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Item 46 of the preliminary list*

CONCLUSION OF A TREATY ON THE COMPLETE AND GENERAL
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTS

Letter dated 14 June 1976 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit hereunder a message addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. L. O. Harriman, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations, who has been mandated by the 25 non-nuclear-weapon States on their behalf to make the following representations:

"You will recall that the General Assembly, at its thirtieth session, in its resolution 3478 (XXX), clearly expressed the opinion of the overwhelming majority of States of the United Nations about the necessity to make all efforts once again for the speediest cessation everywhere, and by all, of nuclear-weapon tests, including underground tests. It called upon all nuclear-weapon States to enter into negotiations with a view to reaching agreement on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests. The resolution also requested the President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly to nominate, in consultation with the regional groups, 25 to 30 non-nuclear-weapon States to participate in these negotiations. The President of the General Assembly announced at the thirtieth session (A/10509) the nomination of 25 non-nuclear-weapon States to undertake these negotiations.

"The group of 25 non-nuclear-weapon States met on 10 June 1976 in informal consultations to consider how they should discharge the responsibility entrusted to them in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3478 (XXX).

"The informal group noted that, according to information available to it, only one nuclear-weapon State, the USSR, had announced its agreement to participate in these negotiations. The USSR had sent an official letter (A/31/81) to Your Excellency on this question.

* A/31/50.

"The informal group further took note that the other four nuclear-weapon States did not vote for General Assembly resolution 3478 (XXX), and that none of them had officially stated its attitude towards the proposal to begin the negotiations provided for in this resolution.

"The informal group, however, took into account the importance and urgency of this problem as well as their responsibility as members of the group of non-nuclear-weapon States nominated by the respective regional group in the United Nations, as announced in General Assembly document A/10509.

"The non-nuclear-weapon States directed that I should, on their behalf, request you to convene a meeting to be attended by the nuclear-weapon States and the 25 non-nuclear-weapon States nominated by the President of the thirtieth session of the General Assembly, so that they may discuss the modalities of implementation of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3478 (XXX). I am also authorized to request you to provide all such assistance that may be necessary for the conduct of the meeting, with a view to reaching agreement on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests."

On behalf of the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations, please circulate this message as a document of the General Assembly under item 46 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session.

(Signed) Jonathan K. UMAR
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Nigerian
Mission to the United Nations
