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ENGLISH

FINAL RECORD OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING
held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Thursday, 14 June 1979, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman

Mr. C.A. de SOUZA E SILVA

(Brazil)

GE.79-61987

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

<u>Algeria:</u>	Mr. A. BENSMAIL
<u>Argentina:</u>	Mr. A. DUMONT Miss N. FREYRE PENABAD
<u>Australia:</u>	Sir J. PLIMSOLL Mr. A. BEHM Ms. M. WICKES
<u>Belgium:</u>	Mr. P. NOTERDAEME Mr. G. VAN DUYSSE
<u>Brazil:</u>	Mr. C.A. DE SOUZA E SILVA Mr. A.C. DE OURO PRETO
<u>Bulgaria:</u>	Mr. P. VOUTOV Mr. I. SOTIROV
<u>Burma:</u>	U SAW HLAING U THEIN AUNG U THAUNG HTUN
<u>Canada:</u>	Mr. R.H. JAY Mr. J.T. SIMARD
<u>Cuba:</u>	Mrs. V.B. JACKIEWICH
<u>Czechoslovakia:</u>	Mr. M. ROZEK ^{OV} Mr. V. TYLNER
<u>Egypt:</u>	Mr. O. EL-SHAFEI Mr. F. EL-IBRASHI Mr. N. FAHMY
<u>Ethiopia:</u>	Mr. T. TERREFE Mr. F.M. TSEHAI

<u>France:</u>	Mr. F. DE LA GORCE Mr. M. COUTHURES
<u>German Democratic Republic:</u>	Mr. G. HERDER Mr. W. KOETTER Mr. M. GRACZYNSKI
<u>Germany, Federal Republic of:</u>	Mr. J. PÖHLMANN
<u>Hungary:</u>	Mr. C. GYÖRFFY
<u>India:</u>	Mr. C.R. GHAREKHAN Mr. S.T. DEVARE
<u>Indonesia:</u>	Mr. Ch. A. SANI Mr. D.B. SULEMAN Mr. I.M. DAMANIK
<u>Iran:</u>	Mr. K. RADJAVI Mr. D. AMERI
<u>Italy:</u>	Mr. N. DI BERNARDO Mr. M. MORENO
<u>Japan:</u>	Mr. M. OGISO Mr. T. IWANAMI Mr. R. ISHII
<u>Kenya:</u>	Mr. S. SHITEMI Mr. A. JET
<u>Mexico:</u>	Mr. A. GARCÍA ROBLES Miss A. CABRERA
<u>Mongolia:</u>	Mr. D. ERDEMBILEG Mr. L. BAYART
<u>Morocco:</u>	Mr. M. CHRAIBI

Netherlands:

Mr. R.H. FEIN
Mr. A.J. MEERBURG

Nigeria:

Mr. O. ADENIJI
Mr. K. AHMED
Mr. T.O. OLUMOKO

Pakistan:

Mr. J.K.A. MARKER
Mr. M. AKRAM

Peru:

Mr. A. DE SOTO

Poland:

Mr. H. PAĆ
Mr. M. KRUCZYK

Romania:

Mr. C. ENE
Mr. V. TUDOR
Mr. T. MELESCANU

Sri Lanka:

Mr. I.B. FONSEKA

Sweden:

Mr. C. LIDGARD
Mr. S. STRÖMBÄCK
Mr. S. ERICSSON

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Mr. V.L. ISSRAELYAN
Mr. N.V. PESTEREV
Mr. M.G. ANTIUKHIN
Mr. M.M. BELOUSOV
Mr. E.D. ZAITSEV
Mr. A.V. LOUKIANOV
Mr. V.P. PERFILIEV
Mr. N.P. SMIDOVICH
Mr. A.I. TIOURENKOV

United Kingdom:

Mr. D.M. SUMMERHAYES

Mr. C.K. CURWEN

Mr. P.M.W. FRANCIS

United States of America:

Mr. A.S. FISHER

Mr. C.C. FLOWERREE

Mr. T. BARTHELEMY

Mr. D. KOELEMAY

Venezuela:

Mrs. R. LISBCA DE NECER

Yugoslavia:

Mr. M. VRHUNEC

Mr. D. DJOKIĆ

Zaire:

Mr. M. ESUK

Assistant Secretary-General:

Mr. R. BJÖRNERSTEDT

The CHAIRMAN: Distinguished delegates, it is a great honour for my country and for me to preside over the deliberations of this most important forum. My Government, aware of the growing importance and complexity of disarmament negotiations, has decided to appoint a Special Representative to all multilateral organs to which we belong dealing with disarmament questions. Accordingly we are establishing a special delegation to the Committee on Disarmament. By mere alphabetical coincidence the first Brazilian Special Representative starts his work on this honorable chair. The task is made somehow easier by the high standards of the performances of my predecessors, the distinguished representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Australia and Belgium. I am particularly grateful to Ambassador Notor daenc for the kind words he addressed to my delegation during his closing statement, passing on, as he said, "le fardeau et aussi le flambeau". For the burden we had to abide by the rules of the English alphabet, and for the torch I can only say that no effort shall I spare to raise it as high as he was able to.

May I extend to all delegations a warm welcome at this moment, when we are starting the second part of the 1979 session of the Committee. In particular, I would like to greet the new representatives who are participating for the first time in the work of the Committee. Ambassador Alberto Dumont of Argentina already served on the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament between 1969 and 1971 as alternate representative of his country. I had the pleasure of working with him at that time and I am sure that his contribution to this Committee will be as effective as it was before. Sir James Plimsoll, the new representative of Australia, will certainly provide us with his advice and diplomatic experience, which include positions as Permanent Representative to the United Nations and senior ambassadorial posts in Washington, where I had the pleasure of working with him as my colleague, Moscow and now Brussels. Ambassador Kazen Radjari, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, brings to the Committee an outstanding academic background in the field of law and political science which will be valuable for our negotiations.

I would like now to give the floor to the Assistant Secretary-General for Disarmament, Mr. Rolf Björnerstedt, who has an important announcement to make to the Committee on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Mr. BJÖRNERSTEDT (Assistant Secretary-General for Disarmament): On behalf of the Secretary-General I take pleasure in informing the Committee on Disarmament that the Secretary-General has appointed Mr. Rikhi Jaipal as Secretary of the Committee, who will also act as his Personal Representative, in accordance with paragraph 120 (c) of the Final Document of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

Mr. Jaipal, whose high personal and professional qualities are well known to the members of the Committee, will assume his functions in those capacities in the very near future.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the Assistant Secretary-General for Disarmament for his statement. On behalf of the members of the Committee, I would ask him to convey to the Secretary-General our appreciation for his decision in appointing the Secretary of the Committee, who will also act as his Personal Representative.

Mr. ISSRAELYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): Mr. Chairman, we congratulate you on your new appointment as Special Representative of Brazil to the Committee on Disarmament. We know you for your activities as Ambassador of Brazil to the USSR. At the very outset of your work in the Committee, you face the task of guiding its work by discharging the honourable and responsible duties of its Chairman. Permit me to wish you success in your efforts in that post.

In the opinion of the Soviet delegation, the second part of the current session of the Committee on Disarmament will take place in a favourable context. We intend, as before, actively to plead the case for the achievement of tangible results in the performance of the tasks facing the Committee and to advance its work for the purpose of contributing to the halting of the arms race and to disarmament.

New evidence of the consistent struggle of the USSR and other socialist countries for disarmament is provided by the results of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Pact which was held on 14 and 15 May 1979 in Budapest. The Ministers of the socialist countries represented at the meeting put forward a whole set of proposals for the elimination of the threat of war and for a transition to military détente. We hope that those proposals will promote progress in disarmament negotiations.

There is no doubt that the forthcoming meeting in Vienna between L.I. Brezhnev, the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and J. Carter, the President of the United States of America, will be a major step forward in the matter of curbing the nuclear arms race. It is envisaged that, during this meeting, a treaty will be signed between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons. We are convinced that the conclusion of a SALT-II agreement will help to stimulate the other negotiations now in progress on the limitation of the arms race and on disarmament, including those within the framework of our Committee.

Real changes in the direction of disarmament have long been an urgent necessity. In his message of greeting to the Committee on Disarmament in connexion with the beginning of its work, L.I. Brezhnev emphasized that "the efforts to bring about a

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

decisive turn in the struggle to stop the arms race must be doubled, trebled, increased ten-fold. A major role in this great undertaking belongs to the Committee on Disarmament".

The Committee's agenda includes such key problems as the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, effective international agreements on security guarantees for non-nuclear-weapon States, the prohibition of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, and the banning of chemical weapons and of the testing of nuclear weapons. All these questions require solution without delay.

The Committee on Disarmament must adopt its programme of work for the second part of the session. This part of the session will be short, and the approach to the composition of the programme must, therefore be well thought out.

A central place in the work of this part of the session must be accorded to the question of the adoption of concrete measures to curb the nuclear arms race. The Committee has before it for its consideration a proposal by the socialist States for negotiations on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing their stockpiles until they have been completely destroyed. The Committee began discussion of this proposal during the spring part of its session. Members of the Committee showed great interest in the proposal, and a number of them put forward constructive ideas. It is now for the Committee to continue the work it has embarked upon.

An important area of the Committee's work is the consideration of measures to strengthen security guarantees for non-nuclear-weapon States. There exists a basis for a transition to concrete negotiations, namely, the proposals and views of a number of countries, and particularly the draft conventions which have been submitted. This question should occupy an important place in the work of the Committee's current session.

The problem of banning new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction remains an important task for the Committee on Disarmament. We consider that the Committee on Disarmament should actively pursue negotiations with the participation of qualified governmental experts with a view to reaching agreement on the text of an international treaty on this question. Within the next few days, bilateral talks will resume on the question of prohibiting new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and, within that context, of prohibiting radiological weapons. There are grounds for hoping that the participants in those talks will be able to submit to the Committee during this session an agreed text of an appropriate international agreement on the prohibition of radiological weapons.

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

The world situation shows that the problem of prohibiting neutron nuclear weapons is losing nothing of its urgency. The socialist countries submitted a draft convention on this question to the Committee as long ago as 1978, and it is high time that progress was made in examining it.

The Soviet Union continues to be a consistent supporter of the complete and universal cessation of nuclear weapons testing and of the prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons. Those questions will no doubt also be discussed at this session of the Committee.

The consideration within the Committee of the problem of chemical weapons must contribute to the speediest possible attainment of the goal of eliminating such weapons from the arsenals of States. We express our readiness for constructive discussion of this matter within the framework of the Committee. At the same time, we intend to continue bilateral talks with the United States of America aimed at the elaboration of a joint proposal on this problem.

It is incumbent upon the Committee on Disarmament to do a good deal of important work at this session in connexion with the consideration of the items on its agenda. The countries members of the Committee must strive, by joint efforts, to achieve appreciable results in the Committee's work for 1979. The Soviet delegation is willing to this end to develop active co-operation with the other delegations of States members of the Committee on Disarmament.

Mr. DUMONT (Argentina) (translated from Spanish): I should like to express my deep appreciation for the words of welcome you addressed to me, Mr. Chairman, and for your kindness in recalling the time when we worked together in this Committee. I do not know whether the experience I acquired in those far-off days will suffice me in the performance of my duties, but I can assure you that the Argentine delegation will continue to participate in the Committee as actively as in the past, and that all its members can count on our co-operation in the solution of any problem. I should also like to congratulate you on your designation as Chairman and to wish you every success in your post.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to thank the distinguished representative of Argentina for his statement and for the kind words he addressed to me.

I would now like to refer to the question of the conduct of work of the Committee. As you know, rule 28 of the rules of procedure states that "On the basis of its agenda, the Committee, at the beginning of each part of its annual session, shall establish its programme of work, which will include a schedule of its activities for that part of the session, taking also into account the recommendations, proposals and decisions referred to in rule 27".

(The Chairman)

May I also recall that rule 29 provides that "The provisional agenda and the programme of work shall be drawn up by the Chairman of the Committee with the assistance of the Secretary and presented to the Committee for consideration and adoption." Based mainly on these rules of procedure I have tried to contact as many delegations as I could during my brief stay in Geneva before the opening of the session. Unfortunately, I was not able to get in touch with all delegations present here but, fortunately, I was able to meet delegations from all different areas and from all different groups. These contacts proved, in a certain way, to be quite encouraging for the launching of our deliberations.

For the organization of our work I understand that we should have to take decisions on four questions, the first being a decision relating to the items that shall be included in the programme of our work. The second is the order in which we shall discuss those items; the third would be the time that we should allocate to the discussion of each of those items, and the fourth would be an agreement on the closing date of our work. I am aware that these four items are related, and that each one has a certain effect on the others. At the same time, while we do not have to take immediate decisions on those four questions, a decision is required on the organization of work.

Following consultations held during the last three days, I had the feeling that we could reach a conclusion regarding the selection of items which should be included in the programme of work. Because, of all the substantive items of the programme of work contained in document CD/12, as well as the ex-officio item of the CD report to the General Assembly, all five substantive items were subject to suggestions by some, or all, delegations, and there were no objections in their regard by any delegations. When I say this, I should like to point out that, as I was unable to consult all delegations, I have consulted those delegations that, for various reasons, were aware of the positions of colleagues belonging to the same geographic areas or other groups. For this reason I am in a position to say that I did not find any objection to any of the five substantive items included in the agenda of the Committee. Secondly, concerning the question of the order in which they will be discussed, I would like to emphasize that the order does not mean in any way that we are prejudging priorities or any other criteria; we are just focusing on the practical convenience of the deliberations of the Committee. Therefore, concerning the order, time allocation and the closing date, I did not feel the same response as that received in respect of the selection of the items. So, to speed up our work, it is my intention to propose the following procedure to the Committee.

(The Chairman)

There being no objections to the inclusion of the five substantive items in our programme of work, we shall take this decision at this formal meeting and discuss the other three questions, that is, the sequence of items, time allocation and closing date, informally, after closing the formal meeting.

I should like to know if any delegation has suggestions or observations to make concerning the proposal I have just indicated. If this is not the case, it is decided by the Committee that the five items of the annual agenda, plus the report, are to be included in, and adopted as our programme of work.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: Before closing this plenary meeting, I should like to recall that, during the thirty-first plenary meeting of the Committee, Ambassador Noterdaeme, in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee, expressed his feeling that, as from the beginning of the second part of the session, the Committee should continue its consideration of all the proposals made to the Committee, dealing principally with methods and procedures to be adopted with a view to negotiating a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and their destruction. I intend, therefore, to continue the consultations undertaken by Ambassador Noterdaeme in that connexion during the next days.

So, distinguished delegates, as we have decided to have an informal meeting in which we shall discuss the rest of the organization of our work, I should like to know if there is a preference to hold the meeting either immediately after this formal meeting or in the afternoon. If there is no preference, I would suggest that we adjourn and reconvene in an informal meeting of the Committee in five minutes.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: Concerning our next formal meeting, I understand that the Committee will proceed to work as it did in the first part of its session, that is with meetings on Tuesday and Thursday morning. Does any delegation have any comments on this schedule?

Mr. FISHER (United States of America): Mr. George Seignious, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, would like to address the Committee. He is on our list as ex officio leader of the delegation when he is here, and he unfortunately cannot be here until Tuesday afternoon. We would clearly have no objection to a meeting on Tuesday morning but would like to request a meeting in the

(Mr. Fisher, United States)

afternoon, on what will not be a topic of little interest, but a topic of great interest. Therefore, without objection to a meeting Tuesday morning, I would like to request a meeting Tuesday afternoon as well, or Tuesday afternoon only, depending on the wishes of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished representative of the United States of America for his statement. Members of the Committee have heard his suggestion -- I wonder whether any delegation would like to comment. If this is not the case, we realize the importance of the statement to be made by the distinguished representative of the United States and I do not think that there will be any objection to convening a plenary meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

As I understand that, to organize our work, informal consultations should be held until our next and -- hopefully -- last plenary meeting on organizational matters, my suggestion would be that on Tuesday we hold just one plenary meeting in the afternoon and that, after hearing the statement of the representative of the United States, we might decide whether or not to proceed with the questions of organization, according to the wishes of the Committee.

Therefore, the next plenary meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, 19 June, at 3 p.m. in this room.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.