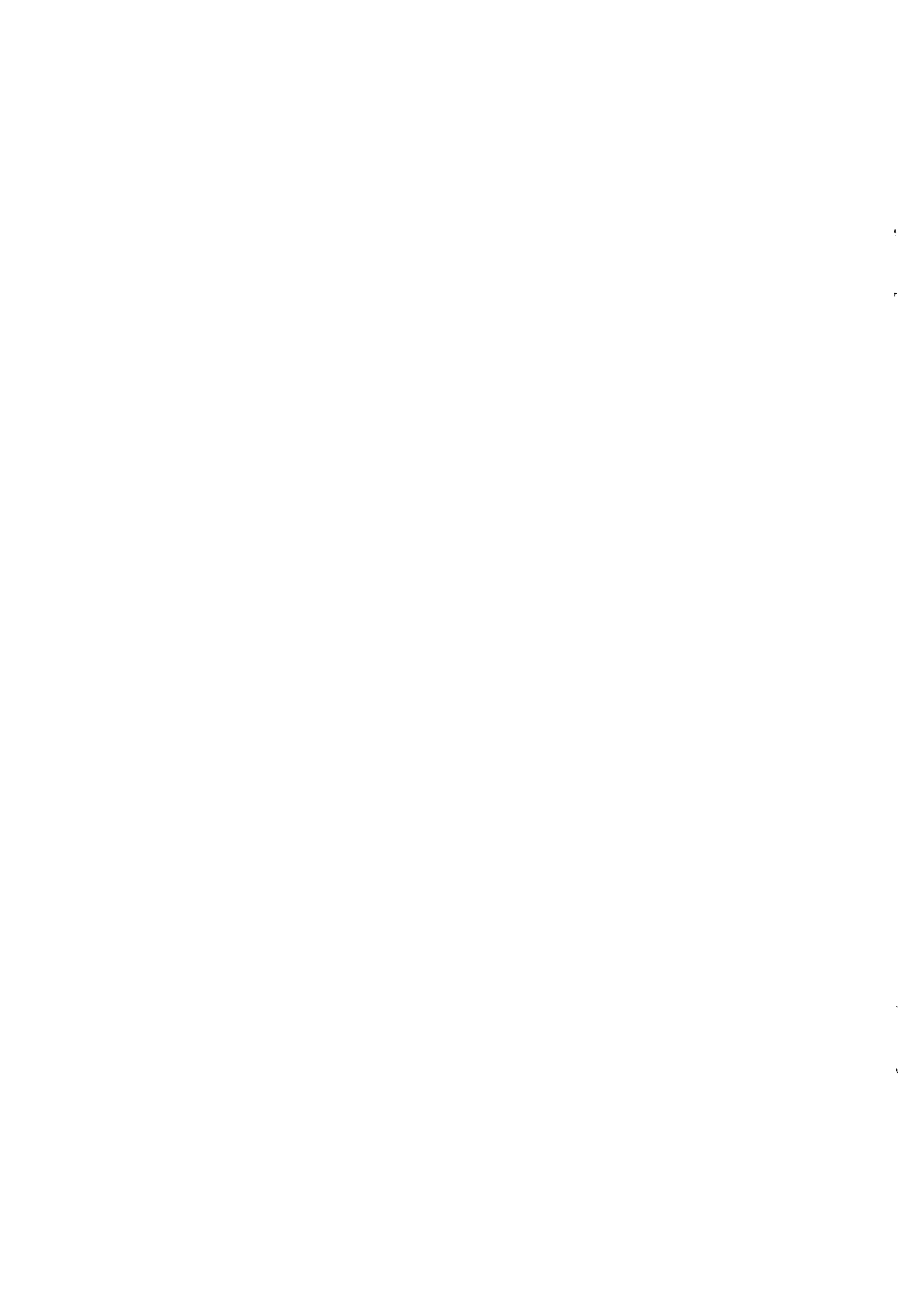
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POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

**SPRING SESSION - BUDAPEST - MAY 1995
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RESOLUTION 256
on
THE BOSNIAN CRISIS*

The Assembly,

1. **Condemns** without reservation the unprincipled and barbaric use of unarmed military observers of the United Nations as human shields by Bosnian Serb Forces in the former Yugoslavia as contrary to all humanitarian principles, international conventions and customs of war;

2. **Demands** the immediate and unconditional release of the unarmed military observers of the United Nations and those soldiers from UNPROFOR held hostage by the Bosnian Serbs;

3. **Calls** for an immediate cessation of aggression in particular towards the civilian population in Bosnia;

4. **Expresses** its support for the continuing effort of forces operating under relevant United Nations resolutions to maintain peace and bring humanitarian assistance in certain regions in former Yugoslavia and in particular acknowledges the contribution made by NATO to these objectives;

5. **STRONGLY ENDORSES** the efforts of the Contact Group to achieve a negotiated settlement of the dispute between the warring parties of the former Yugoslavia.

6. **REQUESTS** that the United Nations Security Council considers amending the mandate of UNPROFOR so that it is able to respond to any aggression to which it is subjected.

* presented to the Plenary Assembly by Mr. Karsten VOIGT, President of the North Atlantic Assembly on behalf of the Standing Committee and adopted (Budapest, Hungary, 29 May 1995)

RESOLUTION 257

on

**THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE ALLIANCE TO
MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY***

The Assembly,

1. **Considering** that political, economic, social and ideological developments in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries have a direct impact on the security of the Alliance;

2. **Concerned** by the continuing poverty of large sections of the population, the rise in fundamentalist-inspired violence and undemocratic practices in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries, as well as by the danger stemming from arms proliferation in the region;

3. **Persuaded** that there is a key role for NAA parliamentarians, both individually and collectively, to press their governments to continue to formulate and develop in international fora appropriate responses across the policy spectrum directed at encouraging forces striving for greater democracy in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean;

4. **Determined** to avoid the emergence of a political, ideological and economic front dividing the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean;

5. **Encouraged** by the progress achieved towards a final settlement of the differences between Israel and its Arab neighbours and **aware** of the responsibility evolving on the United States and Europe in helping along the peace process;

6. **Convinced** that dialogue and co-operation are the best means of reducing tension and preventing confrontation in the Mediterranean Basin; this is particularly true in Algeria, a test case where the spiral terrorism-repression is unfortunately prevailing;

* presented by the Civilian Affairs Committee

7. **Convinced also** that the first priority for long-term security in the Mediterranean Basin is steady economic development supported by regional co-operation in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries;

8. **Welcoming**, consequently, the current initiatives of the European Union to establish a Euro-Mediterranean Partnership to promote trade, increased financial aid and a political and security dialogue between the Union and the countries of the Southern Mediterranean;

9. **Encouraged** by the decision of the North Atlantic Council engaging the Alliance in Spring 1995 in bilateral discussions with Egypt, Israel, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia respectively;

10. **Aware** of the susceptibilities existing on both sides of the Mediterranean with regard to Alliance involvement in the Mediterranean Basin;

11. **Wishing** to avoid any measures which, however positive, could have prejudicial effects likely to increase tensions;

12. **Considering** the possibility of commencing a study on the Black Sea/Mediterranean Basin interregional security dialogue and cooperation;

13. **INVITES** the North Atlantic Council to:

- a. pursue the current dialogue with Egypt, Israel, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia;
- b. consider without delay the possibility of extending the dialogue to the other countries of the Mediterranean Basin and to Jordan;
- c. include as soon as possible on the agenda for dialogue a series of concrete co-operative measures which may lead in due course to "Partnership for Peace"-like arrangements with those Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries which so desire within an increasingly democratic framework;
- d. consider an active contribution of NATO member countries to the forthcoming Barcelona Conference;
- e. study as a matter of urgency what contribution NATO might make to the introduction of confidence-building measures for the countries of the Middle East once the peace process has been concluded;

14. **URGES** member Governments and Parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance, using the political and economic influence enjoyed in the Mediterranean area by the United States and the European Union, to:

initiate for the Balkan and Middle Eastern areas a process similar to that which resulted in the conclusion of the Pact for Stability in Europe in March 1995, with due regard for the complementarity of the political, military, economic, technological and human aspects.

RESOLUTION 258

on

DEMOCRACY IN THE ALLIANCE MEMBER COUNTRIES*

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** that the North Atlantic Alliance has always been a community of nations committed to promoting the shared values of democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and defending common interests;
2. **Being aware** that consolidation and preservation throughout the continent of Europe of democratic societies and their freedom from any form of coercion or intimidation are of direct and material concern to us;
3. **Alarmed** by the growing vulnerability of elected representatives to financial corruption and to the temptation to misuse power;
4. **Aware** of the disastrous effects of the prevarication of politicians on public confidence in elected representatives and, consequently, in democracy as a form of government;
5. **Concerned** by the challenge to democratic principles inherent in political parties and movements with racist, anti-semitic and xenophobic ideologies;
6. **Aware** of the disastrous effects of social and economic exclusion on public confidence in democratic ideals;
7. **Condemning** the futility of populist programmes offering quick and painless solutions to economic and social problems;
8. **Concerned** at the disregard for the public and common good demonstrated by the exaggerated claims emanating from narrow social, ethnic, cultural, religious or national interests and intolerance;

* presented by the Civilian Affairs Committee

9. **Aware** of the fresh challenges facing democracies as a consequence of the globalisation of the economy, culture, communications and ideologies;
10. **URGES** member Governments and Parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to:
- a. restore, as core principles guiding the behaviour of elected representatives, the sense of honesty and personal and political integrity;
 - b. seek new and original ways of solving the problems of unemployment and poverty, and their consequence - social and economic exclusion;
 - c. combat the progress of movements advocating intolerance, racism, anti-semitism and xenophobia and to penalize severely all acts of violence generated by such ideologies;
 - d. resist the temptation of nationalism and to promote international cooperation as the primary means of solving the economic, social and human problems stemming from globalisation;
 - e. consider, accordingly, whether the interparliamentary dialogue taking place within the North Atlantic Assembly should be extended to all areas of political activity with international implications;
 - f. study the possibilities for the extension of direct democracy and pluralism offered by new information and audiovisual communications systems, with due regard to their limitations.

RESOLUTION 259

on

LANDMINE ERADICATION MEASURES*

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** Resolution 249 on Landmine Eradication Measures adopted unanimously by the Assembly in 1994;

2. **Convinced** that the 100 million or more unexploded mines scattered around the world in over 65 countries continues to constitute one of the most widespread, lethal and long-lasting forms of pollution that the international community needs to assess as a matter of urgency;

3. **Aware** that in many countries around the world several hundred people are killed or maimed every week, and countless thousands severely injured, and that these figures include a disproportionate and unacceptable level of innocent civilians, especially children;

4. **Noting** that some 157 nations have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and that the use of anti-personnel mines violates many of the core provisions of that Convention;

5. **Aware** that year upon year the total budget allocated for education and eradication has been exceeded dramatically by the amounts expended on deployment, frequently in random fashion, of additional new mines and that in 1993 alone it is estimated that while approximately 80,000 pieces of explosive ordnance were cleared, some 2,500,000 were being laid elsewhere;

6. **Convinced** that this enormous and pressing humanitarian problem can only approach resolution by establishing an effective internationally-agreed control regime that places strict limitations on the design, production, use and transfer of all landmines and other such explosive ordnance, **and** by devoting resources for eradication, education and medical assistance commensurate with the scale of the problem;

* presented by the Defence and Security Committee

7. **Welcoming** President Clinton's September 1994 UN initiative urging the conclusion of a new international control regime designed to reduce progressively the number of mines and their availability thereby saving "the lives of tens of thousands of men, women and innocent children in the years to come", **and commending** the US Senate's one-year moratorium of US forces' use of anti-personnel landmines, the Belgian government's decision to outlaw the production, use and export of anti-personnel mines, as well as the export moratoriums announced by Cambodia, Columbia, France, Ireland, Mexico and the United Kingdom;

8. **Welcoming also** the European initiatives from the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament committing additional resources to mine clearing efforts and restricting the sale and use of anti-personnel landmines; and **strongly supporting** the outstanding reports recently produced by Mr. Tony Cunningham MEP and Mr. Jan Willem Bertens MEP on this issue, both adopted by the European Parliament in June 1995;

9. **Supporting** the report of UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on this issue which, among other things, calls for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines, a multilateral regime to control proliferation of such devices and a strengthening of the UN anti-mine programme to include generous funding for a voluntary trust fund for mine clearing activities;

10. **Dismayed** that as of May 1995, only 49 states are actually party to the 1980 UN "Inhumane Weapons Convention", and that a number of these countries - including some NAA members - have yet to ratify the treaty through parliamentary process;

11. **Noting** that the 1995 UN Review Conference of the "Inhumane Weapons Convention" is taking place as this NAA Autumn Session convenes;

12. **Convinced** that the North Atlantic Assembly remains a critical and influential forum to debate this pressing humanitarian imperative, and that it needs to continue to give greater emphasis to the subject through the production of informed reports, the exchange of information and the consideration of resolutions aimed at promoting serious action by governments;

13. **THEREFORE CALLS ON** the Governments and Parliaments of the Members and Associate Members of the North Atlantic Assembly:

- a. to maximise efforts during the Review Conference to ensure that the UN "Inhumane Weapons Convention" is supported **and ratified** by all NAA and Associate Member Governments and Parliaments as a matter of urgency, and to exert pressure on those countries which have yet to do either;
- b. to strengthen the "Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-traps and other Devices" at that Review Conference by, *inter alia*, adopting amendments providing for further restrictions on the use and export of landmines, and for the establishment of a verification mechanism able to effectively detect and deter from violations of the Protocol;
- c. to support energetically the Clinton Administration's proposal for a new International Landmine Control Regime as a matter of priority;
- d. to join immediately with the United States and other countries in imposing a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines;
- e. to intensify, on a national and multilateral basis, monetary support and assistance to those afflicted countries most in need of mine clearance, education for indigenous populations in evading explosive ordnance and the provision of appropriate and targeted medical assistance for non-combatant victims;
- f. to take the lead - collectively and through the UN - to establish a credible programme which would include the creation of an international fund of not less than 1 billion US\$ to promote and finance landmine awareness, the clearing of landmines and the destruction of those mines stockpiled by States that voluntarily agree to their elimination;
- g. to press on Governments the need to increase research efforts, such as those currently underway in South Africa and the United States, to evolve new techniques in mine detection and clearance.

RESOLUTION 260

on

UPHOLDING HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS IN NATO*

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** that the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty include a determination by member states to safeguard the freedom of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law;
2. **Noting** that Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty requires that new members of NATO be in a position to further the principles of the Treaty;
3. **Aware** that all states in the OSCE area have, through the OSCE process and unanimously agreed documents, made extensive commitments to protect the human rights of their citizens, including persons belonging to national minorities;
4. **Acknowledging** that there are no formal criteria for admission into NATO; but
5. **Expecting** that new members will only be admitted to the Alliance if they uphold the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty and the provisions of OSCE documents;
6. **Believing** that member states of NATO must not only meet such standards on entry into the Alliance, but must continue to uphold them as members;
7. **Recognizing** that the degree of protection of human rights in individual NATO member countries can and, on occasion, has fallen below the commitments made in OSCE documents;
8. **Convinced** that the credibility and legitimacy of the Alliance, especially when acting outside the territory of NATO member states, rests on the fulfilment of commitments and the upholding of principles;

* presented by the Political Committee

9. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
 - a. to require of all NATO member countries that they continue to uphold the human rights standards expected of new members, including the full rights of persons belonging to national minorities, as enlargement of the Alliance proceeds;
 - b. to take all actions necessary, bilaterally and through multilateral human rights fora such as the OSCE, to cause NATO member countries which fail to protect adequately the human rights of their citizens immediately to reinstate OSCE and other internationally accepted standards.

RESOLUTION 261

on

BUILDING REGIONAL SECURITY*

The Assembly,

1. **Welcoming** the decision at the Budapest OSCE Summit to undertake a broad and comprehensive discussion on all aspects of security aimed at devising a concept of security for the 21st century, without prejudice to the inherent right of each OSCE participating State to be free to choose or change its security arrangements, including treaties of alliance;

2. **Encouraging** the fullest cooperation between OSCE and the Russian Federation in achieving an early and lasting settlement in Chechnya, and **applauding** the role of the OSCE Assistance Group in achieving a ceasefire;

3. **Noting** the proximity of view with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly concerning the need to proceed with OSCE decision-making based on approximate consensus and development of criteria for suspending a participating State, and of establishing permanent representation in the OSCE of the Council of Europe, NATO, WEU, and other democratic organizations deemed relevant to security in the OSCE area;

4. **Supporting** the new command and control arrangements with respect to NATO and UN operations within the former Yugoslavia as a necessary impetus to achieving an overall political settlement;

5. **Welcoming** the recent and vital US leadership role in attempting to bring peace to the former Yugoslavia, and **stressing** the importance for a united Alliance approach to all dimensions of that process;

6. **Urging** all parties concerned to respect unconditionally the cease-fire agreement concluded on 5 October for Bosnia-Herzegovina;

7. **Endorsing** the launching of a NATO Mediterranean Dialogue;

* presented by the Political Committee

8. **Alarmed** by the catastrophic environmental conditions created by Russian nuclear waste in the Northern Region, and the lack of adequate international funding and international cooperation to expedite attempts to restore safety;

9. **Confirming** the value of the NATO-Russia relationship, and **welcoming** the conclusion of a parallel NATO-Ukraine arrangement, both as complementary to Alliance enlargement;

10. **Convinced** that accelerating cooperation with all of the former Soviet republics is essential for regional stability, the promotion of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of their borders;

11. **URGES** member Governments of the North Atlantic Alliance and of participating States of the OSCE:

- a. to take fullest advantage of NATO decisions to deter and respond to attacks by any party on the Safe Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- b. to begin consideration of an arms control regime under OSCE supervision to ensure that the armed forces of the former Yugoslavia are based on defensive sufficiency;
- c. to intensify the NATO Mediterranean Dialogue in the political, security, scientific, and environmental fields;
- d. to support the creation of a Baltic Sea Security Roundtable;
- e. to work within the NACC to encourage international cooperation to undertake urgent nuclear and chemical safety measures in the Northern Region;
- f. to insist upon the early dispatch of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping mission to Nagorno-Karabakh;
- g. to monitor the early withdrawal of the former Russian 14th Army from Moldova and Russian armed forces from Ukraine;
- h. to achieve early conclusion of an overall settlement of the situation in Abkhazia and South Ossetia within the framework of the territorial integrity of the federative system of Georgia;
- i. to implement fully the NATO-Russia and NATO-Ukraine relationship for dialogue, genuine consultations, and concrete cooperation;
- j. to assist in accelerating the political and economic dimensions of the continuing negotiations between the Russian authorities and representatives of the Chechen community.

RESOLUTION 262

on

STRENGTHENING THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION REGIME*

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** Resolution 245 passed in 1993 and Resolution 254 passed in 1994 which called for the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) at the 1995 NPT Renewal Conference; and therefore;
2. **Welcoming** the decision by participants in the NPT Extension and Review Conference to extend the Treaty unconditionally and indefinitely; and **welcoming** the agreements on "Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament", "Strengthening the Review Process for the Non-Proliferation Treaty", and the "Resolution on the Middle East";
3. **Concerned** that Israel, India and Pakistan have not acceded to the NPT;
4. **Convinced** that the next steps to curb nuclear proliferation and promote nuclear disarmament are: universal adherence to the NPT; a complete ban on nuclear weapons testing; and a convention banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
5. **Regretting** continued nuclear testing by China and France;
6. **Noting** France's commitment to a complete ban on nuclear testing after May 1996;
7. **Concerned** that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is being burdened with additional verification responsibilities without commensurate increases in resources;

* presented by the Scientific and Technical Committee

8. **URGES** member Governments and Parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to:
 - a. work both individually and within the United Nations to encourage the early accession to the NPT by Israel, India and Pakistan;
 - b. work within the Conference on Disarmament to conclude a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban (CTBT) before the end of 1996 and to ensure that a CTBT prohibits all nuclear explosive tests, regardless of yield;
 - c. conclude an agreement banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
 - d. provide sufficient resources to the International Atomic Energy Agency for it to fulfil its nuclear safeguards mandate and carry out any verification obligations assigned to it under a CTBT and a fissile material production agreement.

RESOLUTION 263

on

THE EURO-ATLANTIC SECURITY RELATIONSHIP: REFORM AND RENEWAL*

1. A firm and lasting peace has to be based on a strong and enlarged NATO which ensures a reinforced commitment to the transatlantic alliance and which will work strongly for the creation of effective military and political cooperation between Russia, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and cooperating states.

2. An active North American role in Europe remains essential. The transatlantic relationship is a partnership of mutual benefit. Assertions that the relationship is of diminishing validity and that the United States should begin to disengage are erroneous. The development of an autonomous European defence capability is welcome as a complement to, not a substitute for, NATO, constituting a European pillar within NATO.

3. The transatlantic relationship is a concrete political expression of the common destiny of nations belonging to Western civilization.

4. Collective defence remains a core mission for the Alliance but with substantially changed military requirements and roles. However, NATO also needs to adopt new roles and missions, notably the projection of stability and the use of its unique assets in conflict management and containment, in addition to the continuing core mission of collective defence.

5. New members will have the same rights and obligations as existing Alliance members, including the assurances contained in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty.

* presented directly to the Plenary Assembly by Mr. Anders C. SJAASTAD (Conservative, Norway), Chairman of the Defence and Security Committee

6. The Assembly therefore **URGES** member Governments and Parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to:
- a. proceed with NATO enlargement as soon as possible, with no European country excluded as a potential candidate for NATO membership;
 - b. build a new relationship between the Alliance and Russia that emphasizes partnership and cooperation;
 - c. establish a special enhanced relationship between Ukraine and the Alliance, beyond the framework of PfP and NACC;
 - d. revise and adapt the Strategic Concept to the requirements of an enlarged NATO and post-Cold War conditions but not to hold enlargement hostage to the completion of such a revision;
 - e. establish stronger and closer co-ordination mechanisms for joint WEU-NATO and EU-NATO consultations on security issues and use these mechanisms to ensure that the United States and Canada are fully engaged in dealing with European crises and conflicts;
 - f. agree as a matter of urgency on the establishment of Combined Joint Task Forces to allow NATO to operate in a more flexible manner, to facilitate operations with PfP members and to provide the use of NATO assets and capability for EU-WEU operations;
 - g. promote economic and therefore political stability in Central and Eastern Europe by developing a political vision of sharing, not aid, and by producing a package of confidence-building measures capable of concretely stimulating Western private investment funds' interest in the emerging markets of the Central and Eastern European Area;
 - h. study the creation of a Transatlantic Commission which would be responsible for appraising the effectiveness of current transatlantic relations and preparing proposals for future co-operation and agreements in areas such as investment, competition and regulatory practices;
 - i. ensure that a peace settlement in the former Yugoslavia guarantees the right of refugees to return home and observes the basic human rights;
 - j. place greater reliance on OSCE to help resolve ethnic and nationalist tension and promote democracy, as well as help ensure the greatest degree of impartiality regarding the peaceful settlement of disputes;

- k. support the widening and deepening of interparliamentary dialogue through the NAA as the most appropriate forum to address the broad range of military, political, economic, and human security challenges facing the Alliance in the post-Cold War environment;
 - l. in particular, to utilize the potential contribution the NAA can make to promoting parliamentary understanding and co-operation in those fields, such as enlargement and democratic control and parliamentary oversight of budgets and operations of the armed forces, intelligence organizations, and the internal security agencies, where parliamentary involvement is indispensable.
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