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FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 56 (m)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

Sierra Leone*: draft resolution

Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolution CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa, adopted on 25 May 1988 by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its forty-eighth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 May 1988, 1/

Bearing in mind also resolution CM/Res.1125 (L) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its fiftieth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 22 July 1989, 2/

Welcoming resolution GC (XXXIII)/RES/509 on the dumping of nuclear wastes, adopted on 29 September 1989 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-third regular session,

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group of States.

1/ See A/43/398, annex I.

2/ See A/44/603, annex I.

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of nuclear wastes which would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security and in particular for the security of developing countries,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 3/ the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Aware of the consideration of the question of dumping of radioactive wastes in the Conference on Disarmament during its 1989 session,

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Recalling its resolution 44/116 R of 15 December 1989, in which it requested the Conference on Disarmament to include in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session the developments in the ongoing negotiations on this subject,

1. Takes note of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to the dumping of radioactive wastes; 4/

2. Expresses grave concern regarding any use of nuclear waste that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. Calls upon all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to continue to take into account, in the ongoing negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, the deliberate employment of nuclear wastes to cause destruction, damage or injury by means of radiation produced by the decay of such material;

5. Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue keeping the subject under active consideration and intensify efforts to conclude a legally binding instrument under its auspices on the effective prohibition of any radioactive or nuclear wastes dumping to complement a multilateral convention on its prohibition in the Conference on Disarmament;

6. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to include in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session the developments in the ongoing negotiations on this subject;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

3/ Resolution S-10/2.

4/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/45/27).