

# CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

CCD/PV.753  
14 July 1977  
ENGLISH

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## FINAL RECORD OF THE SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Thursday, 14 July 1977, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman:

Mr. M. Domokos

(Hungary)

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Argentina:

Brazil:

Mr. I. MASTROGIOVANNI

Bulgaria:

Mr. R. NIKOLOV

Mr. G. GAVRILOV

Burma:

U TINT SO

Canada:

Mr. J.T. SIMARD

Czechoslovakia:

Mr. V. TYLNER

Egypt:

Mr. A.B. MANSOUR

Mr. A. ABOUL KHEIR

Ethiopia:

German Democratic Republic:

Mr. G. HERDER

Mr. M. GRACZYNSKI

Mr. S. NITZSCHE

Germany, Federal Republic of:

Mr. G.J. SCHLAICH

Mr. J. PÖHLMANN

Mr. K. HANNESSCHLÄGER

Hungary:

Mr. M. DOMOKOS

Mr. I. KÖRMENDY

India:

Mr. C.R. GHAREKHAN

Iran:

Mr. H. AMERI

Mr. D. CHILATY

Italy:

Mr. N. DI BERNARDO

Mr. M. MORENO

Mr. C. FRATESCHI

Mr. G. VALDEVIT

Japan:

Mr. M. OGISO  
Mr. T. SAWAI  
Mr. Y. NAKAMURA

Mexico:

Mr. A. GARCÍA ROBLES  
Mr. M. MARIN

Mongolia:

Mr. D. ERDEMBILEG  
Mr. Z. ERENDO  
Mr. L. BAYART

Morocco:

Mr. A. SKALLI  
Mr. S.M. RAHHALI

Netherlands:

Mr. C.A. VAN DER KLAUW  
Mr. A.J. MEERBURG

Nigeria:

Mr. A. CLARK  
Mr. S.T. ADAMU  
Mr. E.E. OTOBO

Pakistan:

Mr. M. YUNUS  
Mr. K. SALEEM

Peru:

Mr. G. CHAUNY

Poland:

Mr. A. OLSZOWKA  
Mr. A. CZERKAWSKI

Romania:

Mr. V. TUDOR  
Mr. O. IONESCU

Sweden:

Mrs. I. THORSSON  
Mr. G. HAMILTON  
Mr. U. REINIUS  
Mr. S. ERICSSON  
Mr. G. BLOM

Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

Mr. V.I. LIKHATCHEV

Mr. B.P. KRASSULIN

Mr. N.V. PESTEREV

Mr. A.I. TIOURENKOV

Mr. E.D. ZAITSEV

Mr. Y.V. KOSTENKO

Mr. I.P. GLAZKOV

Mr. L.A. NAOUMOV

United Kingdom:

Mr. D.R. ASHE

Mr. I.R. KENYON

United States of America:

Mr. A.S. FISHER

Mr. C.C. FLOWERREE

Mr. J. LEONARD

Mr. R. MIKULAK

Mr. N. WALDROP

Yugoslavia:

Mr. D. DJOKIC

Zaire:

Special Representative of the  
Secretary-General:

Mr. RISTO HYVÄRINEN

Alternate Representative of the  
Secretary-General:

Mr. A. CORRADINI

Communiqué of the meeting

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament today held its 753rd meeting in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mátyás Domokos, representative of the Hungarian People's Republic.

The representative of the German Democratic Republic (H.E. Ambassador Gerhard Herder) declared in his statement that latest developments in arms technology underlined the urgency for the CCD to achieve concrete results in its efforts aimed at halting the arms race.

He emphasized the significance of the Convention on the Prohibition of Environmental Modification Techniques which had already been signed by about 40 States, including the German Democratic Republic, for the achievement of further agreements in the field of disarmament. Such agreements had a positive impact on disarmament negotiations. He appealed to all States, particularly to the members of the CCD, to sign the Convention as soon as possible.

In the view of the German Democratic Republic delegation the spring session of the CCD had contributed considerably to the elaboration of common views on a number of issues in connexion with the preparation of treaties on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear tests and of chemical weapons. He pointed out that existing differences could be settled soon if the necessary political decisions were taken. The representative of the German Democratic Republic favoured the continuation of the exchange of views, with the aim of facilitating an understanding on the issues still open.

He expressed the hope that the consultations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and the United Kingdom would have a positive impact on the negotiations in the framework of the CCD and thus help to create preconditions for the establishment of ad hoc working groups with the aim of elaborating corresponding draft treaties.

The next plenary meeting of the Conference will be held on Tuesday, 19 July 1977 at 10.30 a.m.

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Mr. HERDER (German Democratic Republic): At this year's summer session of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, the United States of America is represented by a new Co-Chairman and Head of the delegation. Taking the floor before this Committee, my delegation would like to congratulate Ambassador Adrian S. Fisher on his appointment. It looks forward to fruitful co-operation with him and his delegation.

This summer session of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament faces the responsible task of deliberating further important measures aimed at halting the arms race. My delegation notes with satisfaction that discussions during this session concentrate on questions relating to the prohibition of such dangerous means of warfare as weapons of mass destruction, and the banning of them from arsenals.

Recent developments in arms technology, particularly those which have just become publicly known, underline the urgent necessity for the CCD to face its high responsibilities.

The Committee has made serious efforts for many years now aimed at achieving progress in the negotiations on a general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, the prohibition of chemical weapons and the prohibition of the development, manufacture and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and of new systems of such weapons.

It has been proved many times that it is very complicated and time-consuming to achieve agreements on matters which directly touch upon the security interests of States. But the successful negotiations of the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques by the CCD are a further proof of our assessment that it is nevertheless possible to achieve progress in curbing the arms race. Since 18 May this year, this Convention has already been signed by about 40 States, including my country. We consider this to be a great success in our efforts to implement effective measures limiting the arms race. At the same time we regard this as a recognition of the activities of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament directed towards preventing in time, by preparing corresponding draft treaties, the extension of the arms race into new environments. It is recognized increasingly that such agreements bring us closer-- step by step -- to complete and general disarmament and help to improve preconditions for further agreements on

(Mr. Herder, German Democratic Republic)

disarmament measures. Therefore it would be desirable if in the near future more States -- among them particularly the members of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament -- would become parties to this Convention, thus reinforcing its positive role in international relations.

We furthermore attach great importance to the results of the Conference to review the operation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, which was held in Geneva in June this year. The States participating in this Conference have unanimously confirmed the usefulness and efficiency of such agreements. We are convinced that the results of this Conference will have a positive impact on our deliberations during this summer session. Consequently, there continue to be favourable conditions for a successful outcome of the Committee's work.

At the same time we do not ignore that just in the most recent times qualitatively new and still more sophisticated weapons of mass destruction have been developed, tested and produced. This is due particularly to the absence of agreements on the prohibition or the limitation of the arms race with weapons of mass destruction. Not only are new obstacles raised to the process of détente, but also abundant material and financial resources are spent at the expense of peaceful development.

Taking into consideration this development, my delegation would like to underline once again the Committee's responsibilities in this field as the only existing representative multilateral organ for disarmament negotiations.

During the spring session, which was marked by great activities, the delegation of the German Democratic Republic explained its views in detail on a number of concrete aspects with regard to the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, the prohibition of chemical weapons as well as the prohibition of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction.

The delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted very realistic proposals on these problems which were largely supported in the Committee. Many other delegations made serious efforts to contribute to solving questions which are still open, and submitted a number of corresponding documents. A useful exchange of views took place. Thus, up to now abundant preliminary work has been done. With regard to some questions, a certain understanding could be achieved, for instance on the verification of underground nuclear weapon tests as well as on the determination of the scope of the most dangerous, lethal chemical weapons to be prohibited. On other

(Mr. Herder, German Democratic Republic)

questions, such as nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes and the verification of the observance of an agreement on the prohibition of chemical weapons, basic differences continue to exist. It is our strong view that these differences can be settled. What are needed now are political decisions. If they are taken, this summer session of the Committee will be able to achieve tangible progress towards the complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and towards an agreement on the prohibition of the most dangerous and lethal chemical weapons.

We took note with great interest of the declaration made by the Head of the delegation of the United States of America, Ambassador Fisher, that the United States has concluded its studies on a comprehensive nuclear test ban and the prohibition of chemical weapons. We look forward to a more detailed definition of the United States attitude. We express our hope that this would contribute to the achievement of further progress on the deliberations on these still unsolved items.

We also attach great importance to the consultations going on between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, as well as the United Kingdom, on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States on the joint initiative aimed at the prohibition of chemical weapons. These consultations will without any doubt have a positive impact on the negotiations on these subjects in the Committee and facilitate the preparation of corresponding agreements.

But this does not mean, however, that the Committee should now wait and see. On the contrary, we hold the view that the exchange of views in the Committee can and should play a useful role in the solution of the questions which are still open.

We listened with great interest to the statement made by the representative of the United Kingdom, Ambassador Ashe, on 12 July 1977 regarding some aspects of the United Kingdom draft treaty on the prohibition of chemical weapons. We are very grateful to him for his explanations. They deserve to be studied carefully. We welcome the fact that he stressed the importance of including binary weapons in any CW convention. Nevertheless the United Kingdom draft we have before us does not yet meet our concerns which we have expressed up to now about this problem, and we agree that a new formula must be found to cover unambiguously binary weapons. Furthermore, it seems to us to be unrealistic to expect that States possessing chemical weapons will be prepared to reveal information on their stocks as a so-called confidence-building



(Mr. Herder, German Democratic Republic)

measure without having the assurance that the corresponding prohibition will enter into force. Basic differences continue to exist with regard to the verification procedure. **L**

Therefore we deem it necessary to continue the exchange of views on all these questions in a constructive manner.

This could contribute to the further clarification and **reconciliation** of still existing divergent views. But as long as these essential differences of views exist, there are no preconditions for the establishment of ad hoc working groups to elaborate the corresponding draft treaties. In this question we fully share the opinion of Ambassador Ashe. The preconditions for the establishment of a corresponding working group will emerge only if, as the result of further deliberations, the Committee succeeds in overcoming different views on essential questions, which continue to exist so far.

In concluding, my delegation would like to assure you once again, Comrade Chairman, that it will continue to undertake further efforts in order to contribute constructively to a successful outcome of the Committee's work during this summer session.

The meeting rose at 11.5 a.m.