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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FIRST
REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY
ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Kedar Bhakta SHRESTHA (Nepal)

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session at the request of Sweden (A/31/141).
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1976, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 5 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 34 to 50 and 116. The general debate on these items took place at the 20th to 39th meetings, from 1 to 19 November.
4. In accordance with a request by Sweden addressed to the Secretary-General on 30 September, the final document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT/CONF/35, parts I to III) was circulated as an official document of the First Committee (A/C.1/31/4). In addition, the Committee had before it a letter dated 27 October 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/31/6).
5. At the 47th meeting, on 1 December, the representative of Sweden introduced a draft resolution (A/C.1/31/L.32), which was subsequently also sponsored by Austria, Denmark, Ecuador, Iceland, Nigeria and Norway.

6. At its 52nd meeting on 3 December, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/31/L.32 by a recorded vote of 99 to 1, with 17 abstentions 1/ (see para. 7 below). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: China.

Abstaining: Algeria, Argentina, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Chile, Cuba, France, India, Mozambique, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, Uganda, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the conclusions of the first
Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty
on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the danger of nuclear warfare remains a grave threat to the survival of mankind,

1/ After the vote, the representatives of Burundi, Guinea and the Philippines indicated that it had been their intention to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

Convinced that the prevention of any further proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices remains a vital element in efforts to avert nuclear warfare,

Convinced that the promotion of this objective will be furthered by more rapid progress towards the cessation of the nuclear arms race and the initiation of effective measures of nuclear disarmament,

Further convinced that the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time would constitute an important step in these efforts,

Noting that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, 2/ to which about 100 States are parties, implies a balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of all States parties to the Treaty, nuclear-weapon as well as non-nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling that the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons met at Geneva from 5 to 30 May 1975 to review the operation of the Treaty with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Treaty were being realized,

Further recalling that the Final Document of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 3/ includes, inter alia, a Final Declaration and a number of interpretative statements in connexion with the Final Declaration,

Noting that the Conference has called for universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Recognizing the necessity of effective international safeguards in order to ensure that the peaceful applications of nuclear energy will not lead to further proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Underlining the important role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in implementing international non-proliferation policies in connexion with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy

Concerned that the nuclear arms race continues unabated,

Recognizing that various appropriate means are necessary to meet the security concerns of non-nuclear-weapon States,

1. Urgently calls for determined efforts by all nuclear-weapon States:

(a) To bring about the cessation of the nuclear arms race;

2/ General Assembly resolution 2373 (XXII).

3/ See A/C.1/31/4.

(b) To undertake effective measures in the direction of nuclear disarmament;

(c) To find an early solution to the difficulties in reaching agreement to discontinue all tests explosions of nuclear weapons for all time as a step towards the realization of these objectives;

2. Emphasizes the particular responsibility of the two major nuclear-weapon States in this regard;

3. Stresses the urgency of international co-operative efforts in appropriate forums to prevent the further proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

4. Recognizes that States accepting effective non-proliferation restraints have a right to full access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and underlines the importance of all efforts to increase the availability of energy, particularly for the needs of the developing countries of the world;

5. Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to accord high priority to its programme of work in these areas;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the conclusions of the first Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and establishment of a preparatory committee for the second Review Conference".
