

CD/PV.27
11 April 1979
ENGLISH

FINAL RECORD OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING
held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Wednesday, 11 April 1979, at 5 p.m.

Chairman:

Mr. P. NOTERDAEME

(Belgium)

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

<u>Algeria:</u>	Mr. A. BENSMAIL
<u>Argentina:</u>	Mr. A.N. MOLTENI
<u>Australia:</u>	Mr. L.D. THOMSON Mr. A.J. BEHM
<u>Belgium:</u>	Mr. P. NOTERDAEME Mr. P. BERG Mr. G. VAN DUYSE
<u>Brazil:</u>	Mr. A. CELSO DE OURO PRETO
<u>Bulgaria:</u>	Mr. P. VOUTOV Mr. I. SOTIROV
<u>Burma:</u>	U SAW HLAING U THAUNG HTUN
<u>Canada:</u>	Mr. J.T. SIMARD
<u>Cuba:</u>	Mrs. V.B. JACKIEWICH
<u>Czechoslovakia:</u>	Mr. V. TYLNER
<u>Egypt:</u>	Mr. M. EL-BARADEI Mr. N. FAHMY
<u>Ethiopia:</u>	
<u>France:</u>	Mr. F. DE LA GORCE Mr. BENOIT D'ABOVILLE
<u>German Democratic Republic:</u>	Mr. G. HERDER Mr. S. KAHN Mr. M. GRACZYNSKI

<u>Germany, Federal Republic of:</u>	Mr. G. PFEIFFER
<u>Hungary:</u>	Mr. M. DOMOKOS Mr. C. GYÖRFFY
<u>India:</u>	Mr. S.T. DEVARE
<u>Indonesia:</u>	Mr. I. DAMANIK
<u>Iran:</u>	Mr. D. CHILATY
<u>Italy:</u>	Mr. N. DI BERNARDO Mr. M. MORENO
<u>Japan:</u>	Mr. M. OGISO Mr. T. NONOYAMA Mr. R. ISHII
<u>Kenya:</u>	Mr. G.N. ITHU
<u>Mexico:</u>	Mr. A. GARCÍA ROBLES
<u>Mongolia:</u>	Mr. D. ERDENBILEG Mr. L. ERDENECHULUUN Mr. L. BAYART
<u>Morocco:</u>	Mr. M. RAHHALI Mr. M. CHRAIBI
<u>Netherlands:</u>	Mr. R.H. FEIN Mr. A.J. MEERBURG
<u>Nigeria:</u>	Mr. M.K. AHMED Mr. T. OLUFIOKO
<u>Pakistan:</u>	Mr. H. AKRAM
<u>Peru:</u>	

Poland:

Mr. B. SUJKA

Mr. H. KRUCZYK

Romania:

Mr. C. ENE

Sri Lanka:Sweden:

Mr. C. LIDGARD

Mr. L. NORBERG

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Mr. V.L. ISSRAELYAN

Mr. H.G. ANTIUKHIN

United Kingdom:

Mr. D.H. SUTHERHAYES

Mr. P.H.W. FRANCIS

United States of America:

Mr. A.S. FISHER

Mr. C. FLOWERFREE

Mr. A. AKALOVSKY

Mr. H. DALEY

Venezuela:

Mr. A.R. TAYLHARDAT

Yugoslavia:

Mr. D. DJOKIĆ

Zaire:

Mr. E. MULONGANDUSU

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I declare open the twenty-seventh plenary meeting of the Committee on Disarmament.

You all know that we have yet to complete our programme of work. I would now like to submit to our Committee the draft decision prepared by the Working Group.

I would ask you to refer to document CD/L.2/Rev.1. The Working Group proposes that this document should be completed by replacing the dots in the section entitled "Programme of Work" by the following:

"19-20 and possibly 23 April: Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

"24-27 April: Chemical weapons."

The section concerning the programme of work would conclude as follows:

"In adopting its agenda and programme of work, the Committee has kept in mind the provisions of rules 30 and 31 of its Rules of Procedure."

Before this proposal is formally adopted, I would like to remind you that it was the understanding of all the members of the Working Group and all the members of the Committee as well that, under the two topics referred to in document CD/L.2/Rev.1, as supplemented, delegations may take up any proposal which has already been made or which may be made in future on these topics.

Mr. ISSRAELIAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): As far as I can remember, Mr. Chairman, you did not use the word "possibly" in referring to the date of 23 April during the discussion of the Committee's programme of work relating to the item on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament. Now -- as I understand from the interpretation -- it seems that you said 19-20 and possibly 23 April. The word "possibly" was not used at the meetings of the Working Group either. This word is probably unnecessary, because the Committee might not hold a meeting on 20 April or on 27 April. For this reason, the delegation of the USSR proposes the deletion of the word "possibly" in the text of the Committee's programme of work we are adopting.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I think I did say "possibly" in the Working Group, but I agree with Ambassador Issraelyan that perhaps this word is not indispensable. If the Committee agrees, I will delete it from the text. The dates we would adopt for the first topic would therefore be 19 to 23 April.

Are you in agreement with this proposal?

(The Chairman)

It concerns the following two consecutive periods:

"19-23 April: Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

"24-27 April: Chemical weapons."

If there are no further comments, I would formally submit this wording to you for adoption.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): With your permission, I shall comment on a point raised at our last plenary meeting.

We envisaged the possibility of opening the second part of this session on 12 June, but did not take a final decision as we were not very clear about the date on which the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention is scheduled to meet. The Secretariat has just informed me that, for technical reasons, the dates fixed originally were not adopted. The new date now suggested for the beginning of that meeting will be 9 July. Consequently, it will not clash with our date of 12 June 1979.

In view of this, does the Committee wish to take a decision on the opening date for the second part of its annual session?

Mr. DE LA GORCE (France) (translated from French): I have listened with great interest to these points relating to our time-table, but it seems to me that we are very largely absolved from the need to examine them, first because, as you have just said, the practical aspect of the problem does not exist or no longer exists, and, above all, for a political reason which in my view is of paramount importance.

We are the main body for multilateral negotiations on disarmament. I am rather disturbed when questions of scheduling are brought up in which, or because of which, it is always a matter of amending the order of our work in the light of other meetings. This does not seem to me to be quite compatible either with the importance of the task entrusted to us or, I would almost say, with the standing of this Committee. I am glad that the problem which undoubtedly existed for certain delegations has been solved, and I would add that we have every respect for the concerned expressed in connexion with the availability of experts or specialists who are to attend this or that meeting. However, I must make it quite clear that the task entrusted to us by our Governments in accordance with the Final Document of the special session of the General Assembly should lead us to regard our work as being

(Mr. de la Gorce, France)

of fundamental importance, and we should not, in my opinion, yield in certain circumstances to the requirements of such and such a meeting connected with disarmament. Practical requirements must, of course, be taken into account, and efforts made to find the most suitable solutions, but my delegation would find it difficult, regardless of the circumstances, to agree that the time-table of the work of the Committee on Disarmament should be determined a priori in relation to the dates of other meetings and on the assumption that, in a sense, such other meetings have priority.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): Thank you, Mr. Ambassador.

Is the Committee now prepared to take a decision on the date for the resumption of its work in the second part of its session?

May I take it that we are prepared to decide to resume our work in the second part of the session on 12 June 1979?

I hear no objections.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): It merely remains for me to thank you and, with your permission, to close the meeting.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.