

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

<u>Algeria:</u>	Mr. A. BENSMAIL
<u>Argentina:</u>	Mr. D.C. ORTIZ DE ROZAS
<u>Australia:</u>	Mr. L.D. THOMSON Ms. H.S. WICKES
<u>Belgium:</u>	Mr. P. NOTERDAEME Mr. P. BERG
<u>Brazil:</u>	Mr. A.C. DE OURO PRETO
<u>Bulgaria:</u>	Mr. P. VOUTOV Mr. I. PETROV Mr. I. SOTIROV
<u>Burma:</u>	U THAUNG HPHU
<u>Canada:</u>	Mr. R. HARRY JAY Mr. J.T. SIMARD
<u>Cuba:</u>	Mr. L.S. VILA Mrs. V.D. JACKIEWICH
<u>Czechoslovakia:</u>	Mr. H. RUZEK Mr. V. TYLNER
<u>Egypt:</u>	Mr. H. EL-BARADEI Mr. H. FAHMY
<u>Ethiopia:</u>	Mr. G. ALULA
<u>France:</u>	Mr. F. DE LA CORCE Mr. B. D'ABOVILLE Mr. J.C. PARAVY

German Democratic Republic:

Mr. G. HERDER
Mr. S. KAHN
Mr. H. GRACZYNSKI

Germany, Federal Republic of:

Mr. G. PFEIFFER
Mr. H. MULLER

Hungary:

Mr. M. DOIHKOS
Mr. C. GYORFFY

India:

Mr. S.T. DEVARE

Indonesia:

Mr. A. SANI
Mr. A. KAMIL
Mr. I. DAMANIK

Iran:

Mr. M. FARTASH
Mr. D. CHILATY

Italy:

Mr. M. MORENO
Mr. C. FRATESCHI
Mr. G. VALDEVIE...

Japan:

Mr. H. OGISO
Mr. T. FONOYAMA
Mr. T. IWAHAMI

Kenya:

Mr. C. GATERE MAINA
Mr. G.H. MUNIU

Mexico:

Mr. A. GARCIA ROBLES
Miss A. CABRERA

Mongolia:

Mr. D. ERDEMBILEG
Mr. L. BAYART

Morocco:

Mr. N. RAHHALI

Netherlands:

Mr. A.J. MEERBURG

Nigeria:

Mr. T.O. OLUJOKO

Pakistan:

Mr. J.K.A. MARKER

Peru:

Poland:

Mr. B. SUJKA

Mr. H. PAC

Mr. H. KRUCZYK

Mr. A. SKOWRONSKI

Romania:

Mr. C. ENE

Sri Lanka:

Mr. I.B. POHSEKA

Sweden:

Mr. C. LIDGARD

Mr. S. STROMBACK

Mr. J. PRAWITZ

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Mr. V.L. ISSRAELYAN

Mr. Y.K. NAZARKIN

Mr. A.M. VAVILOV

Mr. Y.V. KOSTENKO

Mr. M.G. APTUKHIN

United Kingdom:

Mr. N.H. MARSHALL

Mr. P.H. MOBERLY

United States of America:

Mr. A.S. FISHER

Mr. C. FLOWERREE

Mr. A. AKALOVSEY

Ms. B.L. MURRAY

Mr. T. BARTHELEMY

Ms. E. ARENSBURGER

Venezuela:

Mr. A.R. TAYLHARDAT
Miss D. SZOKOLCZE
Mrs. R.L. DE BECKER

Yugoslavia:

Mr. D. DJOKIC

Zaire:

Mr. E. MULONGANDUSU

Mr. ERDEMBILEG (Mongolia) (translated from Russian): As this is the first time I am speaking at the present session of the Committee on Disarmament, which has resumed its work with a somewhat enlarged membership, I should like first of all to take this opportunity to associate myself with the words of welcome and good wishes addressed to the new members of the Committee - Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Cuba, Indonesia, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Venezuela. I should also like to note with satisfaction the participation of France in the Committee's work.

The Mongolian delegation expresses the hope that with its present more representative membership the Committee on Disarmament, as the only multilateral negotiating body, will successfully continue its activity, making a useful contribution to progress in the cause of disarmament.

Before stating our delegation's positions on the concrete issues on the Committee's agenda, I should like to make a few comments of a general nature.

There is no task in the world today of more overriding importance and urgency than the implementation of practical measures for halting the arms race and for disarmament.

The results of the special session on disarmament and of the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly bear witness to this fact.

It should be emphasized that the principal documents adopted by the above-mentioned forums reflected once again the will and desire of the world community to work towards a substantial breakthrough in the matter of halting the arms race and adopting genuine measures in the disarmament sphere.

Together with other peace-loving States, the countries of the socialist community are actively pursuing their efforts towards the achievement of real disarmament, and are consistently coming forward with constructive proposals in this field.

The conclusions and proposals contained in the Moscow Declaration of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, adopted last November at a meeting of that organization's Political Consultative Committee and circulated as an official document of the United Nations, serve as fresh confirmation of the socialist countries' dedication to the ideas of détente and disarmament. This document, which is of great international political significance, puts forward new realistic ideas and major initiatives, which can, we are convinced, serve as a constructive basis for the solution of urgent international problems, particularly those of disarmament.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

I should like to single out from the set of proposals contained in the Moscow Declaration an appeal addressed to all States, namely, the appeal to press for early negotiations among the five nuclear Powers -- the USSR, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and China -- for the purpose of removing nuclear weapons of all types from the arsenals of States and converting nuclear energy to exclusively peaceful uses.

In the statement which its Government made on 4 December 1978, the Mongolian People's Republic warmly welcomed the Moscow Declaration of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty and expressed full support, evaluating the Declaration as a broad programme of international action and struggle for the extension of the process of détente, for halting the arms race and for genuine disarmament.

The Mongolian delegation would also like to state that it heard with great satisfaction the message of greetings sent by L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to the expanded Committee on Disarmament in connexion with the beginning of its work. The message clearly expresses the Soviet Union's readiness actively and purposefully to continue its efforts to secure the attainment in the Committee on Disarmament of the practical results awaited by all the peoples of the world.

Under circumstances in which the nuclear factor has become the leading one in the military reality of our time, a special responsibility for nuclear disarmament rests upon the States possessing nuclear weapons. That is why it is essential that they should show political will and readiness in solving this imperative task of the modern age. Other States with a major military and economic potential also bear great responsibility in this matter.

The peoples of the world fully realize that in face of the accelerating arms race, which constitutes the main danger to general peace, it is necessary first of all to eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons, to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race until nuclear weapons and nuclear-weapon delivery systems have been completely eliminated, and to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

At the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament the Soviet Union, as we know, came forward with a constructive proposal on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing their stockpiles until they have been completely destroyed, and on discussing the question of giving the appropriate negotiations a practical start. This timely initiative received

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

wide support and approval from the overwhelming majority of States and found reflection in the Final Document of the special session.

Moreover, at the end of last year, the General Assembly, in its resolution 33/71 H, expressed itself in favour of "an early initiation of urgent negotiations on the halting of the nuclear-arms race".

Guided by the sincere desire to strive for a decisive breakthrough in the matter of halting the nuclear-arms race, the delegations of the seven socialist States members of the Committee on Disarmament, including Mongolia, officially submitted a working paper for consideration by the Committee (CD/4, dated 1 February 1979). Its authors took this step bearing in mind the Committee's competence as the most suitable forum for the preparation and conduct of negotiations on nuclear disarmament, without at the same time excluding the possibility of considering an alternative approach.

This proposal, as we know, contains the concrete suggestion that preparatory consultations should be started in the course of the current session of the Committee with a view to beginning the negotiations on the substance of the problem this year.

I do not think there is any need to give a detailed explanation of the contents of this working paper, as the jointly held views were propounded in sufficient detail in statements by the head of the Soviet delegation and other co-sponsors. I should only like to confirm that strict observance of the principle of the inviolability of the security of all parties must be taken as a basis both for the conduct of negotiations and for the implementation of practical measures in this field.

The Mongolian delegation, like many others, deeply hopes that this joint proposal by the socialist States will be considered in the Committee in a businesslike manner. In our view, the interests of the cause call for a constructive approach with a view to proceeding as soon as possible to the discussion of this question, a positive solution of which would be conducive to concrete agreements and action towards the adoption of effective measures in the sphere of nuclear disarmament.

The peoples of the world are well aware that acceleration of the arms race means ever greater material preparation for war and increases the threat of a world nuclear catastrophe. According to some estimates, in the last 10 years alone stockpiles of nuclear weapons throughout the world increased more than threefold, which is quite sufficient to destroy life on our planet many times over. Under

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

such conditions, it is natural that all peoples should be profoundly disturbed and alarmed by the policy and actions of the military and industrial circles of the NATO countries and their old and new allies, who, together, openly take their stand against all progressive processes in the contemporary world. Taking no account of political reality as it exists today, these forces are fanning revanchist-supermilitary passions; with their aggressive expansionist aspirations and great-Power-hegemonistic ambitions, they oppose all constructive efforts of States aimed at the consolidation of peace and international détente and the attainment of practical measures of disarmament.

The concurrence of such circumstances gives us the right constantly to stress the overriding urgency of adopting effective measures towards nuclear disarmament and the removal of the threat of nuclear war. As we understand it, the Committee on Disarmament can and must play an important role in performing this imperative task.

As we have already said, the nuclear-weapon States bear the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament, and, together with other States of major military significance, for halting and reversing the armaments race. Evasion of this responsibility by any of the nuclear-weapon or "near-nuclear-weapon" States would run counter both to their national interests and to the interests of consolidating international peace and security.

One would like to suppose that the place at the Committee's negotiating table set aside for China will not long remain empty. We must declare, however -- and I am sure this is the opinion of most States to which the cause of peace, disarmament and progress is dear -- that the policy of China's present leadership, which is aimed at open opposition to the cause of détente and disarmament, is completely incompatible with the special responsibility borne by that State under the United Nations Charter as a permanent member of the Security Council.

New evidence of this hostile policy and behaviour is provided by China's armed aggression against a sovereign State, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, in flagrant violation of the elementary principles of international relations and the Charter of the United Nations. Together with many other peace-loving States the people and Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, again expressing its fraternal solidarity and support for the righteous cause of the heroic Vietnamese people, angrily condemns this criminal act on the part of China and insistently demands its immediate cessation and the withdrawal of all Chinese troops from the territory of Viet Nam.

I should now like to set forth our position on particular items.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

From the very start, the Mongolian People's Republic has regarded the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as one of the effective international legal documents which substantially help to avert the threat of nuclear war, and it constantly supports the idea of that instrument's being made more effective and universal.

In our opinion, a likely means of narrowing the area of the geographical emplacement of nuclear weapons is the well-known Soviet proposal concerning the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of the guarantees of the security of the non-nuclear-weapon States, and on the achievement of an international agreement on the non-emplacement of nuclear weapons in the territory of States which do not at present possess them.

In accordance with the recommendation contained in resolution 33/72 A of the United Nations General Assembly, the Committee on Disarmament should proceed as quickly as possible to the consideration of this question with a view to the elaboration of appropriate international agreements.

It may be added in this connexion that confirmation, as an absolute law of international relations, of the principle of the mutual renunciation of the use of force or of the threat of force with either nuclear weapons or conventional armaments would be a comprehensive political measure for the strengthening of confidence among States and for establishing guarantees of their security under international law.

Both in the Committee on Disarmament and in the General Assembly of the United Nations, many of the delegations speaking in favour of rapid agreement on urgent problems of disarmament rightly drew attention, in particular, to the importance of working out measures for the prohibition of weapons for the mass annihilation of people. In this connexion we would like to express the hope that the negotiations on a draft treaty concerning the comprehensive prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests will soon be successfully concluded. This applies equally to the question of the prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of their stockpiles. The conclusion of an appropriate international convention in this field will undoubtedly be a further real measure of disarmament. As we know, various working papers on chemical weapons have been submitted at this session of the Committee. In our opinion, the Committee should not give undue attention to the technical side of the matter, but should concentrate its attention and efforts on solution of the existing problems.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

Another important problem on the Committee's agenda is the consideration of measures to prohibit the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction, and of new systems of such weapons. The Committee has not yet been able to get down to practical negotiations on this question. Most States are in favour of their commencing as soon as possible. The discussion of this question by the Committee in recent years has revealed general agreement that unless the technological arms race is halted in time, it may lead to very dangerous consequences in the form of new and even more destructive means of mass annihilation.

I should like to recall in this connexion that, in its Final Document, the tenth special session of the General Assembly emphasizes the need for putting a stop to the development of new means of warfare, so that scientific and technological achievements might ultimately be used solely for peaceful purposes. In other words, there is universal agreement on the importance of erecting an effective barrier, through the conclusion of an appropriate international treaty, to the qualitative improvement of weapons of mass destruction. An appeal for this is to be found in resolution 33/66 B of the United Nations General Assembly.

We consider that the most practical course with regard to this matter at the present stage would be to set up in the Committee an ad hoc group of government experts to consider the scientific and technological possibilities of the creation of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction.

In advocating the prohibition of new types of weapons of mass destruction, the Mongolian delegation also has in view the conclusion in this context of special international agreements prohibiting particular types of such weapons, including radiological weapons, which, as we are aware, are at present the subject of bilateral Soviet-United States negotiations. We welcome the recent resumption of these negotiations in Geneva, and we hope that there will soon be positive results to show for them.

The position of principle of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic on the question of the immediate prohibition of the neutron nuclear weapon, that particularly barbaric kind of weapon for the mass annihilation of people, is well-known and remains unchanged. The taking of further steps towards the production and development of this death-dealing weapon, even if only of its basic components, would give rise to a further dangerous round in the atomic

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

armaments race, thereby doing enormous damage to efforts directed towards armaments reduction and disarmament. In practice, this would nullify all the existing achievements in the sphere of disarmament and would paralyse the current negotiations on disarmament.

To prevent the development of precisely such a course of events, eight socialist countries last year proposed here in the Committee that an international convention on the prohibition of the production, stockpiling, development and use of the neutron nuclear weapon should be immediately worked out and concluded. We consider it necessary to pursue the practical consideration of this proposal in the Committee as a high-priority item with a view to the rapid preparation of an appropriate international agreement.

Having expressed this thought, I should like to refer to a decision of the recently held session of the World Peace Council. We attach great importance to that organization's Berlin Appeal, echoing with renewed emphasis the determined voice of world public opinion, as it calls for a more widespread manifestation of the vigorous movement for the cessation of the armaments race and for disarmament. Among other things, this document gives resolute expression to the general determination not to allow the further development of atomic weapons, and to bar the way to the appearance of new types of weapons of mass destruction, including the neutron weapon.

In stressing measures to restrict the armaments race and promote disarmament, we are fully aware of the decisive importance in this connexion of the current bilateral and multilateral negotiations on various questions of disarmament. We attach particular importance to the continuing strategic-arms limitation talks between the Soviet Union and the United States of America. Together with others, the Mongolian delegation has great hopes for the successful conclusion of the Soviet/United States SALT II talks, a positive outcome of which will provide a good basis for agreement on subsequent measures in this field.

The Mongolian delegation fully shares the view that the negotiations on the restriction of the armaments race and on disarmament should be based on the principles of the inviolability of the security of all the sides, of the reciprocity and equivalence of the obligations assumed, of the inadmissibility of the obtaining of unilateral military advantages by anyone at all, and of non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

We consider that, besides the items we have already mentioned in this statement, the agenda of the Committee on Disarmament should include questions of

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

the reduction of military budgets, the full demilitarization of the sea-bed and also questions connected with the reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces and the establishment of a comprehensive programme of disarmament.

In our view, these vitally important questions of disarmament can and should be the subject also of careful consideration at a world disarmament conference, which, after proper preparation, should be convened at the earliest suitable moment.

I should like to say a few words about the organization of our Committee's work and its procedure.

We believe that the basic provisions of the rules of procedure of the Committee on Disarmament were agreed upon at the special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and were laid down in the Final Document of that session.

We proceed from the position that the Committee on Disarmament is the only multilateral negotiating body with a restricted membership. Furthermore, a politically balanced representation of States must be strictly preserved in it. The Committee should maintain special relations with the United Nations, and lastly, and most important, all decisions in the Committee should be adopted by consensus.

It is precisely on these propositions that the ad hoc working group on the draft rules of procedure has in our opinion mainly relied, and consequently the Committee will be able officially to adopt its own rules of procedure.

The Mongolian delegation considers that the Committee should proceed without delay to the adoption of its agenda and agree on questions of the organization of its work. The Committee would thus be able to proceed immediately to the consideration of the items on its agenda.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the Mongolian delegation warmly welcomes you to the chairmanship of the Committee, and would like to assure you that it is prepared to continue its close collaboration in the Committee so as to promote the attainment of positive decisions in the sphere of disarmament.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.