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Agenda item 56

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Doulaye Corentin KI (Burkina Faso)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa:

"(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(b) Report of the Secretary-General"

was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-first session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 40/89 A and B 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 its agenda 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 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 56, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission; 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the nuclear capability of South Africa (A/41/490);

(c) Letter dated 5 May 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the final communiqué and of the resolutions adopted by the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez, Morocco, from 25 to 29 Rabi Ul Thani, 1407H (6 to 10 January 1986) (A/41/326-S/18049);

(d) 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);

(e) 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 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);

(f) Note verbale dated 9 October 1986 from the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting 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.25

5. On 29 October, Benin, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa", consisting of part A entitled "Implementation of the Declaration" and part B entitled "Nuclear capability of South Africa" (A/C.1/41/L.25). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Benin at the 37th meeting, on 10 November.

6. At its 39th meeting, on 11 November, the Committee adopted part A of draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.25 by a recorded vote of 126 to none, with 7 abstentions (see para. 8, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows:

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/41/42).

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Chile, France, Israel, Lesotho, Malawi, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee took the following action on part B of draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.25:

(a) A proposal to delete the words "and Israel" in the eleventh preambular paragraph was rejected by a recorded vote of 76 to 23, with 26 abstentions; the voting was as follows:

In favour: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Samoa, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zaire.

Against: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republics, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela.

(b) Part B of resolution A/C.1/41/L.25, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 117 to 0 with 12 abstentions (see para. 8, draft resolution B); the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, 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, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa

A

Implementation of the Declaration

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa 2/ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964,

Recalling its resolution 1652 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, its earliest on the subject, as well as its resolutions 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 31/69 of 10 December 1976, 32/81 of 12 December 1977, 33/63 of 14 December 1978, 34/76 A of 11 December 1979, 35/146 B of 12 December 1980, 36/86 B of 9 December 1981, 37/74 A of 9 December 1982, 38/181 A of 20 December 1983, 39/61 A of 12 December 1984 and 40/89 A of 12 December 1985, in which it called upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Recalling that in its resolution 33/63 it vigorously condemned any overt or covert attempt by South Africa to introduce nuclear weapons into the continent of Africa and demanded that South Africa refrain forthwith from conducting any nuclear explosion in the continent or elsewhere,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research entitled "South Africa's nuclear capability", 3/ undertaken in

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 105, document A/5975.

3/ A/39/470.

co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, as well as the report of the Disarmament Commission, 4/

Noting the actions taken recently by those Governments which have taken measures to restrict co-operation with South Africa in nuclear and other fields,

Expressing regret that despite the threat that South Africa's nuclear capability constitutes to international peace and security and, in particular, to the realization of the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the Disarmament Commission has, once again, in 1986, failed to reach a consensus on this important item on its agenda,

1. Strongly renews its call upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa and its surrounding areas as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

2. Reaffirms that the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity would be an important measure to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security;

3. Expresses once again its grave alarm at South Africa's possession and continued development of nuclear-weapon capability;

4. Condemns South Africa's continued pursuit of a nuclear capability and all forms of nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime that enable it to frustrate the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, which seeks to keep Africa free from nuclear weapons;

5. Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions and individuals to desist from further collaboration with the racist régime that may enable it to frustrate the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;

6. Demands once again that the racist régime of South Africa refrain from manufacturing, testing, deploying, transporting, storing, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons;

7. Appeals to all States that have the means to do so to monitor South Africa's research on and development and production of nuclear weapons, and to publicize any information in that regard;

8. Demands once again that South Africa submit forthwith all its nuclear installations and facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/41/42).

9. Requests the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance that the Organization of African Unity may seek towards the implementation of its solemn Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa".

B

Nuclear capability of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/76 B of 11 December 1979, 35/146 A of 12 December 1980, 36/86 A of 9 December 1981, 37/74 B of 9 December 1982, 38/181 B of 20 December 1983, 39/61 B of 12 December 1984 and 40/89 B of 12 December 1985,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa 5/ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964,

Recalling that, in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 6/ it noted that the accumulation of armaments and the acquisition of armaments technology by racist régimes, as well as their possible acquisition of nuclear weapons, presented an increasingly dangerous and challenging obstacle to the world community, faced with the urgent need to disarm,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 33/63 of 14 December 1978, it vigorously condemned any overt or covert attempt by South Africa to introduce nuclear weapons into the continent of Africa and demanded that South Africa refrain forthwith from conducting any nuclear explosion in the continent or elsewhere,

Noting with regret the non-implementation by apartheid South Africa of resolution GC(XXIX)/RES/442, 7/ adopted on 27 September 1985 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency during its twenty-ninth regular session,

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes,
agenda item 105, document A/5975.

6/ Resolution S-10/2.

7/ See A/41/490, annex I, attachment 1.

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research entitled "South Africa's nuclear capability", 8/ undertaken in co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity,

Expressing regret that despite the threat that South Africa's nuclear-weapon capability constitutes to international peace and security and, in particular, to the realization of the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the Disarmament Commission has, once again, in 1986, failed to reach a consensus on this important item on its agenda,

Alarmed that South Africa's unsafeguarded nuclear facilities enable it to develop and acquire the capability of producing fissionable material for nuclear weapons,

Gravely concerned that South Africa, in flagrant violation of the principles of international law and the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, has continued its acts of aggression and subversion against the peoples of the independent States of southern Africa,

Strongly condemning the continued military occupation by South African troops of parts of the territory of Angola in violation of its national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and urging the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan soil,

Expressing its grave disappointment that, despite repeated appeals by the international community, certain Western States and Israel have continued to collaborate with the racist régime of South Africa in the military and nuclear fields and that some of these States have, by a ready recourse to the use of the veto, consistently frustrated every effort in the Security Council to deal decisively with the question of South Africa,

Recalling its decision taken at the tenth special session that the Security Council should take appropriate effective steps to prevent the frustration of the implementation of the decision of the Organization of African Unity for the denuclearization of Africa, 9/

Stressing the need to preserve peace and security in Africa by ensuring that the continent is a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. Condemns the massive build-up of South Africa's military machine, in particular its frenzied acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability for repressive and aggressive purposes and as an instrument of blackmail;

8/ A/39/470.

9/ See resolution S-10/2, para. 63 (c).

2. Further condemns all forms of nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime of South Africa, in particular the decision by some Member States to grant licences to several corporations in their territories to provide equipment and technical and maintenance services for nuclear installations in South Africa;

3. Reaffirms that the racist régime's acquisition of nuclear-weapon capability constitutes a very grave danger to international peace and security and, in particular, jeopardizes the security of African States and increases the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

4. Expresses its full support for the African States faced with the danger of South Africa's nuclear capability;

5. Commends the actions taken recently by those Governments which have taken measures to restrict co-operation with South Africa in nuclear and other fields;

6. Demands that South Africa and all other foreign interests put an immediate end to the exploration for and exploitation of uranium resources in Namibia;

7. Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions and individuals to terminate forthwith all forms of military and nuclear collaboration with the racist régime;

8. Requests the Disarmament Commission to consider as a matter of priority during its session in 1987 South Africa's nuclear capability, taking into account, inter alia, the findings of the report of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on South Africa's nuclear capability;

9. Requests the Security Council to conclude expeditiously its consideration of the recommendations of its Committee established by resolution 421 (1977) concerning the question of South Africa, 10/ with a view to blocking the existing loopholes in the arms embargo so as to render it more effective, and prohibiting, in particular, all forms of co-operation and collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field;

10. Demands once again that South Africa submit forthwith all its nuclear installations and facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to follow very closely South Africa's evolution in the nuclear field and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-second session.

10/ See Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-fifth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1980, document S/14179.