



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/42/748
17 November 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-second session
Agenda item 59

PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF NEW TYPES OF
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND NEW SYSTEMS OF SUCH WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Kazimierz TOMASZEWSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-second session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/56 of 3 December 1986.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1987, 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 1 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 48 to 69, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and a continuation of the general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and the 31st meetings, from 12 October to 3 November (see A/C.1/42/PV.3-31).
4. In connection with item 59, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

(b) Note **verbale** dated 16 June 1987 from the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final **communiqué** of the VII Summit Conference of the Heads of State of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe, held at Maputo on 21 and 22 May 1987 (A/42/352-S/18930);

(a) Letter dated 9 October 1987 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the joint statement issued on 7 October 1987 by the President of Argentina, the Prime Minister of Greece, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Mexico, the Prime Minister of Sweden and the First President of the United Republic of Tanzania (A/42/652-S/19201);

(d) Letter dated 23 October 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final **communiqué** of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation to the forty-second session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 7 October 1987 (A/42/681).

If. **CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/42/L.55**

5. On 27 October 1987, Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Mozambique, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons" (A/C.1/42/L.55), which was later also sponsored by Burkina Faso and the Syrian Arab Republic. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic at the 39th meeting, on 10 November.

6. At its 40th meeting, on 11 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.55 by a recorded vote of 106 to 1, with 18 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

1/ Official Record of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/42/27).

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Rumania, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of
new types of weapons of mass destruction and new
systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling also the decision contained in paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ the first

special session devoted to disarmament, to the effect that, in order to help prevent a qualitative arms race and so that scientific and technological achievements might ultimately be used solely for peaceful purposes, effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction based on new scientific principles and achievements and that efforts aimed at the prohibition of such new types and new systems of weapons of mass destruction should be appropriately pursued,

Noting that in the course of 1 to 1987 session the Conference on Disarmament considered the item entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, radiological weapons",

Taking into consideration the section of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to this question, 3/

Convinced that all ways and means should be utilized to prevent the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Determined to prevent modern science and technology from leading to the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948, 4/

1. Reaffirms on the basis of the common desire of the international community the necessity of prohibiting the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons;
2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament, in the light of its existing priorities, to keep constantly under review, with appropriate expert assistance, the question of the prohibition of the development and manufacture, of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on the identified types of such weapons)
3. Calls upon all States, immediately following the identification of any new type of weapon of mass destruction, to renounce practical development of such a weapon and to commence negotiations on its prohibition;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/42/27), sect. III, paras. 86-89.

4/ The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev. 1) .

4. Once again urges all States to refrain from any action that could lead to the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons;

5. Calls again upon all States to undertake efforts to ensure that ultimately scientific and technological achievements may be used solely for peaceful purposes;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its forty-second session;

7. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its forty-third session a report on the results achieved)

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled 'Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; report of the Conference on Disarmament'.
