



## General Assembly

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Agenda item 57PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF NEW TYPES OF  
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND NEW SYSTEMS OF SUCH WEAPONSReport of the First CommitteeRapporteur: Mr. Doulaye Corentin KI (Burkina Faso)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-first session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/90 of 12 December 1985.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1986, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in the agenda of its forty-first session and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and a continuation of the general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those agenda items, namely items 46 to 65 and item 144, took place between the 3rd and the 32nd meetings, from 13 October to 4 November (see A/C.1/41/PV.3-32).
4. In connection with item 57, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

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

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/41/27).

(b) Letter dated 21 January 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/97);

(c) Letter dated 3 February 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/131);

(d) Letter dated 3 March 1986 from the Acting Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/185);

(e) Letter dated 11 March 1986 from the representatives of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the joint message dated 28 February 1986 addressed to the President of the United States of America and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico and Sweden, and the First President of the United Republic of Tanzania (A/41/210-S/17910 and Corr.);

(f) Letter dated 15 May 1986 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 16 to 19 April 1986 (A/41/341-S/18065 and Corr.1);

(g) Letter dated 1 May 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/356);

(h) Letter dated 14 August 1986 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Mexico Declaration adopted by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico and Sweden, and the First President of the United Republic of Tanzania at Ixtapa on 7 August 1986 and copies of the letters they addressed on the same date to the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the President of the United States of America (A/41/518-S/18277);

(i) Letter dated 30 September 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the Eighth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986 (A/41/697-S/18392);

(j) Note verbale dated 9 October 1986 from the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-first session of the General Assembly, held on 2 October 1986 in New York (A/41/703-S/18395).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/41/L.65

5. On 30 October 1986, Afghanistan, Angola, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Ghana, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons" (A/C.1/41/L.65), which was later also sponsored by Benin, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and the Syrian Arab Republic. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic at the 38th meeting, on 10 November.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.65 by a recorded vote of 102 to 1, with 30 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows: 2/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zaïre.

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2/ Subsequently, the delegation of Malawi indicated that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

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### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3479 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/73 of 10 December 1976, 32/84 A of 12 December 1977, 33/66 B of 14 December 1978, 34/79 of 11 December 1979, 35/149 of 12 December 1980, 36/89 of 9 December 1981, 37/77 A of 9 December 1982, 38/182 of 20 December 1983, 39/62 of 12 December 1984 and 40/90 of 12 December 1985 concerning the prohibition of new types of weapons of mass destruction,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 39 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 3/ according to which qualitative and quantitative disarmament measures are both important for halting the arms race and efforts to that end must include negotiations on the limitation and cessation of the qualitative improvement of armaments, especially weapons of mass destruction, and the development of new means of warfare,

Recalling the decision contained in paragraph 77 of the Final Document to the effect that, in order to help prevent a qualitative arms race and so that scientific and technological achievements might ultimately be used solely for peaceful purposes, effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction based on new scientific principles and achievements and that efforts aiming at the prohibition of such new types and new systems of weapons of mass destruction should be appropriately pursued,

Expressing once again its firm belief, in the light of the decisions adopted at the tenth special session, in the importance of concluding an agreement or agreements to prevent the use of scientific and technological progress for the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Noting that in the course of its session in 1986 the Conference on Disarmament considered the item entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: radiological weapons",

Convinced that all ways and means should be utilized to prevent the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Determined to prevent the creation, as a result of developments of modern science and technology, of weapons based on new physical principles and having a destructive capacity close to that of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction,

Taking into consideration the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to this question, 4/

1. Reaffirms the necessity of prohibiting the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons;

2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament, in the light of its existing priorities, to keep constantly under review, with the assistance of a periodically convened group of experts, the question of the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on the identified types of such weapons;

3. Calls upon all States, immediately following the identification of any new type of weapon of mass destruction, to commence negotiations on its prohibition with the simultaneous introduction of a moratorium on its practical development;

4. Once again urges all States to refrain from any action that could adversely affect the efforts aimed at preventing the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons;

5. Calls again upon all States to undertake efforts to ensure that ultimately scientific and technological achievements may be used solely for peaceful purposes;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

7. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on the results achieved to the General Assembly for consideration at its forty-second session;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

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4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/41/27), paras. 100 and 103-105.