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Agenda item 59

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DISARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee**Rapporteur:** Mr. Latévi Modem LAWSON-BETUM (Togo)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Science and technology for disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution **44/118 B** 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 59.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION **A/C.1/45/L.13** AND Rev.1

5. On 30 October, Germany submitted a draft resolution entitled "Science and technology for disarmament" (**A/C.1/45/L.13**), which was later also sponsored by Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Mali. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Germany at the 25th meeting, on 5 November.

6. On 9 November, Arsentina, Australia, Austria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Mali, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Venezuela submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/45/L.13/Rev.1), which contained the following change:

(a) Operative paragraph 4, which had read:

"4. Recommends that the United Nations should promote the collection and dissemination of information on scientific and technological developments related to arms control and disarmament",

was replaced by a paragraph reading:

"4, Recommends that the United Nations should give appropriate attention to the collection and dissemination of information on scientific and technological developments in these fields".

7. At the 35th meeting, on 13 November, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement concerning the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.1/45/PV.35).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.13/Rev 1 by a recorded vote of 132 to none, with no abstentions (see para. 9). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, **Benin**, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, **Côte d'Ivoire**, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, **Egypt**, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, **Samoa**, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: None.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Science and technology for disarmament

The General Assembly,

Convinced that science and technology can profoundly contribute to solving the problems of mankind, especially to promoting its social and economic development,

Noting the interest of the international community in disarmament-related applications of scientific and technological achievements,

Recognizing the contributions that **may** be offered by scientific and technological progress for implementing **arms** control **and** disarmament agreements, inter alia, in the fields of verification and of compliance, by parties, with agreements on arms control and disarmament as well as of weapons disposal,

Welcoming related international activities undertaken so far in this area,

Considering the need **for** intensified international co-operation, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes, inter alia, in the fields of verification of compliance with agreements on **arms** control and disarmament, application of technologies **for** improved means of verification and weapons disposal,

Noting the **United Nations Conference on Peace and Security Implications of New Trends in Science and Technology** held at Sendai, Japan, in April 1990, and the **United Nations Conference on Conversion from Military to Civilian Productions**, held in Moscow in August 1990, which contributed to promoting international co-operation in this field,

1. Welcomes national and international activities to use scientific and technological achievements for disarmament-related purposes::

2. Calls upon Member States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to intensify and extend such activities and to keep the United Nations informed about progress in this field;

3. Invites all Member States and relevant international organizations to develop international co-operation in this area, with a view to using scientific and technological achievements for **disarmament-related** purposes, inter alia, in the

fields of verification and of compliance, by parties, with agreements on arms control and disarmament, application of technologies for improved means of verification and for weapons disposal;

4. Recommends that the United Nations should give appropriate attention to the collection and dissemination of information on scientific and technological developments in these fields;

5. Decides to **include** in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Science and technology for disarmament".
