

Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed in London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972, 4/

Expressing deep dismay at the use and the risk of use of chemical weapons as long as such weapons remain and are spread,

Acknowledging that prompt and impartial investigation of reports of possible use of chemical and bacteriological weapons will further enhance the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General 10/ on the proposals of the group of qualified experts established in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 42/37 C of 30 November 1987, concerning technical guidelines and procedures available to the Secretary-General for the timely and efficient investigation of reports of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons,

Noting that, upon conclusion of a chemical weapons convention, these guidelines and procedures should be adapted in the light of the obligations under the convention,

1. Renews its call to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and condemns vigorously all actions that violate that obligation;

2. Calls upon all States that have not yet done so to accede to the 1925 Geneva Protocol;

3. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to pursue as a matter of continuing urgency its negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out promptly investigations in response to reports that may be brought to his attention by any Member State concerning the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons that may constitute a violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol or other relevant rules of customary international law in order to ascertain the facts of the matter, and to report promptly the results of any such investigation to all Member States;

5. Welcomes, in that regard, the proposals of the group of qualified experts concerning technical guidelines and procedures to guide the Secretary-General in the conduct of timely and efficient investigation of the reports of use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons; 11/

---

10/ A/44/561 and Add.1 and 2.

11/ A/44/561, annex.