Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 3 December 2012

[on the report of the First Committee (A/67/409)]

67/53. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

The General Assembly,


Recalling also document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995, in which all members of the Conference on Disarmament agreed on the mandate to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and which would not preclude any delegation from raising for consideration, in negotiations, any issue noted therein,

Mindful of the continuing importance and relevance of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling the past achievements of that body in successfully negotiating arms control and disarmament agreements,

Recalling the support for the Conference on Disarmament expressed by the Security Council summit on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, held on 24 September 2009, as well as similar messages expressed at the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, held in New York on 24 September 2010, and the follow-up plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held from 27 to 29 July 2011,

Expressing frustration with the years of stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament, and looking forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world’s single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,
Recognizing the importance of advancing all issues identified in decision CD/1864, adopted by consensus by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,

Welcoming the discussions involving scientific experts on various technical aspects of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices that have taken place in Geneva, both within and on the margins of the Conference on Disarmament, in support of the early commencement of negotiations, including those meetings that took place in 2012 pursuant to resolution 66/44,

Noting the determination expressed by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America at the meeting held in Washington, D.C., from 27 to 29 June 2012 to renew their efforts, with relevant parties, to achieve a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices at the earliest possible date in the Conference on Disarmament,

Noting also that the Conference on Disarmament did not succeed in adopting a programme of work by the end of its 2012 session,

1. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement early in 2013 a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, including possible aspects thereof, and to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to establish a group of governmental experts with a membership of 25 States chosen on the basis of equitable geographical representation, which, taking into account the report containing the views of Member States, will make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to but not negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, which will operate on the basis of consensus, without prejudice to national positions in future negotiations and which will meet in Geneva for two sessions of two weeks in 2014 and in 2015;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the group of governmental experts to the General Assembly at its seventieth session and to the Conference on Disarmament;

5. Invites the Conference on Disarmament to take note of the report of the group of governmental experts and consider further action as appropriate;

6. Decides that, should the Conference on Disarmament agree upon and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, the group of governmental experts shall conclude and its work shall be submitted to the Secretary-General for onward transmission to the Conference on Disarmament;
7. Also decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament”, the sub-item entitled “Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

48th plenary meeting
3 December 2012