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Agenda item 51

CONCLUSION OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THE  
STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES  
AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Latévi Modem LAWSON-BETUM (Togo)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 44/110 of 15 December 1989.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, 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 1990, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 45 to 66. At its 4th meeting, on 16 October, the First Committee decided to consider jointly with other disarmament items agenda item 155, which was allocated to the First Committee upon a decision of the General Assembly at its 30th plenary meeting, on 15 October. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and 23rd meetings, from 15 to 30 October (see A/C.1/45/PV.3-23). Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on those items took place between the 24th and 39th meetings, from 2 to 16 November (see A/C.1/45/PV.24-39).

4. In connection with item 51, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

(b) Letter dated 19 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the documents adopted by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Cairo from 31 July to 5 August 1990 (A/45/421-S/21797).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/45/L.9

5. On 30 October, Bulgaria submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (A/C.1/45/L.9), which read as follows:

"Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons"

"The General Assembly,

"Deeply concerned at the arms race, in particular the nuclear-arms race, and the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

"Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

"Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

"Taking note of the general desire to conclude effective international measures to that end at an early date,

"Taking note also of the unilateral declarations on the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons made by all nuclear-weapon States,

"Recognizing that effective measures of such security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States would constitute an important contribution to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

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

"Aware of the in-depth negotiations on this subject in the Conference on Disarmament,

"Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 1/ the first special session devoted to disarmament,

"Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament 2/ submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, 3/ the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, 4/ the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as of the annual report of the Conference on its 1990 session, 5/

"Welcoming the unanimous support in the Conference on Disarmament for continuing the search for a common approach to the substance of negative security assurances, which could be included in a legally binding instrument,

"Recognizing the need for a fresh look at the issue, in particular by the nuclear-weapon States, in order to overcome the difficulties encountered at the negotiations,

"Taking note of all proposals on this subject submitted to the Conference on Disarmament, 5/

"1. Reaffirms the urgent need, pending the achievement of complete nuclear disarmament, to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

"2. Recommends that the Conference on Disarmament pursue intensive negotiations in its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to reaching such an agreement, taking into

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"1/ Resolution S-10/2.

"2/ The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

"3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-12/2).

"4/ Ibid., Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

"5/ Ibid., Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/45/27).

account the widespread support in the Conference for conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

"3. Appeals to all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to demonstrate willingness and to exercise the flexibility necessary to reach agreement on a common approach to, including the possibility of a common formula in, an international instrument or instruments of a legally binding character to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

"4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Conclusion of effective international arrangements on the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons'."

6. At the 33rd meeting, on 9 November, the Chairman announced that following consultations the sponsors of draft resolutions A/C.1/45/L.9 and A/C.1/45/L.19, under items 51 and 52, respectively, had been able to arrive at a single merged text combining both draft resolutions. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to issue the merged text under a new symbol, A/C.1/45/L.56. The Committee decided accordingly (see A/45/774).

7. At the request of the sponsor, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.9.

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