

welcomed the conclusion of the "historic" INF Treaty in December 1987, as well as the US-Soviet "agreement in principle on and progress made towards" a 50 percent strategic nuclear forces reduction agreement.

As it has for a number of years, Mexico introduced two resolutions on nuclear testing that were voted on by both UNGA 42 and 43. All four resolutions were entitled "Cessation of All Nuclear Tests." In 1987, the first of these resolutions (42/26A), garnered a final vote of 137-3-14, while its 1988 counterpart (43/63A) recorded a vote of 137-3-13. Canada abstained on both these resolutions. Among the NWS, the USSR supported both versions of the resolution and China abstained. The remaining three NWS opposed both versions of the resolution. The second of the Mexican nuclear testing resolutions in 1987 (42/26B), recorded a final vote of 128-3-22, while its parallel resolution of 1988 (43/63B), received the support of 128 countries, was opposed by 3, and had 21 countries choose to abstain. As on the first of the Mexican resolutions, Canada abstained on both 42/26B and 43/63B, whereas the USSR voted in favour of both. The UK, France and the USA registered opposition to the two resolutions. China, however, was absent when the vote was taken on the 1987 and 1988 versions of the second Mexican nuclear testing resolution.

There were differences between the 1987 and 1988 versions of the two Mexican resolutions on nuclear testing, although their general thrusts were similar. Both sessions' sets of resolutions were complementary in nature. Resolution 42/26A urged the depositary states of the Partial Test Ban Treaty and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (the USA, the UK, and the USSR) "to abide strictly by their undertakings to achieve the early discontinuance of all [nuclear] test explosions...for all time and to expedite negotiations to this end." It also requested, in veiled terms, that the NWS "bring to a halt without delay all nuclear-test explosions." The 1988 version of this resolution (43/63A), on the other hand, did not include a clause related to the immediate halting of nuclear tests. Furthermore, though 43/63A acknowledged the special commitments which the three depositary states referred to above had made regarding the discontinuance of nuclear testing, it did not make reference to the notion of abiding "strictly" to their undertakings. Rather, it urged these states to "seek to achieve" such an "early discontinuance."