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Agenda item 56

CONCLUSION OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THE  
STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES  
AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dimitris PLATIS (Greece)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution **43/68** of 7 December 1988.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, 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 13 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 49 to 69 and 151. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and 25th meetings, from 16 October to 1 November (see **A/C.1/44/PV.3-25**). Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on those items took place between the 26th and 41st meetings, from 2 to 17 November (see **A/C.1/44/PV.26-41**).
4. In connection with item 56, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

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

(b) Letter dated 18 April 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Final Communiqué of the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (session on Islamic fraternity and solidarity) held at Riyadh, from 6 to 9 Sha'ban A.H. 1409 (13 to 16 March A.D. 1989) (A/44/235-S/20600);

(c) Letter dated 23 June 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/347-S/20702);

(d) Letter dated 19 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 17 to 19 May 1989 (A/44/409-S/20743 and Corr.1 and 2);

(e) Letter dated 22 September 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the final documents of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989 (A/44/551-S/20870);

(f) Letter dated 2 November 1989 from the Permanent Representatives of Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/705-S/20940).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/44/L.23/Rev.1

5. On 20 October 1989, Bulgaria and Nigeria submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (A/C.1/44/L.23).

6. On 7 November 1989, the sponsors submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/44/L.23/Rev.1), which was introduced by the representative of Bulgaria at the 30th meeting, on 7 November. The revised draft resolution contained the following change: in operative paragraph 2, the phrase "and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective" was added to the end of the paragraph.

7. At its 35th meeting, **on** 13 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution **A/C.1/44/L.23/Rev.1** by a recorded vote of 113 to 1, with 20 abstentions (**see para. 8**). The voting was as follows, **2/**

**In favour:** Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape **Verde**, Central **African** Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, **Côte d'Ivoire**, Cuba, Cyprus, **Czechoslovakia**, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, **Dominican** Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, **Fiji**, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic **of**), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, **Kenya**, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, **Maldives**, Mali, Malta, **Mexico**, **Mongolia**, **Morocco**, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, **New Zealand**, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, **Qatar**, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, **Sri Lanka**, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian **Arab** Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, **Uganda**, **Ukrainian** Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic **of** Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Against:** Turkey,

**Abstaining:** Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United **States** of America, Uruguay,

### 111. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

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**2/** Subsequently, the delegations of Barbados and Costa Rica indicated that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution, and the delegation of Turkey indicated that it had intended to abstain.

/...

Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the  
strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States  
against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until complete nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Taking note of the general desire to conclude effective international measures to that end at an early date,

Taking note also of the unilateral declarations on the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons made by all nuclear-weapon States,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 3/ the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Recognizing that effective measures of such security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States would constitute an important contribution to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Aware of the in-depth negotiations on this subject in the Conference on Disarmament during the past ten years,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament 4/ submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, 5/ the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at

3/ Resolution S-10/2.

4/ The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2), sect. III.G.

its fifteenth **special session, 6/** the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as of the annual report of the **Conference** on its 1989 session, **7/**

**Welcoming** the unanimous support **in** the Conference on Disarmament to continuing the search for a common approach **to** the substance of negative security assurances, which could be included in a legally binding instrument,

**Recognizing** the need **for a fresh** look at the issue, in particular **by the nuclear-weapon** States, in order to overcome the difficulties encountered at the negotiations in previous **years,**

**Taking note** of the proposals **on** this subject submitted to the Conference on Disarmament, **8/**

1. **Reaffirms** the urgent need, pending the **achievement** of complete nuclear disarmament, to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

2. **Recommends** that **the** Conference on Disarmament pursue intensive negotiations in its **Ad Hoc** Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against **the** Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons at the **beginning** of its 1990 session, with a view to reaching such **an** agreement, taking into account **the** widespread support in the Conference **for** conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

3. **Appeals** to all States, in particular the **nuclear-weapon** States, to demonstrate willingness **and to exercise the** flexibility **necessary** to reach agreement on a common approach to, including the **possibility** of a common formula in, **an** international instrument or **instruments of a** legally binding character, to assure **the** non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or **threat** of use of nuclear **weapons;**

4. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

6/ Ibid., Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2),  
sect. III.F.

7/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27).

8/ Ibid., sect. III.F.