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Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 47AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN
THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATERReport of the First Committee**Rapporteur:** Mr. Latévi Modem LAWSON-BETUM (Togo)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution **44/106** of 15 December 1989.
2. At its 3rd plenary **meeting**, on 21 September 1990, 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 9 October 1990, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 45 to 66. At its 4th meeting, on 16 October, the First Committee decided to consider jointly with other disarmament items agenda item 155, which was allocated to the First Committee upon a decision of the General Assembly at its 30th plenary meeting, on 15 October. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and 23rd meetings, from 15 to 30 October (see **A/C.1/45/PV.3-23**). Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on those items took place between the 24th and 39th meetings, from 2 to 16 November (see **A/C.1/45/PV.24-39**).
4. No documents ~~were~~ submitted in connection with item 47.

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II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/45/L.31

5. On 31 October, Afghanistan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia submitted a draft resolution entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water" (A/C.1/45/L.31), which was later also sponsored by Cape Verde, Chile, Cyprus, Guatemala, India, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius, Singapore, the Sudan, Suriname, Togo and Zimbabwe. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Mexico at the 35th meeting, on 13 November.

6. At its 39th meeting, on 16 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.31 by a recorded vote of 98 to 2, with 28 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the
Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution **44/106** of 15 December 1989,

Reiterating its conviction that a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is the highest-priority measure for the cessation of the nuclear arms race and for the achievement of the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Recalling its resolution 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, in which it noted with approval the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, 1/ signed on 5 August 1963, and requested the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament 2/ to continue with a sense of urgency its negotiations to achieve the objectives set forth in the preamble to the Treaty,

Recalling also that more than one third of the parties to the Treaty have requested the Depositary Governments to convene a conference to consider an amendment that would convert the Treaty into a comprehensive test-ban treaty,

Reiterating its conviction that such a conference will facilitate the attainment of the objectives set forth in the Treaty and thus serve to strengthen it,

Noting with satisfaction that the Meeting for the Organization of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Partial Test Ban Treaty was held in New York from 29 May to 8 June 1990, and taking note of the report of that Meeting,

1. Notes with satisfaction that the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water will be held in New York from 7 to 18 January 1991;

2. Calls upon all parties to the Treaty to participate in, and to contribute to the success of, the Amendment Conference for the achievement of a comprehensive

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480, No. 6924.

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

nuclear-test ban at an early date, as an indispensable measure towards implementation of their undertakings in the preamble to the Treaty:

3. Reiterates its conviction that, pending the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, the nuclear-weapon States should suspend all nuclear-test explosions through an agreed moratorium or unilateral moratoria;

4. Recommends that arrangements be made to ensure that intensive efforts continue, under the auspices of the Amendment Conference, until a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is achieved:

5. Recommends also that the Amendment Conference establish a working group, or other means it deems appropriate, to study, inter alia, the organization of control, institutional mechanisms and legal **aspects** of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and to report its conclusions to the Conference:

6. Stresses the importance of ensuring adequate co-ordination among the various negotiating forums dealing with a **comprehensive** nuclear-test-ban treaty;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda **of** its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water".