CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES

Geneva, 1968

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING
HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 1968

The Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States,

Aware that mankind will continue to be exposed to the danger of nuclear war and destruction as long as there exist nuclear weapons,

Considering the perspectives opened up by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons which has been recommended by Resolution 2373 (XXII) of the United Nations General Assembly for the widest possible adherence by both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States,

Conscious that all States, and in particular the non-nuclear-weapon States, will find lasting security only through general and complete disarmament by which all weapons, both nuclear and non-nuclear, will eventually be abolished, and that to this end a first condition is that the nuclear arms race be stopped.

Concerned that the basically unequal defensive capabilities of nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States must not jeopardize the inalienable right of every State to choose its political, economic, social and cultural system without interference in any form by other States,

Convinced that, therefore, the overriding principle of the non-use of force and the prohibition of the threat of force in relations between States, as expressed in Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, should be reaffirmed, and that this principle is indivisible and cannot be applied selectively, that every State has an equal and inalienable right to enjoy the protection afforded by this principle,

Convinced of the importance of the inherent right, recognized under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, of individual or collective self-defence,

GE.68-19537
1. **Reaffirms**
   (i) the principle, indivisible in its application, of the non-use of force and the prohibition of the threat of force in relations between States by employing nuclear or non-nuclear weapons, and the belief that all States without exception have an equal and inalienable right to enjoy the protection afforded by this principle, recognized under Article 2 of the United Nations Charter;
   (ii) the right to equality, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-intervention in internal affairs and self-determination of every State;
   (iii) the inherent right, recognized under Article 51 of United Nations Charter, of individual or collective self-defence which, apart from measures taken or authorized by the Security Council of the United Nations, is the only legitimate exception to the overriding principle of the non-use of force in relations between States.

2. **Requests** the nuclear-weapon States to reaffirm these principles on their behalf.