

Disarmament and International Security Committee

Topic A: Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

About the General Assembly and Disarmament and International Security Committee:

The General Assembly was established in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations. It is considered to be the most important organ of the United Nations because it is made up of all 192 Member States and it provides an opportunity for full debate and discussion of a full variety of international issues. Each Member State in the General Assembly has one equal vote. Most questions considered by the General Assembly are decided by simple majority, except that election of Security Council members requires a two-thirds majority of the Member States. Recently, resolutions have also been adopted by reaching an agreement (consensus) without a formal vote.

The work of the General Assembly is divided into six main committees. Draft resolutions are presented to the

plenary meeting of the Assembly for voting or consensus. The six main committees are as follows:

1. First Committee (Disarmament and International Security Committee)
2. Second Committee (Economic and Financial Committee)
3. Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee)
4. Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee)
5. Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee)
6. Sixth Committee (Legal Committee)

General Assembly

Background Guide

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According to the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly has the responsibility and power to do the following:

- Make recommendations about how countries should cooperate in

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order to maintain international peace and security, including disarmament;

- Discuss any question relating to international peace and security and make recommendations on it unless the situation is currently being considered by the Security Council,

- Discuss and make recommendations on any questions which affect the powers and functions of any part of the United Nations;

- Initiate studies and make recommendations which will encourage and further international political cooperation, the development of international law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and international collaboration in the areas of economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, educational and health needs;

- Make suggestions for ways to peacefully resolve any situation that might hurt the friendly relationship between nations;

- Receive and consider reports from the Security Council and other United Nations committees;

- Consider and approve the United Nations budget and establish the financial assessments of Member States;

- Elect the non-permanent members of the Security Council, the members of other United Nations councils and organs, and appoint a new Secretary-General when recommended to do so by the Security Council

When the Assembly adopts a resolution, it serves as a recommendation to the Member States on how to resolve an issue. Resolutions are non-binding; they are merely suggestions, however, the actions of the General Assembly over the years have had a positive effect on the lives of many people throughout the world

The First committee's of the General Assembly (Disarmament and International Security Committee) function is to deal with the disarmament and related international security questions. These

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will be reached by gathering international recommendations for the General Assembly Main Committee, which will approve and take into consideration the resolutions made by this committee. The functions and powers of this committee are to:

- Consider and make recommendations on the general principles of cooperation for maintaining international peace and security, including disarmament;
- Determined to make progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, including the prohibition and elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction,
- Convinced, therefore, of the urgent necessity of a total ban on chemical, technological, biological, and any kind of developed weapons, so as to abolish an entire category of weapons of mass destruction, and thus to eliminate the risk to

mankind of renewed use of these inhumane weapons,

- Discuss any question relating to international peace and security and, except where a dispute or situation is currently being discussed by the Security Council, make recommendations on it;

In 2010, world military expenditures exceeded some \$1.5 trillion. The need for a culture of peace and for significant arms reduction worldwide has never been greater.

On the danger of nuclear weapons, Albert Einstein reportedly said: "I do not know with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones."

But the human and material cost of conventional weapons is also extreme. Of at least 640 million licensed firearms worldwide. The legal trade in small arms and weapons exceeds \$4 billion a year. The illicit trade is estimated at \$1 billion.

Since the birth of the United Nations, the goals of multilateral disarmament and arms limitation have been

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deemed central to the maintenance of international peace and security. These goals range from reducing and eventually eliminating weapons.

These efforts are supported by a number of key UN instruments. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the most universal of all multilateral disarmament treaties, came into force in 1970. The Chemical Weapons Convention entered into force in 1997, the Biological Weapons Convention in 1975. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was adopted in 1996, however it has not yet entered into force. The 1997 Mine-Ban Convention came into force in 1999.

The General Assembly and the Security Council address disarmament-related issues on a continuing basis. The Assembly also held special sessions on disarmament in 1978 and 1988. Some UN bodies are dedicated exclusively to disarmament.

At the local level, UN peacekeepers often work to implement specific disarmament agreements between

warring parties. This approach has been used successfully in West Africa,

In keeping with the sentiment expressed by General Eisenhower, the UN is also supremely mindful, in all these efforts, of the direct relationship between disarmament and development.

"We could make significant progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, if some of these resources [spent on militaries and their armaments] were redirected to economic and social development efforts.

"At a time of soaring food and fuel prices and global economic uncertainty, the world cannot afford to ignore the development potential of disarmament and non-proliferation."

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

1. What is your country's position on whether there is a situation of development of new weapons ?

2. Is your country currently developing or creating new weaponry, if so, for what purpose? Is your country

prohibiting the development of weaponry? At what level?

3. What stake does your country have in this issue? Is there any conflict between your country and another one for taking note?

4. Why does any country need to create a new kind of weapon?

5. What strategies or solutions for solving the production of new weapons have previously been attempted? What successes in infiltrations and arrests have occurred? What failures in operations have occurred?

6. Do all nations have a right to develop new kinds of weaponry

and how should new developments be monitored, if at all?

7. How can your country be an active weapon producer and how can your country can fight with the development?

<http://www.irna.ir/News/Politic/Lebanese-politicians-congratulate-Iran%E2%80%99s-nuclear-achievements/30826029>

<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/disarmament/index.shtml>

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/maincommittees/index.shtml>

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/first/index.shtml>

<http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml>