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AGENDA ITEM 28

**International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer
space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of
Outer Space**

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7900)

1. Mr. BARNETT (Jamaica), Rapporteur of the First
Committee: I have the honour to present to the General
Assembly the report of the First Committee on agenda item
28 [A/7900]. The Committee adopted the two draft
resolutions which appear in paragraph 10 of the report, and
recommends them for adoption by the General Assembly.

2. Paragraph 10 of the report gives the impression that
sections B and C are two different resolutions. In order to
avoid this misunderstanding, I wish to state that they are
two parts of the same resolution. Thus, the first resolution
is draft resolution A, and the second comprises B and C
together. They should be voted on accordingly.

*Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was
decided not to discuss the report of the First Committee.*

3. The PRESIDENT: I shall now call on the representative
of Belgium, who wishes to explain his vote.

4. Mr. SCHUURMANS (Belgium) (*translated from
French*): Now that the General Assembly, meeting in
plenary session, is about to adopt the texts which the First
Committee has prepared on item 28 (International co-
operation in the peaceful uses of outer space), my
delegation wishes to stress the special significance which it
attaches to the recommendation relating to the draft
convention on liability for damage caused by objects
launched into outer space [A/7900, para. 10, draft resolu-
tion C].

5. In the group of sponsors, who were none other than the members of the Committee on Outer Space,¹ my delegation stated that, despite the efforts recently made by the Committee, which ended its consultations and negotiations only a few days ago, and despite a certain narrowing of the differences in views which the Chairman, Mr. Haymerle, was able to note when he reported on these negotiations, the task assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly six years ago has not been fulfilled. We stated in the First Committee [1721st meeting] that any decision referring the draft back again to the Committee on Outer Space should be accompanied by a clear indication that, in so doing, the General Assembly was giving the Committee a last chance and assigning it a specific objective, namely, to ensure prompt and equitable settlement of liability claims in the interests of the victim.

6. The recommendation which my delegation initiated contains a harsh judgement by the General Assembly on the manner in which the Committee has carried out its task. Sponsored almost unanimously by the members of the Committee, it draws up a balance sheet which is, in fact, an act of self-criticism or even self-accusation. Although the members of the Committee indicate their satisfaction at the positive achievements—the efforts which have been made and the greater degree of accord which has resulted, they also express their regret and disappointment at what has all the appearances of a failure, since, after all, the objective pursued has not been attained.

7. In the course of the informal negotiations which led to the preparation of this text, one delegation expressed doubt whether there was, in the minds of the members of the Committee and of the General Assembly, a link between the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts and the convention on liability for damage caused.

8. In order to make sure that no one remains uncertain on this point and that there is no doubt about it, I should like to recall here a statement from the report of the Committee, which, in December 1967, transmitted to the General Assembly the text of the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts. It reads as follows:

“The importance of the relationship”—I repeat—“The importance of the relationship between an agreement on assistance to . . . astronauts . . . and an agreement on liability . . . was recognized by the Committee”.

The report goes on to say:

“[The committee] . . . should expedite its work on the equally important and urgent matter of the preparation of a draft agreement on liability . . . so as to conclude its preparation not later than the beginning of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.”²

9. At that time, the Permanent Representative of the Soviet Union stated, on 19 December 1967, during the debate in plenary, that:

“... the approval of this draft Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts will create favourable conditions for the next step—the speedy completion of work on an agreement concerning liability . . .” [1640th meeting, para. 145].

10. The representative of the United States, for his part, said that “... this particular agreement is of special interest and concern to the two major space Powers” and that “his Government deeply appreciated the co-operation of the non-space Powers” [ibid., para. 126]. As regards the conclusion of a satisfactory convention on liability, he recognized that “other problems remained to be solved, particularly problems of acute interest to the non-space Powers” [ibid., para. 127].

11. At that time, the representatives of the two super-Powers undertook to make every possible effort to that end. Among the representatives of other countries, Mr. Benites described the convention on damages as an indispensable supplement to the Agreement on Rescue; Mr. Vinci stressed that the two instruments had equal importance; the representative of Lebanon noted with deep regret the delay in the conclusion of a draft agreement on liability; and you yourself, Madam President, speaking on behalf of the delegation of Liberia, appealed to the great Powers “to consider the possibility of concluding before the next session of the General Assembly a treaty on the question of liability” [ibid., para. 167].

12. It is in the light of those statements that the amendment introduced this year in the wording of paragraph 3 of draft resolution B is to be interpreted. In paragraph 3 of resolution 2453 B (XXIII) adopted last year, the General Assembly:

“Urges those countries which have not yet become parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, to give early consideration to ratifying or acceding to those agreements so that they may have the broadest possible effect”.

This year, the terms “urges” and “early” are no longer used. In the opinion of the sponsors, this lesser degree of urgency is the corollary of the unjustifiable delay in the preparation of a draft convention on liability.

13. On 12 November of this year, at the 70th meeting of the Committee on Outer Space, the representative of Belgium expressed the perplexity and scepticism of the small countries in saying:

“Need we be surprised if . . . small and middle-sized countries have the impression that they have been deceived? Need we criticize them for their suspicion in the light of what has occurred? Could we blame them if they refused to ratify the Agreement on the Rescue and the Return of Astronauts . . . as long as the other convention is not finished?”

14. In spite of these misgivings, my delegation would like to hope that the year which is about to begin will see

¹ Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 32, document A/6804/Add.1, para. 7.

decisive progress and that Governments will soon be in a position to sign the convention on liability at the same time as they ratify the Agreement on Rescue.

15. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now vote on the draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 10 of its report [A/7900]. We shall vote first on draft resolution A.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 105 votes to 9, with 3 abstentions [resolution 2600 (XXIV)].

16. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now consider draft resolutions B and C. The Fifth Committee has submitted a report on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution B [A/7901]. As the Rapporteur of the First Committee has pointed out, the draft resolutions appearing as B and C in paragraph 10 form the two parts of one draft resolution and they should therefore be considered together. The draft resolution was adopted unanimously by the First Committee.

17. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly also wishes to adopt the draft resolutions unanimously.

Draft resolutions B and C were adopted unanimously [resolution 2601 A (XXIV) and resolution 2601 B (XXIV)].

AGENDA ITEMS 29, 104, 30 and 31

Question of general and complete disarmament: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7902)

Question of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons:

- (a) Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament;
- (b) Conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and on the destruction of such weapons;
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7890)

Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7862)

Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States:

- (a) Implementation of the results of the Conference: report of the Secretary-General;
- (b) Establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control: report of the Secretary-General;

(c) Contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries: report of the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7887)

18. The PRESIDENT: I invite Mr. Barnett of Jamaica, the Rapporteur of the First Committee, to present in a single statement the reports of the First Committee on agenda items 29, 104, 30 and 31.

19. Mr. BARNETT (Jamaica), Rapporteur of the First Committee: I have the honour to present to the General Assembly the reports of the First Committee on the four agenda items relating to disarmament.

20. At its 1686th meeting, the First Committee decided that these four agenda items should be discussed together. The following reports are therefore before the Assembly: first, the report on agenda item 29 [A/7902]; secondly, the report on agenda item 104 [A/7890]; thirdly, the report on agenda item 30 [A/7862] and fourthly the report on agenda item 31 [A/7887].

21. In connexion with agenda item 29, the Committee had before it a number of documents, working papers, draft resolutions and amendments thereto, and eventually adopted six draft resolutions which appear in paragraph 17 of its report [A/7902].

22. The Committee had before it a number of documents and draft resolutions concerning agenda item 104, some of which were not pressed to the vote. The First Committee recommends two draft resolutions, which appear in paragraph 22 of the report [A/7890] for adoption by the General Assembly.

23. With regard to agenda item 30, in addition to the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament [A/7741], the Committee had before it two draft resolutions, which appear in paragraph 14 of the report [A/7862]. The First Committee recommends these two draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly. The attention of the Assembly is also invited to paragraph 10 of the report.

24. The Committee considered two draft resolutions concerning agenda item 31. They appear in paragraph 11 of the report [A/7887] and are recommended for adoption by the General Assembly.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the First Committee.

25. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will not take a decision on the draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee under agenda item 29 in paragraph 17 of its report [A/7902].

26. I first put to the vote draft resolution A.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 82 votes to none, with 37 abstentions [resolution 2602 A (XXIV)].

27. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution B.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 113 votes to none, with 6 abstentions [resolution 2602 B (XXIV)].

28. The PRESIDENT: We turn now to draft resolution C. The report of the Fifth Committee on the administrative and financial implications of this draft is contained in document A/7885. The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution C.

Draft resolution C was adopted by 79 votes to none, with 37 abstentions [resolution 2602 C (XXIV)].

29. The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on draft resolution D.

Draft resolution D was adopted by 72 votes to none, with 44 abstentions [resolution 2602 D (XXIV)].

30. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution E. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, El Salvador, France, Hungary, Malawi, Mongolia, Poland, Syria, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

*Draft resolution E was adopted by 104 votes to none, with 13 abstentions [resolution 2602 E (XXIV)].**

31. The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly will now vote on draft resolution F.

Draft resolution F was adopted by 116 votes to none, with 4 abstentions [resolution 2602 F (XXIV)].

* The delegation of the Dominican Republic subsequently informed the Secretariat that it wished to be recorded as having voted in favour of the draft resolution.

32. The PRESIDENT: I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to paragraph 9 of the First Committee's report on agenda item 29 [A/7902]. The Fifth Committee has submitted a report [A/7885] on the administrative and financial implications of the consensus adopted by the First Committee. If there is no objection, I shall consider that the Assembly takes note of paragraph 9 of the report of the First Committee.

It was so decided.

33. The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the report of the First Committee on agenda item 104 [A/7890]. We shall vote on the draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 22 of its report. A recorded vote has been requested on draft resolution A, which I now put to the vote.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Yemen, Yugoslavia.

Against: Australia, Portugal, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, El Salvador, France, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Laos, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela.

*Draft resolution A was adopted by 80 votes to 3, with 36 abstentions [resolution 2603 A (XXIV)].**

34. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution B. The Fifth Committee has submitted a report on the administrative and financial implications which is contained in document A/7893.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 120 votes to none, with 1 abstention [resolution 2603 B (XXIV)].

35. The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the report of the First Committee on agenda item 30 [A/7862]. The

* The delegation of Cambodia subsequently informed the Secretariat that it wished to be recorded as having voted in favour of the draft resolution.

Assembly will vote on the draft resolutions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 14 of its report. We shall first vote on draft resolution A.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 99 votes to 7, with 13 abstentions [resolution 2604 A (XXIV)].

36. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now vote on draft resolution B.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 114 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions [resolution 2604 B (XXIV)].

37. The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic on a point of order.

38. Mr. SMIRNOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (*translated from Russian*): The delegation of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic requests that, in the results of the voting on draft resolution B in document A/7862, the vote of the Byelorussian delegation shall be counted as "in favour".

39. The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the report of the First Committee on agenda item 31 [A/7887]. Before voting on the draft resolutions recommended in paragraph 11 of its report, I call on those representatives who wish to explain their votes.

40. Mr. SADRY (Iran): I should like to explain very briefly my vote on draft resolution A.

41. In the voting which took place during the 1718th meeting of the First Committee, my delegation abstained from voting on this draft resolution because, as was then explained, the draft resolution had not taken note of one of the important decisions that was taken last year in connexion with the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.³ The decision referred to is contained in paragraph 7 (a) of General Assembly resolution 2456 A (XXIII) which provides for the inclusion in the provisional agenda of this session of the question of convening a meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission early in 1970.

42. At the same time, as indicated in paragraph 10 of the report of the First Committee, my delegation raised the question of the status of the provision contained in paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 2456 A (XXIII) and sought further clarification on this matter at a subsequent meeting of the First Committee. Consequently a decision was adopted on the status of that provision which is reflected in paragraph 10 of the report.

43. Taking note of that decision, my delegation now finds itself in a position to support draft resolution A and will therefore vote for it.

44. Mr. GONSALVES (India): My delegation will not be able to support draft resolution B for the reasons already stated in the First Committee. In our view the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency is fully permissive

in regard to the establishment of an international service for peaceful nuclear explosions. Any attempt to qualify or restrict the availability of such services by relating it to article V of the non-proliferation Treaty is neither necessary nor, in our view, proper. It was for this reason, among others, that there was a substantial number of abstentions on this resolution when it was put to the vote in the First Committee. We are confident that that voting pattern will repeat itself in the Assembly.

45. I wish to state in conclusion that it is the clear understanding of my delegation that the adoption of the draft resolution, which, in our view, is neither necessary nor desirable, particularly with an insufficiently large and representative majority, cannot constitute any formal international endorsement of the somewhat discriminating procedures envisaged under the provisions of the resolution.

46. Mr. ARAUJO CASTRO (Brazil): I wish to explain very briefly the position of Brazil with regard to draft resolution B.

47. During the debate in the First Committee on the item Conference of Non-Nuclear Weapon States, the delegation of Brazil had the opportunity of setting forth at length its views on the establishment and functioning of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

48. I wish to reiterate here today the view of the Brazilian Government that such service should be provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency for the benefit of all its members, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the Agency.

49. Furthermore, we wish to underline the fact that the role to be played by the Agency in this field should be studied from the standpoint of the Statute of the Agency and should not be linked to or confused with other functions which IAEA may or may not eventually perform in connexion with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

50. As we stated before, resolution 2456 C (XXIII), which is recalled in the first preambular paragraph of the draft resolution now before us, only dealt with the broad question of the establishment within IAEA of an international service for peaceful nuclear explosions. It did not refer—nor could it have referred—to the problems related to the implementation of article V of the non-proliferation Treaty.

51. We maintain that the international service which is the subject of resolution 2456 C (XXIII) is totally independent of any action or measure whatsoever the parties to the non-proliferation Treaty may intend to take in connexion with the implementation of article V of that Treaty.

52. The present draft resolution, in its paragraphs 5 and 7, confuses these two quite different issues and concepts, and therefore it cannot receive the support of the delegation of Brazil.

53. To conclude, I wish to make clear the understanding of the Government of Brazil that this draft resolution, if

³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 96, document A/7277 and Corr.1 and 2.*

adopted, cannot in any way affect the rights enjoyed by the members of IAEA under its Statute, especially the right to equal and non-discriminatory sharing of the benefits deriving from the activities of the Agency.

54. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now vote on the two draft resolutions recommended by the First Committee in paragraph 11 of its report [A/7887]. A recorded vote has been requested for both draft resolutions A and B. We shall vote first on draft resolution A.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville) Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Southern Yemen, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Malawi, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 110 votes to none, with 10 abstentions [resolution 2605 A (XXIV)].

55. The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on draft resolution B.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Kenya.

Abstaining: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Malawi, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Southern Yemen, Spain, Syria, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen.

Draft resolution B was adopted by 80 votes to 1, with 37 abstentions [resolution 2605 B (XXIV)].

AGENDA ITEM 103

The strengthening of international security

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE (A/7903)

56. Mr. BARNETT (Jamaica), Rapporteur of the First Committee: On behalf of the First Committee I have the honour to present to the General Assembly the Committee's report on agenda item 103 [A/7903]. A draft appeal, three draft resolutions and three amendments were submitted to the First Committee. At its 1722nd meeting the Committee adopted by acclamation a draft resolution which appears in paragraph 13 of the report. The First Committee therefore recommends the adoption of that draft resolution by the General Assembly.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the First Committee.

57. The PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee which appears in paragraph 13 of its report [A/7903].

58. As I hear no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts that draft resolution without objection.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2606 (XXIV)].

59. The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Malta for an explanation of his vote.

60. Mr. PARDO (Malta): The fact that we did not object to the adoption of the resolution contained in document A/7903 should not be interpreted as meaning that we have changed our position with respect to what we consider are the powers of the General Assembly. I would repeat that our position remains that the General Assembly cannot request but can only recommend action by States. Therefore we do not agree with the word "Requests" in paragraph 3 of the resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 73**Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1969**

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/7877)

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REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/7916)

AGENDA ITEM 12**Reports of the Economic and Social Council (continued)***

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/7860)

61. The PRESIDENT: I invite the Rapporteur, Mr. Woschnagg of Austria, to present in a single statement, the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 73 [A/7877], 76 [A/7914], 79 [A/7915], 80 [A/7912], 85 [A/7913], 74 [A/7916] and 12 [A/7860].

62. Mr. WOSCHNAGG (Austria), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour to present to the General

Assembly, on behalf of the Fifth Committee, the following reports.

63. The report on agenda item 73 is contained in document A/7877. Two draft resolutions appear in paragraph 20 of the report and a third in paragraph 23. The Fifth Committee recommends these draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly.

64. The report on agenda item 76 is contained in document A/7914. The Fifth Committee has submitted a draft resolution for adoption by the Assembly which appears in paragraph 16 of the report.

65. The report on agenda item 79 is contained in document A/7915. The draft resolution which was adopted by the Fifth Committee appears in paragraph 3 of the report and is recommended for adoption by the Assembly.

66. The report on agenda item 80 is contained in document A/7912. The draft resolution which was adopted by the Committee appears in paragraph 7 of the report and is recommended for adoption by the Assembly.

67. The report on agenda item 85 is contained in document A/7913. The draft resolution which was adopted by the Committee appears in paragraph 7 of the report and is recommended for adoption by the Assembly.

68. The report on agenda item 74 is contained in document A/7916. The Committee adopted the draft resolutions appearing in paragraph 182 of the report and they are recommended for adoption by the Assembly.

69. The report on agenda item 12 is contained in document A/7860. The Fifth Committee took note of chapters XII and XIII of the report of the Economic and Social Council [A/7603], which had been referred to it for consideration, and of the note by the Secretary-General [A/C.5/1284].

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee.

70. The PRESIDENT: We shall take up first the report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 73 [A/7877]. I would ask Members to turn their attention to the two draft resolutions contained in paragraph 20 of that report.

71. I first put to the vote draft resolution A.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 102 votes to none, with 13 abstentions [resolution 2607 A (XXIV)].

72. The PRESIDENT: We now turn to draft resolution B. Since this draft resolution was adopted unanimously by the Fifth Committee, may I take it that the General Assembly also adopts it unanimously?

Draft resolution B was adopted unanimously [resolution 2607 B (XXIV)].

73. The PRESIDENT: I invite Members to turn their attention to the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 23 of its report.

* Resumed from the 1834th meeting.

74. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt this draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2608 (XXIV)].

75. The PRESIDENT: The next report of the Fifth Committee [A/7914] concerns agenda item 76. The draft resolution recommended by the Committee is to be found in paragraph 16 of that report. I put that draft resolution to the vote.

The draft resolution was adopted by 116 votes to none [resolution 2609 (XXIV)].

76. The PRESIDENT: The next report of the Fifth Committee [A/7915] concerns agenda item 79. In paragraph 3 of that report the Committee recommends a draft resolution for adoption by the Assembly.

77. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts that draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2610 (XXIV)].

78. The PRESIDENT: The next report of the Fifth Committee [A/7912] concerns agenda item 80. The draft resolution recommended by the Committee is contained in paragraph 7 of that report.

79. May I consider that the Assembly wishes to adopt that draft resolution without objection?

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2611 (XXIV)].

80. The PRESIDENT: The next report of the Fifth Committee [A/7913] concerns agenda item 85. The draft resolution recommended by the Committee is to be found in paragraph 7 of the report. I put that draft resolution to the vote.

The draft resolution was adopted by 100 votes to 7, with 9 abstentions [resolution 2612 (XXIV)].

81. The PRESIDENT: The Fifth Committee concluded its work only this morning, and accordingly the report on agenda item 74 is still in the process of production. In these circumstances, and also since no agreement has yet been reached on agenda item 25 relating to the twenty-fifth anniversary, I would suggest that we adjourn and meet again tomorrow at 10.30 a.m. I would add that if this suggestion is accepted it should not be considered as a precedent.

82. If I hear no objection I shall take it that the General Assembly agrees to accept this suggestion.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.