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Agenda item 62

ISRAELI NUCLEAR ARMAMENT

Report of the First Committee

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Israeli nuclear armament" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 44/121 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 an 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 62, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on Israeli nuclear armament (A/45/574);
  - (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.45 AND REV.1

5. On 31 October, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen submitted a draft resolution entitled "Israeli nuclear armament" (A/C.1/45/L.45). The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Bearing in mind its previous resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is resolution 44/121 of 15 December 1989,

"Recalling its resolution 44/108 of 15 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it called for placing all nuclear facilities in the region under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

"Recalling also Security Council resolution 487 (1981) of 19 June 1981, in which, inter alia, the Council called upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

"Noting that only Israel has been specifically called upon by the Security Council to place its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

"Noting with grave concern Israel's persistent refusal to commit itself not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons, despite repeated calls by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency,

"Taking into consideration resolution GC (XXXIV)/Res/526 of 21 September 1990 adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which the General Conference deprecated Israel's continuous refusal to place all its nuclear facilities under the Agency's safeguards and called upon Israel to comply with Security Council resolution 487 (1981),

"Also taking into consideration the final document on international security and disarmament of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 1/ in paragraph 12 of which Israel was condemned for

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1/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

continuing to develop its nuclear military programmes and weapons of mass destruction and for its refusal to implement the resolutions of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency in this regard,

"Deeply alarmed by the information with regard to the continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel and its testing of their delivery systems in the Mediterranean, thus threatening the peace and security of the region,

"Aware of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and Israel's collaboration with South Africa to develop nuclear weapons and their delivery systems,

"Deeply concerned that the declared Israeli policy of attacking and destroying nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes is a part of its nuclear armament policy,

"1. Reiterates its condemnation of Israel's refusal to renounce any possession of nuclear weapons;

"2. Reiterates also its condemnation of the co-operation between Israel and South Africa;

"3. Expresses its deep concern at Israel's continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and testing of their delivery systems;

"4. Requests once more the Security Council to take urgent and effective measures to ensure that Israel complies with Council resolution 487 (1981);

"5. Demands once more that Israel place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

"6. Calls upon all States and organizations that have not yet done so to discontinue co-operating with and giving assistance to Israel in the nuclear field;

"7. Reiterates its request to the International Atomic Energy Agency to suspend any co-operation with Israel that could contribute to its nuclear capabilities;

"8. Requests also the International Atomic Energy Agency to inform the Secretary-General of any steps Israel may take to place its nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to follow closely Israeli nuclear activities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Israeli nuclear armament'."

6. On 14 November, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/45/L.45/Rev.1).

7. At its 38th meeting, on 16 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.45/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 84 to 2, with 38 abstentions (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its previous resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is resolution 44/121 of 15 December 1989,

Recalling its resolution 44/108 of 15 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it called for placing all nuclear facilities in the region under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 487 (1981) of 19 June 1981, in which, inter alia, the Council called upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that only Israel has been specifically called upon by the Security Council to place its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting with grave concern Israel's persistent refusal to commit itself not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons, despite repeated calls by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Noting resolution GC (XXXIV)/Res/526 of 21 September 1990 adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Taking into consideration the final document on international security and disarmament adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 1/ in paragraph 12 of which Israel was condemned for continuing to develop its nuclear military programmes and weapons of mass destruction and for its refusal to implement the resolutions of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency in this regard,

Deeply alarmed by the information with regard to the continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel and its testing of their delivery systems in the Mediterranean, thus threatening the peace and security of the region,

Aware of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and Israel's collaboration with South Africa to develop nuclear weapons and their delivery systems,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not committed itself to refrain from attacking or threatening to attack safeguarded nuclear facilities,

1. Reiterates its condemnation of Israel's refusal to renounce any possession of nuclear weapons;

2. Reiterates also its condemnation of the co-operation between Israel and South Africa in the military field;

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1/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

3. Expresses its deep concern regarding the information of Israel's continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and testing of their delivery systems;

4. Reaffirms that Israel should promptly apply Security Council resolution 487 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, requests it to place all nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to refrain from attacking or threatening to attack nuclear facilities;

5. Calls upon all States and organizations that have not yet done so not to co-operate with or give assistance to Israel that could enhance its nuclear-weapons capability;

6. Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to inform the Secretary-General of any steps Israel may take to place its nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to follow closely Israeli nuclear activities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Israeli nuclear armament".

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