

31. Commemoration of the end of the Second World War in Europe

Initial proceedings

Decision of 9 May 1995 (3532nd meeting): statement by the President

At its 3532nd meeting, on 9 May 1995, the Security Council included the item entitled “Commemoration of the end of the Second World War in Europe” in its agenda. After the adoption of the agenda, the President (France) made the following statement on behalf of the members of the Council:¹

Fifty years ago, Europe saw the end of a war that afflicted the entire planet. It was primarily to preserve future generations from this scourge that the United Nations was created. The Security Council was given a special role in that effort, in that the Charter of the United Nations entrusts it with the principal responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

For this reason, it seems appropriate for the Security Council to pay tribute on this anniversary to all the victims of the Second World War and to recall the Council’s firm desire to make every possible effort to help to mitigate the human suffering that results from war.

¹ See S/PV.3532.

32. Commemoration of the end of the Second World War in the Asia-Pacific region

Initial proceedings

Decision of 15 August 1995 (3565th meeting): statement by the President

At its 3565th meeting, on 15 August 1995, the Security Council included the item entitled “Commemoration of the end of the Second World War in the Asia-Pacific region” in its agenda. After the adoption of the agenda, the President (Indonesia) made the following statement on behalf of the members of the Council:¹

the lives of tens of millions of people in this region. On this solemn occasion, we pay tribute to those who laid down their lives and the other victims of the war.

Having survived the catastrophe of the Second World War, mankind sought to embrace new means to prevent the recurrence of such a tragedy. To this end, the United Nations was established, with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security conferred on the Security Council by the Charter.

Unity and harmony among nations would be the most honourable and noble way to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives for peace during the Second World War. For this reason, it is appropriate for the Security Council to pay homage on this anniversary to all the victims of the Second World War in the Asia-Pacific region.

It was fifty years ago that the Asia-Pacific region saw the end of the Second World War, a devastating war that shattered

¹ See S/PV.3565.