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Agenda item 30.

URGENT NEED FOR SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR AND THERMONUCLEAR TESTS: REPORTS  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ismail FAHMY (United Arab Republic)

1. The item "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests: reports of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament" was included by the Secretary-General in the provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the General Assembly on the basis of resolution 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 (A/5950/Rev.1).
2. At its 159th meeting on 22 September 1965, the General Committee recommended the inclusion of the item in the agenda and its allocation to the First Committee (A/5988). At its 1336th meeting, on 24 September 1965, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee and referred the item to the First Committee for consideration and report (A/5991/Rev.1).
3. At its 1354th meeting, on 15 October 1965, the First Committee decided to consider the question of the suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests as the fourth item on its agenda (A/C.1/900); however, at its 1381st meeting, on 23 November, it decided to postpone the discussion of the third item on its agenda and take up instead the question of the suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests. The item was considered at the 1382nd to 1387th meetings of the Committee held between 23 and 26 November.
4. At the 1385th meeting on 25 November, a draft resolution was submitted by Afghanistan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Ceylon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya,

Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Sudan, Sweden, the United Arab Republic and Zambia (A/C.1/L.345). The draft resolution was subsequently sponsored also by Argentina, Cameroon, Chile, Finland, Ghana, Iraq, Japan and Senegal (A/C.1/L.345/Add.1) and by Yugoslavia. By the draft resolution, the General Assembly would: (1) urge that all nuclear weapon tests be suspended; (2) call upon all countries to respect the spirit and provisions of the Moscow test ban treaty; (3) request the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to continue with a sense of urgency its work on a comprehensive test ban treaty and arrangements banning effectively all nuclear weapon tests in all environments, taking into account the improved possibilities for international co-operation in the field of seismic detection.

5. At the 1386th meeting, on 26 November, the thirty-five-Power draft resolution was revised (A/C.1/L.345/Rev.1) at the suggestion of the United Arab Republic to add at the end of operative paragraph 3 the words "and to report to the General Assembly".

6. At its 1387th meeting, on 26 November, the First Committee adopted the draft resolution by a roll-call vote of 86 to none, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Algeria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, Guinea, Hungary, Mauritania, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

7. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear weapon tests and the relevant sections of the reports of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,

Recalling its resolutions 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962 and 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 on the cessation of all test explosions,

Noting with regret that notwithstanding these resolutions nuclear weapon tests have taken place,

Recalling the undertaking given by the original signatories to the Moscow Treaty to continue negotiations for the discontinuance of all nuclear test explosions for all time,

Recognizing the mounting concern of world opinion for the fulfilment of this undertaking,

Mindful of the crucial importance of a comprehensive test ban to the issue of non-proliferation,

Noting with satisfaction the joint memorandum on a comprehensive test ban treaty tabled by the delegations of Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic and annexed to the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,<sup>1/</sup>

Convinced that the agreement in regard to taking this further step towards nuclear disarmament would be facilitated, inter alia, by the important improvements in detection and identification techniques,

1. Urges that all nuclear weapon tests be suspended;
2. Calls upon all countries to respect the spirit and provisions of the Moscow Test Ban Treaty;

3. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to continue with a sense of urgency its work on a comprehensive test ban treaty and on arrangements to ban effectively all nuclear weapon tests in all environments, taking into account the improved possibilities for international co-operation in the field of seismic detection, and to report to the General Assembly.

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