

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SECOND REVIEW
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON
THE PROHIBITION OF THE EMPLACEMENT OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS AND OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
ON THE SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR AND IN THE
SUBSOIL THEREOF

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING (CLOSED)

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Monday 2 May 1983, at 4.p.m.

Acting Chairman: Mr. MARTENSON (Representative of the
Secretary-General)

CONTENTS

Organization of work

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Official Records Editing Section, room E.6103, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Any corrections to the record of this meeting and of other meetings will be issued in a corrigendum.

The meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The ACTING CHAIRMAN informed participants that the Bureau would be composed of representatives of the German Democratic Republic, Norway and Yugoslavia. However, further consultations would be needed to settle the question of the chairmanship. In the meantime, in order not to delay the Committee's work, it was proposed that each member of the Bureau would in turn chair a meeting of the Committee.
2. Mr. MIHAJLOVIC (Yugoslavia) observed that that was a rather unusual procedure and that, when he had agreed to be a member of the Bureau, he had done so in the belief that he might possibly be called upon to act as Vice-Chairman, but not as Chairman. The head of the Yugoslav delegation had other commitments and would not be able to preside over the Committee should the circumstance arise. It would therefore be preferable to appoint a Chairman.
3. The ACTING CHAIRMAN noted that the matter had already been discussed in the working groups and that the proposed procedure was simply designed to speed up the work of the Preparatory Committee, which would not be holding any other meetings. The decision concerned did not preclude the possibility of settling the question of the chairmanship, perhaps even before the following meeting.
4. Mr. MIDDLETON (United Kingdom) said he would like the Committee to take up the question of the work of the Conference as soon as possible. He therefore called upon the representative of Yugoslavia to reconsider his position, it being understood that, if the head of the Yugoslav delegation was unable to act as Chairman of the Committee at a particular time, another member of that delegation could do so in his place. The decision under consideration was a purely practical one and did not entail any additional obligations for delegations.
5. Mr. MIHAJLOVIC (Yugoslavia) said that he was the last person to want to hold up the Committee's work and had simply wished to express his delegation's position. He would go along with the majority, provided that that decision did not constitute a precedent for the Conference.
6. The ACTING CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Preparatory Committee accepted the proposal regarding the chairmanship which he had mentioned at the start of the meeting.
7. It was so decided.
8. The ACTING CHAIRMAN drew attention to documents of the First Review Conference which were available to members of the Committee - the provisional agenda (SBT/CONF/1), the draft rules of procedure for the Review Conference (SBT/CONF/2) and the final report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (SBT/CONF/3).

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.