



General Assembly

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Seventy-eighth session

Agenda item 99 (ee)

**General and complete disarmament: nuclear
disarmament verification**

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2023

[on the report of the First Committee ([A/78/409](#), para. 89)]

78/239. Nuclear disarmament verification

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,¹ in particular the paragraphs relevant to verification, and the roles and respective mandates of the disarmament machinery bodies established therein, and the general principles of verification set forth in the United Nations Disarmament Commission principles of verification of 1988,²

Recalling also its resolutions [71/67](#) of 5 December 2016 and [74/50](#) of 12 December 2019 and its decisions 72/514 of 4 December 2017, 73/514 of 5 December 2018, 75/516 of 7 December 2020, 76/515 of 6 December 2021 and 77/514 of 7 December 2022,

Recalling further that, in its resolution [74/50](#), the Secretary-General was requested to seek the substantive views of Member States and to establish a group of governmental experts to further consider nuclear disarmament verification issues, including, inter alia, the concept of a Group of Scientific and Technical Experts,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General³ containing the substantive views of Member States on the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament,⁴ and noting the range of views expressed on the issue of nuclear disarmament verification,

¹ Resolution [S-10/2](#).

² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-15/3)*, para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I, of the quoted text).

³ [A/75/126](#).

⁴ [A/74/90](#).



Reaffirming the shared commitment to further progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and that all States Members of the United Nations have a stake in achieving and maintaining a world free of nuclear weapons,

Underlining that nuclear disarmament verification is an essential element of a nuclear disarmament process and that a credible multilateral verification regime in which all States have confidence will also be essential for achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons,

Underlining also that work on nuclear disarmament verification is not an end in itself and is not a prerequisite for progress on nuclear disarmament, and that such work should also aim to promote progress on nuclear disarmament,

Noting that there are political, legal, scientific and technical, and institutional aspects to nuclear disarmament verification,

Recalling that all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons⁵ have committed to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their disarmament obligations under the Treaty,

Underlining that equal opportunities for women and men should be provided for in nuclear disarmament verification education, training and capacity-building,

Underlining also that, for sustainability of nuclear disarmament verification efforts, it is important to develop expertise in all aspects of nuclear disarmament, including a new generation of experts,

Noting the contribution of representatives of civil society from the non-governmental, academic and research communities,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to further consider nuclear disarmament verification issues,⁶ mandated in resolution [74/50](#), and its adoption by consensus;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the substantive views of Member States on the report and to report back to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

3. *Invites* Member States, as well as relevant bodies of the United Nations disarmament machinery, in accordance with their respective mandates, to consider the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to further consider nuclear disarmament verification issues;

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue the discussion and work on nuclear disarmament verification issues, and to take appropriate measures to ensure equal opportunities for women and men to enable their full and meaningful engagement in nuclear disarmament efforts, including nuclear disarmament verification;

5. *Welcomes* continued efforts on capacity-building on nuclear disarmament verification, including through regional approaches, as appropriate;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Nuclear disarmament verification”.

*50th (resumed) plenary meeting
22 December 2023*

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

⁶ [A/78/120](#).