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Agenda item 40

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernst SUCHARIPA (Austria)

1. The item entitled "World Disarmament Conference: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/69 of 14 December 1978.
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1979, 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 3rd meeting, on 1 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 30 to 45, 120 and 121. The general debate on these items took place at the 4th to 30th meetings, from 16 October to 5 November (A/C.1/34/PV.4-30).
4. In connexion with item 40, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference; 1/
 - (b) Letter dated 6 July 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 4 to 9 June 1979 (A/34/357);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/34/28).

- (c) Letter dated 1 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979 (A/34/542).

5. On 14 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/34/L.22), which was subsequently also sponsored by Mongolia and Viet Nam. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 35th meeting, on 15 November.

6. At its 40th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/34/L.22 without a vote (see para. 7).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977 and 33/69 of 14 December 1978,

Reiterating its conviction that all peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

Stressing anew its conviction that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could promote the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, 2/

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of General Assembly, 2/ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

1. Notes with satisfaction that in its report to the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated the following:

"Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly may wish to decide that, after its second special session devoted to disarmament, a world disarmament conference would take place as soon as the necessary consensus on its convening has been reached"; 3/

2. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any possible relevant proposals and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session;

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".
