



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/39/264
21 May 1984

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-ninth session
Item 65 of the preliminary list*

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 17 May 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to send you herewith the text of the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq concerning the position of the Government of Iraq on the behaviour of the Iranian delegation at the meetings of the Conference on Disarmament held at Geneva in April 1984.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate this letter and the attached statement as an official document of the General Assembly under item 65 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Zuhair I. MOHAMMED
Chargé d'Affaires

* A/39/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq wishes to make public its extreme indignation at the fact that the conference of the committee on Disarmament, an organ reporting to the General Assembly has been subjected to unprecedented abuse by one member country to the detriment of the role and function of that organ.

The Representative of the Iranian regime taking advantage of the unusual and undemocratic practice of the conference exploited its meetings in April 1984, as a platform from which to launch a series of slanderous allegations against Iraq. Thus contravening all accepted norms and conducts of behaviour and abusing the procedures of an International body whose mandate and role is the negotiation of instruments that would lead to Disarmament and not a forum for propaganda and falsehoods.

The sad and unfortunate fact is that the Representative of the Iranian Regime, by abusing the rule of consensus, was able to prevent Iraq, which is not a member of the committee, from exercising its inherent right to expose these Iranian slanders. A right which is recognized and observed in all United Nations Bodies and Organs, and other International Organizations. Yet

in this particular committee the Iranian Representative was allowed to wield the power of the (Veto) on a procedural matter to thwart, single handedly the rest of the committee's members agreement to invite Iraq to address the committee in the exercise of its right of reply.

The government of Iraq considers it unacceptable and contrary to every norm and rule of procedure in the U.N. and other International Organizations, in objecting to the quasi unanimous agreement of the whole membership, forcing its opinion and will by imposing a (Veto) in an organ meeting at the United Nations and within its framework and the Secretary-General of the United Nations. We have a glaring example of rule by the (Tyranny of one) even the Security Council's limited veto does not apply to procedural matters relating to invitations to member states to address the Council, and what is even more disturbing is that Iran, which has set a new record of violations of the principles and aims of the U.N. charter and has not only disregarded Security Council resolutions. But also persistently abused and insulted the Council is allowed to enjoy the membership of such an important body as the committee on disarmament and to obstruct the right of other states to address the committee in the exercise of their right of reply. Iran's continued membership

in the disarmament committee is an insult to the principles and aims for which the committee was established. Iraq calls on all member states to take the appropriate steps at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly to correct this unacceptable state of affairs.
