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ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Doulaye Corentin KI (Burkina Faso)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In a letter dated 5 August 1986 addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/191), the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requested the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security" in the agenda of the forty-first session of the General Assembly.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1986, the General Assembly decided, on the recommendation of the General Committee, to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. The First Committee considered item 141 jointly with items 67, 68 and 69 between the 52nd and 59th meetings, held from 20 to 26 November 1986 (see A/C.1/41/PV.52-59).
4. In connection with item 141, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) The letter referred to in paragraph 1 above;
 - (b) Letters dated 14 and 15 October 1986 from the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the forty-first session addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/709-S/18401 and A/41/714-S/18403);

(c) Letter dated 15 October 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/41/5);

(d) Letter dated 23 October 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the communiqué of the meeting of the Committee of Foreign Affairs Ministers of the States parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held at Bucharest on 14 and 15 October 1986 (A/41/744);

(e) Letter dated 23 October 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/759-S/18422);

(f) Letter dated 4 November 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/794-S/18445).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/41/L.89 AND REV.1

5. At the 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Hungary, on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, introduced draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.89, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Deeply concerned at the tense and dangerous situation in the world and the danger of continuing down the path of confrontation and the arms race towards the abyss of the nuclear self-destruction of mankind,

"Conscious of the urgent need to strengthen the foundation of universal security, on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and in compliance with the generally recognized norms and principles of international law,

"Conscious of the growing interdependence of countries and the fact that the contemporary world has no reasonable alternative to the policy of co-operation and interaction among States pursued on the basis of equality with unconditional respect for the right of each people to make its sovereign choice of the ways and forms of its development,

"Reaffirming the important role of the United Nations as an indispensable forum for conducting negotiations and achieving agreements on measures to strengthen international peace, security and co-operation and to democratize international relations,

"Having discussed the question of the establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security,

"1. Calls upon States to focus their efforts on ensuring security on an equal basis for all States and in all spheres of international relations and to make their contribution to working out the basic ideas for the establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security and provide guidance for the practical work to this end;

"2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled 'Establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security'."

6. At the 57th meeting, on 25 November, the representative of Hungary, on behalf of the sponsors, now joined by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, introduce a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/41/L.89/Rev.1).

7. At the 59th meeting, on 26 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.89/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 82 to 2, with 35 abstentions (see para. 8); the voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, 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, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: France, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the tense and dangerous situation in the world and the danger of continuing down the path of confrontation and the arms race towards the abyss of the nuclear self-destruction of mankind,

Deeply concerned at the numerous threats to international peace and security resulting from the persistent violations of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Also concerned at the continuous escalation in the global arms race, especially the nuclear-arms race and the consequent threat posed to the security of all States,

Conscious of the urgent need to strengthen the foundation of universal security, on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and in compliance with the generally recognized norms and principles of international law,

Conscious of the growing interdependence of countries and the fact that the contemporary world has no reasonable alternative to the policy of co-operation and interaction among States pursued on the basis of equality with unconditional respect for the right of each people to make its sovereign choice of the ways and forms of its development,

Reaffirming the important role of the United Nations as an indispensable forum for conducting negotiations and achieving agreements on measures to strengthen international peace, security and co-operation and to democratize international relations,

Having in mind the necessity to strengthen international co-operation on the basis of existing consensus with a view to promoting the well-being and economic development of all countries, in particular developing countries,

Having discussed the question of a comprehensive system of international peace and security,

1. Solemnly reaffirms that the collective security system embodied in the Charter of the United Nations continues to be a fundamental and irreplaceable instrument for the preservation of international peace and security;

2. Also reaffirms the need to adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, especially respect for the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and the right of all peoples to self-determination;

3. Recognizes the invaluable role of the United Nations in the preservation of international peace and security, harmonization of the policies of the Member States and the imperative need to strengthen and reinforce the United Nations;

4. Calls upon States to focus their efforts on ensuring security on an equal basis for all States and in all spheres of international relations;

5. Calls upon Member States to make their contribution to practical measures to ensure compliance with and implementation of the provisions of the Charter with particular regard to the crucial and interrelated areas of disarmament, crisis and conflict settlement, economic development and co-operation, the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. Further calls for the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations;

7. Decides to continue consideration of this question at its forty-second session under an item entitled "Comprehensive system of international peace and security".
