



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/381
9 December 1977

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/SPANISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda item 52

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO
DISARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Francisco CORREA (Mexico)

1. The item entitled "Special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament: report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-second session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/189 B of 21 December 1976.
2. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1977, 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 7th meeting, on 18 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 33, 34, 38 to 49 and 51 to 53. The general debate on these items took place at the 7th to 27th meetings, from 18 October to 7 November. 1/
4. The First Committee had before it, in connexion with agenda item 52, a report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament. 2/ The report was introduced by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee at the 7th meeting, on 18 October. The Committee also had before it the following communications:

(a) Letter dated 1 March 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/60);

1/ For an index to statements by delegations on disarmament items, see document A/32/383.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/32/41 and Corr.1).

(b) Letter dated 23 March 1977 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/32/62).

5. On 7 November, Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bhutan, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Sweden, Turkey, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.11), which was subsequently also sponsored by Bangladesh, Ghana, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, the Philippines, Qatar, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yemen. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 29th meeting, on 10 November.

6. On 10 November, Austria, Bangladesh, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/32/L.16), which was subsequently also sponsored by Afghanistan, the Bahamas, Cuba, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Mauritius, Peru, Spain, the Sudan and Yemen. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Norway at the 30th meeting, on 11 November.

7. At the 32nd meeting, on 15 November, the Secretary-General submitted a statement (A/C.1/32/L.30) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.16 and at the 38th meeting, on 18 November, statements (A/C.1/32/L.34 and A/C.1/32/L.35) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.11.

8. At its 33rd meeting, on 15 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.16 by consensus (see para. 12 below, draft resolution A).

9. At the 38th meeting, in connexion with the statements of the Secretary-General (A/C.1/32/L.34 and A/C.1/32/L.35) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.11, the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee proposed that, for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, verbatim records be provided not only for the plenary meetings but also for the meetings of the committee of the whole and that summary records be provided for the meetings of any subsidiary body that might be established. Thereupon, the Committee adopted this proposal without objection (see para. 13 below).

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/32/L.11 by consensus (see para. 12 below, draft resolution B).

11. At the same meeting, the Netherlands, referring to a suggestion by Malaysia at the 58th plenary meeting (see A/32/PV.58) to the effect that the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be invited to make an informative statement to the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, proposed that the Committee decide to do so. Thereupon, the Committee adopted this proposal without objection (see para. 14 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Special session of the General Assembly
devoted to disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Gravely concerned that vast human and material resources are spent on armaments,

Reaffirming the need to allocate greater resources to economic and social progress, particularly having in mind the needs of the developing countries,

Firmly believing that a curtailment of expenditures on armaments in keeping with the objectives of the Disarmament Decade would facilitate the availability of greater resources for economic and social development, particularly to the developing countries,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the aforementioned matters and the specific studies carried out at its request,

Noting the declaration made by the Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 16 to 19 August 1976 on this matter, 3/

Noting also the proposal for a United Nations study 4/ presented to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament,

Sharing the view that decisions on concrete action would be facilitated through an in-depth analysis on the relationship between disarmament efforts and measures to achieve economic and social progress,

1. Endorses the recommendation by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament that the General Assembly should initiate a study on the relationship between disarmament and development, the terms of reference of the study to be determined by the Assembly itself at its special session;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint, at the earliest possible date, an ad hoc group of governmental experts with the task of elaborating a possible framework and terms of reference for the above-mentioned study;

3/ See A/31/197.

4/ A/AC.187/80.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Ad Hoc Group on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development all the relevant materials, including proposals made by Member States, as well as previous and current United Nations studies on the subject;

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Group to report on its work not later than 1 April 1978;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Ad Hoc Group to Member States not later than a month before the opening of the special session on 23 May 1978.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/189 B of 21 December 1976 in which it decided to convene a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

Having considered the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, 5/

1. Endorses the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament and the recommendations contained therein for the special session to be held between 23 May and 28 June 1978 in the General Assembly Hall;

2. Requests the Preparatory Committee to continue its work in order to prepare a draft final document or documents for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly at its special session and to submit to the Assembly its final report;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the members of the Preparatory Committee for their constructive contribution to its work;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to Member States the records of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly relating to the special session;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to render the Preparatory Committee all necessary assistance as may be required for the completion of its work.

13. The First Committee also recommends that the General Assembly should decide that, for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/32/41 and Corr.1).

verbatim records be provided not only for the plenary meetings but also for the meetings of the committee of the whole, and that summary records be provided for the meetings of any subsidiary body that might be established.

14. The First Committee further recommends that the General Assembly should decide that the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency be invited to make a statement to the Assembly at its special session devoted to disarmament.
