

## **Draft Resolution on Nuclear War Effects and Scientific Research**

*The General Assembly,*

*PP1 Gravely concerned* by the devastation that would be visited upon humankind by a nuclear war and the consequent need to make every effort to avert the danger of such a war,

*PP2 Expressing* deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons,

*PP3 Acknowledging* the accumulated scientific evidence that exists for nuclear war to result in long-term, large-scale, environmental, physical and socio-economic effects, due to radiation, blast, fire and other phenomena,

*PP4 Recalling* its resolutions 40/152 G of 16 December 1985, 41/86 H of 4 December 1986, and the subsequent publication in 1989 of *Climatic and other Global Effects of a Nuclear War*,

*PP5 Noting* the ongoing major advances in climatic and scientific modelling and the evidence base, and the consequent need for updated information on the potential effects of a nuclear war,

*PP5bis Recognising* today's level of interconnectedness, and the likelihood for global events to have complex, cascading impacts on global systems and societies, and *mindful of* the fragility of those systems and our planetary boundaries,

*PP6 Noting* the affirmation that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

*PP7 Re-affirming* the central role and primary responsibility of the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, in the sphere of disarmament,

*PP8 Recognising* the importance of the nuclear non-proliferation, arms control, and disarmament instruments in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons,

*PP9 Reaffirming* that the most effective guarantee against the danger of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*PP10 Recalling* that removing the threat of a nuclear war is the most acute and urgent task of the present day,

1. *Calls upon* all States to renew their commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation given the devastation that would be visited upon humankind by a nuclear war;

2. *Decides* to establish an independent Scientific Panel on the Effects of Nuclear War, consisting of 20 members to be appointed by the UN Secretary-General on the basis of a public call for candidates, with a Chairperson selected from among this group;
3. *Further decides* the Panel be tasked with examining the physical effects and societal consequences of a nuclear war on a local, regional and planetary scale, including *inter alia* the climatic, environmental and radiological effects, and their impacts on public health, global socio-economic systems, agriculture and ecosystems, in the days-weeks-decades following nuclear war, and that it reviews and commissions relevant studies, including modelling where appropriate, and publishes a comprehensive report, makes key conclusions, and identifies areas requiring future research;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene this Panel and provide full support to it, in the fulfilment of its mandate, with the Panel members, participating on a voluntary basis, selected by the Secretary-General drawing on the expertise of relevant UN agencies, on the basis of their leading scientific expertise across relevant disciplines, while ensuring impartiality, and equitable geographic and gender balance;
5. *Decides* the members of the Panel shall meet virtually at least quarterly to advance their work, keeping Member States periodically updated on progress, while maintaining their objectivity and impartiality, and operating free from political influence, on the basis of scientific peer review, drawing on lessons learned from other international expert mechanisms;
6. *Calls upon* the Panel to consult with the widest range of scientists and experts, and for the Secretary-General to facilitate those consultations, including through the provision, as required, of virtual meeting spaces, webcast, and meeting room facilities at UN premises, of up to 10 days in 2025, and a further 10 days in 2026, and encourages these experts to contribute presentations, written reports and published material to assist the Panel in its work;
7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and relevant agencies to support the Panel's work, including the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, the World Health Organisation, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organisation, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Trade Organisation, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, and others, including to contribute expertise, commissioned studies, data and papers;
8. *Encourages* Member States, relevant international and regional organisations, and others to support the Panel's work, including by facilitating and hosting Panel meetings, including

regional meetings, providing available scientific data and analyses, and making voluntary budgetary contributions, or in kind contributions;

9. *Decides* that the Panel shall engage and receive inputs from the International Committee of the Red Cross, civil society, affected communities, and peoples from around the world, in order to understand local, regional and global perspectives on the effects of a nuclear war;
10. *Also decides* this Panel shall take this Resolution as its Terms of Reference;
11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session (2025), under the item entitled “General and complete disarmament” the sub-item “Nuclear War Effects and Scientific Research”;
12. *Requests* the Panel’s Chair to brief the General Assembly on its progress at its eightieth (2025) and eighty-first (2026) sessions;
13. *Decides* to consider the Panel's final report on nuclear war effects at its eighty-second session (2027).