



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERALA/40/931
26 November 1985
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCHFortieth session
Agenda item 59

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Report of the First CommitteeRapporteur: Mr. Yannis SOULIOTIS (Greece)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa:

"(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(b) Report of the Secretary-General"

was included in the provisional agenda of the fortieth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 39/61 A and B of 12 December 1984.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 48 to 69 and item 145, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and continuation of general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and the 32nd meetings, from 14 October to 8 November (see A/C.1/40/PV.3-32).

4. In connection with item 59, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Disarmament Commission; 1/
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the nuclear capability of South Africa (A/40/510);
- (c) Letter dated 19 September 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué adopted by the sixteenth South Pacific Forum, held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, on 5 and 6 August 1985 (A/40/672-S/17488);
- (d) Letter dated 14 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the document entitled "Declaration and Programme of Action" adopted at the Ministerial Regional Conference on Security, Disarmament and Development in Africa, held at Lomé from 13 to 16 August 1985 (A/40/761-S/17573).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.38

5. On 7 November 1985, Mauritius, on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration" (A/C.1/40/L.38). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Mauritius at the 35th meeting, on 12 November.
6. At its 41st meeting on 18 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.38 by a recorded vote of 130 to none, with 5 abstentions (see para. 9, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows: 2/

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy,

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/40/42).

2/ The delegation of Zimbabwe subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Belgium, France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.40

7. On 7 November 1985, Mauritius, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Nuclear capability of South Africa" (A/C.1/40/L.40). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Mauritius at the 35th meeting, on 12 November.

8. At its 41st meeting, on 18 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.40 by a recorded vote of 117 to 4, with 12 abstentions (see para. 9, draft resolution B). The voting was as follows: 3/

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali,

3/ The delegations of Zaire and Zimbabwe subsequently indicated that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Federal Republic of, Haiti, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Zaire.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa

A

Implementation of the Declaration

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa 4/ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1974,

Recalling its resolution 1652 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, its earliest on the subject, as well as its resolutions 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 31/69 of 10 December 1976, 32/81 of 12 December 1977, 33/63 of 14 December 1978, 34/76 A of 11 December 1979, 35/146 B of 12 December 1980, 36/86 B of 9 December 1981, 37/74 A of 9 December 1982, 38/181 A of 20 December 1983 and 39/61 A of 12 December 1984, in which it called upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes,
agenda item 105, document A/5975.

Recalling that in its resolution 33/63 it vigorously condemned any overt or covert attempt by South Africa to introduce nuclear weapons into the continent of Africa and demanded that South Africa refrain forthwith from conducting any nuclear explosion in the continent of Africa or elsewhere,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research entitled "South Africa's nuclear capability" 5/ undertaken in co-operation with the Department of Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, as well as the report of the Disarmament Commission, 6/

Expressing regret that, despite the threat South Africa's nuclear capability constitutes to international peace and security, and in particular to the realization of the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the Disarmament Commission has, once again, in 1985, failed to reach a consensus on this important item on its agenda,

1. Strongly renews its call upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;
2. Reaffirms that the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity would be an important measure to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security;
3. Expresses once again its grave alarm at South Africa's possession and continued development of nuclear-weapon capability;
4. Condemns South Africa's continued pursuit of a nuclear capability and all forms of nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime that enable it to frustrate the objective of the Declaration which seeks to keep Africa free from nuclear weapons;
5. Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions and individuals to desist from further collaboration with the racist régime that may enable it to frustrate the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;
6. Demands once again that the racist régime of South Africa refrain from manufacturing, testing, deploying, transporting, storing, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons;
7. Appeals to all States that have the means to do so, to monitor South Africa's research on, and development and production of nuclear weapons, and to publicize any information in that regard;

5/ A/39/470.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/40/42).

8. Demands once again that South Africa submit forthwith all its nuclear installations and facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance that the Organization of African Unity may seek towards the implementation of its solemn Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa".

B

Nuclear capability of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/76 B of 11 December 1979, 35/146 A of 12 December 1980, 36/86 A of 9 December 1981, 37/74 B of 9 December 1982, 38/181 B of 20 December 1983 and 39/61 B of 12 December 1984,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964,

Recalling that, in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, it noted that the accumulation of armaments and the acquisition of armament technology by the racist régime, as well as its possible acquisition of nuclear weapons, presented an increasingly dangerous and challenging obstacle to the world community, faced with the urgent need to disarm, 7/

Recalling also that, in its resolution 33/63 of 14 December 1978, it vigorously condemned any overt or covert attempt by South Africa to introduce nuclear weapons into the continent of Africa and demanded that South Africa refrain forthwith from conducting any nuclear explosion in the continent or elsewhere,

Noting resolution GC(XXVIII)/RES/423 on South Africa's nuclear capabilities, adopted on 27 September 1984 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency during its twenty-eighth regular session,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, entitled "South Africa's nuclear capability", 8/ undertaken in co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity,

Expressing regret that despite the threat South Africa's nuclear capability constitutes to international peace and security and, in particular, to the realization of the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the Disarmament Commission has, once again, in 1985, failed to reach a consensus on this important item on its agenda,

Gravely concerned that South Africa, in flagrant violation of the principles of international law and the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, has continued its acts of aggression and subversion against the peoples of the independent States of southern Africa,

Strongly condemning the continued military occupation by South African troops of parts of the territory of Angola in violation of its national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and urging the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan soil,

Expressing its grave disappointment that, despite repeated appeals by the international community, certain Western States and Israel have continued to collaborate with the racist régime of South Africa in the military and nuclear fields and that some of the same Western States have, by a ready recourse to the use of the veto, consistently frustrated every effort in the Security Council to deal decisively with the question of South Africa,

Recalling its decision taken at the tenth special session that the Security Council should take appropriate, effective steps to prevent the frustration of the implementation of the decision of the Organization of African Unity for the denuclearization of Africa, 9/

Stressing the need to preserve peace and security in Africa by ensuring that the continent is a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. Condemns the massive build-up of South Africa's military machine, in particular its frenzied acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability for repressive and aggressive purposes and as an instrument of blackmail;

2. Expresses its full support for the African States faced with the danger of South Africa's nuclear capability;

8/ A/39/470.

9/ Resolution S-10/2, para. 63 (c).

3. Reaffirms that the racist régime's acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability constitutes a very grave danger to international peace and security and, in particular, jeopardizes the security of African States and increases the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

4. Condemns all forms of nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime of South Africa, in particular the decision by some Member States to grant licences to several corporations in their territories to provide equipment, technical and maintenance services for nuclear installations in South Africa;

5. Demands that South Africa and all other foreign interests put an immediate end to the exploration and exploitation of uranium resources in Namibia;

6. Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions or individuals to terminate forthwith all forms of military and nuclear collaboration with the racist régime;

7. Requests the Disarmament Commission to consider as a matter of priority during its session in 1986 South Africa's nuclear capability, taking into account, inter alia, the findings of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on South Africa's nuclear capability;

8. Requests the Security Council, for the purposes of disarmament and to fulfil its obligations and responsibility, to take enforcement measures to prevent any racist régime from acquiring arms or arms technology;

9. Further requests the Security Council to conclude expeditiously its consideration of the recommendations of its Committee established by resolution 421 (1977) concerning the question of South Africa, 10/ with a view to blocking the existing loopholes in the arms embargo, so as to render it more effective and prohibiting, in particular, all forms of co-operation and collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field;

10. Demands once again that South Africa submit forthwith all its nuclear installations and facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to follow very closely South Africa's evolution in the nuclear field and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

10/ See Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-fifth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1980, document S/14179.