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Agenda item 66

Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled “Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 56/30 of 29 November 2001.
2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, 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 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).
4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.6

5. At the 11th meeting, on 20 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil,

Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” (A/C.1/58/L.6). Subsequently, Nauru joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 16th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.6 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

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

Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)¹ was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments² to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,¹ with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Highlighting that, with the ratification of Cuba, the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-three sovereign States of the region, thereby consolidating the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Noting with satisfaction the interest that the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean has manifested to promote mechanisms of cooperation and consultation in other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

² A/47/467, annex.

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)¹ is now in force for the sovereign States of the region, and that this fact will be officially acknowledged by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighteenth session, to be held at Havana on 5 and 6 November 2003;

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled “Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)”.
