

Dual Distribution

Sixth session  
Agenda items 66 and 16

REGULATION, LIMITATION AND BALANCED REDUCTION  
OF ALL ARMED FORCES AND ALL ARMAMENTS

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY:  
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWELVE  
(ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 496 V)

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Thor THORS (Iceland)

1. The General Assembly, on 13 December 1950, adopted resolution 496 (V) establishing a Committee of Twelve to consider and report to the next regular session of the General Assembly on ways and means whereby the work of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments might be co-ordinated and on the advisability of their functions being merged and placed under a new and consolidated disarmament commission. The Committee of Twelve submitted its report (A/1922) on 23 October 1951, which recommended that the General Assembly should establish a new commission, to be known as the Commission for the Control of Armaments and Armed Forces, which should be under and report to the Security Council, in order to carry forward the tasks presently assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments and that these latter two Commissions should be dissolved by appropriate action.
2. In three identic letters to the Secretary-General dated 8 November 1951 (A/1943) the Secretary of State of the United States of America, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations requested the inclusion of the following item in the agenda of the sixth session of the General Assembly: "Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments".

3. The explanatory memorandum accompanying the letters referred briefly to the manner in which the problems of the regulation of armaments and the international control of atomic energy had been dealt with in the United Nations and also referred to a tripartite statement by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France on 7 November 1951 declaring their intention to submit proposals to the present session of the General Assembly for proceeding with the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, including atomic weapons.

4. At its 342nd plenary meeting on 13 November 1951, the General Assembly decided without objection to adopt the recommendation of the General Committee to include the two items, number 16 and 66, in the agenda and to refer them to the First Committee for consideration and report.

5. The First Committee considered the items at 24 meetings between 19 November and 19 December 1951.

6. The general debate on the items took place from the 447th meeting on 19 November 1951 to the 460th meeting on 30 November 1951 inclusive.

During the general debate the following proposals were made:

(a) A joint draft resolution (A/C.1/667) submitted at the 447th meeting on 19 November by France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, which was subsequently revised as set forth in paragraph 13 below.

(b) Amendments (A/C.1/668) to the above joint draft resolution, submitted at the 453rd meeting on 24 November by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which amendments were subsequently revised as set forth in paragraph 14 below.

(c) A draft resolution (A/C.1/669), submitted at the 454th meeting on 26 November by India, which was withdrawn at the 470th meeting.

7. At the 454th meeting on 26 November 1951, Iraq, Pakistan and Syria submitted a joint draft resolution (A/C.1/670) to establish a sub-committee, consisting of the President of the General Assembly as Chairman and the representatives of France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and United States, with a view to formulating agreed proposals concerning the control and reduction of armed forces and armaments and the abolition of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction.

8. At the conclusion of the general debate, the Committee proceeded to discuss the joint draft resolution (A/C.1/670) for the establishment of a sub-committee. At the 461st meeting on 30 November, various amendments were submitted to that draft resolution as follows:

(a) A/C.1/671/Rev.1, submitted by Bolivia, which was withdrawn at the same meeting.

(b) A/C.1/672, submitted by Norway, further defining the task of the sub-committee and directing it to report to the First Committee by 10 December 1951.

(c) A/C.1/673, submitted by Chile, which was withdrawn at the same meeting.

(d) A/C.1/674, an amendment by Lebanon to the amendment (A/C.1/672) submitted by Norway. This amendment was accepted by the delegation of Norway.

(e) Some oral drafting amendments suggested by the representative of Lebanon and accepted by the sponsors of the joint draft resolution.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the draft resolution and amendments for the establishment of the sub-committee as follows: the first five paragraphs of the joint draft resolution (A/C.1/670), as orally amended, were adopted unanimously; the Norwegian amendment, incorporating the Lebanese amendment, was adopted unanimously. The joint draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was also unanimously adopted by the Committee and read as follows (A/C.1/675):

The Political and Security Committee of the General Assembly,

Noting the draft resolution submitted by the delegations of France, the United Kingdom and the United States on "Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and armaments" (document A/C.1/667 dated 19 November 1951).

Noting the amendments to the aforementioned draft resolution proposed by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (document A/C.1/668 dated 24 November 1951),

Noting the universal desire for peace, for the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, and for the abolition of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction,

Noting with concern the divergence of views as to the best procedure for attaining this objective,

Recognizing that no agreement on regulation, limitation and reduction of arms and armed forces is possible without the fullest co-operation and support of France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States,

Resolves to establish a sub-committee consisting of:

- (i) The President of the General Assembly as Chairman; and
- (ii) The representatives of France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States, with a view to formulating proposals which it could agree to recommend to the First Committee. In its work the Sub-Committee shall take into consideration the draft resolution submitted by the delegation of France, the United Kingdom and the United States (document A/C.1/667), the amendments to that draft resolution proposed by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (document A/C.1/668), and the debates in the First Committee on the items under discussion, as well as any new proposals made by any of its members during the course of its deliberations;

Directs the Sub-Committee to make a report to the First Committee by 10 December 1951;

Resolves to suspend discussion on items 16 and 66 of the agenda until the report of the Sub-Committee is received;

Urges upon all concerned to give their fullest co-operation and support to the Sub-Committee, so that through the reduction and limitation of armaments and the abolition of weapons of mass destruction the fear of war may be dispelled, and the hope of providing a better life for the average man may be restored to anxious humanity;

Requests the Secretary-General to furnish such expert staff and facilities as the Sub-Committee may find necessary for carrying out its task".

10. The Sub-Committee (Sub-Committee 18) met in closed session and held ten meetings. On 10 December 1951, the President of the General Assembly, as Chairman of the Sub-Committee, transmitted to the Chairman of the First Committee a letter (A/C.1/677) forwarding a memorandum prepared by him at the request of the members of the Sub-Committee and unanimously approved by them, which memorandum was to be regarded as the Sub-Committee's report to the Committee.

11. The First Committee resumed its discussion at its 463rd meeting on 11 December, at which meeting the President of the General Assembly introduced the memorandum of the Sub-Committee. It surveyed the areas of agreement, possible agreement and disagreement which were disclosed and clarified in the Sub-Committee. The Committee then proceeded to examine paragraph by paragraph the preamble and operative paragraphs of the tripartite draft resolution (A/C.1/667) and the amendments (A/C.1/668) proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, taking into account the memorandum which was the report of the Sub-Committee.

12. On 11 December, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a revision of its amendments (A/C.1/668/Rev.1), which were subsequently further revised as set forth in paragraph 14 below.

13. At the 466th meeting on 14 December, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America submitted a revision of the tripartite draft resolution (A/C.1/667/Rev.1) containing modifications and adjustments consequent upon the discussions in the Sub-Committee and in the Committee. The revised draft resolution read as follows:

The General Assembly,

Desiring to lift from the peoples of the world the burden of increasing armaments and the fear of war, and to liberate new energies and resources for positive programmes of reconstruction and development,

Reaffirming its desire that the United Nations develop an effective collective security system to maintain the peace and that the armed forces and armaments of the world be progressively reduced in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter,

/Believing

Believing that a necessary means to this end is the development by the United Nations of comprehensive and co-ordinated plans, under international control, for the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, and for the effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only,

Recognizing that a genuine system for disarmament must include all kinds of armed forces and armaments, must be accepted by all nations whose military resources are such that their failure to accept would endanger the system, and must include safeguards that will ensure the compliance of all such nations,

Noting the recommendation of the Committee of Twelve established by resolution 496 (V) that the General Assembly should establish a new commission to carry forward the tasks originally assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments,

1. Establishes under the Security Council an Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments Commission. This Commission shall have the same membership as the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, and shall function under the rules of procedure of the Atomic Energy Commission with such modifications as the Commission shall deem necessary;

2. Dissolves the Atomic Energy Commission and recommends to the Security Council that it dissolve the Commission for the Conventional Armaments;

3. Directs the Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments Commission to prepare proposals to be embodied in a draft treaty (or treaties) for the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, and for effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only. The Commission shall be guided by the following principles:

(a) In a system of guaranteed disarmament there must be progressive disclosure and verification on a continuing basis of all armed forces - including para-military, security and police forces - and all armaments including atomic;

(b) Such verification must be based on effective international inspection to ensure the adequacy and accuracy of the information disclosed; this inspection to be carried out in accordance with the decisions of the international control organ (or organs) to be established;

(c) The Commission shall be ready to consider any proposals or plans for control that may be put forward involving either conventional armaments or atomic energy. Unless a better or no less effective system is devised, the United Nations plan for the international control of atomic energy and the prohibition of atomic weapons should continue to serve as the basis for the international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only;

(d) There must be an adequate system of safeguards to ensure observance of the disarmament programme, so as to provide for the prompt detection of violations which at the same time causing the minimum degree of interference in the internal life of each country;

/(e) The treaty

(e) The treaty (or treaties) shall specifically be open to all States for signature and ratification or adherence. The treaty (or treaties) shall provide what States must become parties thereto before the treaty (or treaties) shall enter into force;

4. Directs the Commission, when preparing the proposals referred to in the preceding paragraph, to formulate plans for the establishment within the framework of the Security Council of an international control organ (or organs) to ensure the implementation of the treaty (or treaties). The functions and powers of the control organ (or organs) shall be defined in the treaty which establishes it;

5. Directs the Commission, in preparing the proposals referred to in paragraph 3 above, to consider from the outset plans for progressive and continuing disclosure and verification, the implementation of which is recognized as a first and indispensable step in carrying out the disarmament programme envisaged in the present resolution;

6. Directs the Commission, in working out plans for the regulation, limitation, and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments,

(a) To determine how overall limits and restrictions on all armed forces and all armaments can be calculated and fixed;

(b) To consider methods according to which States can agree among themselves, under the auspices of the Commission, concerning the allocation within their respective national military establishments of the permitted national armed forces and armaments;

7. Directs the Commission to commence its work not later than thirty days from the adoption of this resolution and to report periodically, for information, to the Security Council and to the General Assembly, or to the Members of the United Nations when the General Assembly is not in session. The Commission shall submit its first report not later than 1 June 1952;

8. Declares that a conference of all States should be convened to consider the proposals for a draft treaty (or treaties) prepared by the Commission as soon as the work of the Commission shall have progressed to a point where in the judgment of the Commission any part of its programme is ready for submission to governments;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to convene such a conference when so advised by the Commission;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to furnish such experts, staff and facilities as the Commission may consider necessary for the effective accomplishment of the purposes of the present resolution.

14. On 18 December 1951, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a revision of its amendments, (A/C.1/668/Rev.2) to the revised tripartite draft resolution. The revised amendments were as follows:

1. Replace the third and fourth paragraphs of the preamble by the following text:

Recognizing as a primary and most important task the unconditional prohibition of the production of atomic weapons and the establishment of strict international control over the enforcement of this prohibition and also the reduction by one-third of the other types of armaments and armed forces of the Five Powers: the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, within one year of the adoption of the relevant decision by the General Assembly and on the basis of the level of armaments and armed forces at the time the aforesaid decision is taken,

Noting that these measures will serve the purpose of strengthening the peace and security of nations and contribute to lightening the heavy economic burden borne by the peoples of the various countries as a result of the ever-increasing expenditure on armaments and re-armament,

Convinced that if all governments sincerely combine their efforts in order to co-operate in an effective and substantial limitation of armed forces and of armaments and also in an immediate and unconditional prohibition of the production of atomic weapons and the establishment of strict international control over the enforcement of this prohibition, the danger of war will be considerably averted and the security of all nations strengthened.

2. Insert the following as paragraph 1 of the operative part:

The General Assembly, recognizing the use of atomic weapons as an instrument of aggression and mass destruction of peoples to be contrary to the honour and the conscience of nations and incompatible with membership of the United Nations, hereby declares an unconditional ban on atomic weapons and the establishment of strict international control over the enforcement of this ban,

The General Assembly instructs the Commission on Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments to draw up, and to submit for the consideration of the Security Council by 1 February 1952, a draft convention providing for measures to ensure the implementation of the General Assembly's decisions relating to the prohibition of atomic weapons, the cessation of their production, the use solely for civilian purposes of the atomic bombs already produced, and the establishment of strict international control over the implementation of the said convention.

3. Insert a new paragraph after paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, reading as follows:

The General Assembly recognizes that any sincere plan for a substantial reduction of all armed forces and armaments must include the establishment,

/within



within the framework of the Security Council, of an international control organ, which shall be responsible for control of the reduction of all types of armaments and armed forces and for control of the enforcement of the prohibition of atomic weapons; so that such prohibition is carried out very accurately and conscientiously, and that this international organ must elicit information on all armed forces, including semi-military, security and police forces, and all armaments, including atomic weapons, provision also being made for effective international inspection, to be carried out in accordance with the decisions of the aforesaid international control organ and for control to include also verification of the information submitted.

4. Replace paragraph 3 of the draft resolution by the following paragraph:

The draft convention shall provide that the aforesaid international control organ be entrusted with control of the prohibition of atomic weapons, and shall define its composition, rights and duties.

The international organ responsible for control of the prohibition of atomic weapons shall, immediately after the conclusion of the aforesaid convention, carry out an inspection of all establishments for the production and storing of atomic weapons in order to see that the convention for the prohibition of atomic weapons is being enforced.

5. After the above paragraph, insert the following paragraph in the draft resolution:

Recommends the permanent members of the Security Council -- the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics -- to reduce the armaments and armed forces at their disposal at the time when this decision is adopted by one third within one year from the date of adoption of this decision;

Deems it essential for the governments of States Members of the United Nations and also States which are not at present Members of the Organization to submit to the international control organ forthwith, and in any case not later than one month after the adoption by the General Assembly of the decisions for the prohibition of atomic weapons and the reduction of armaments and armed forces, complete information regarding the state of their armed forces and all types of armaments, including atomic weapons, at the time of acceptance of the said provisions.

6. Delete paragraphs 4 and 5 of the draft resolution.

7. Replace paragraph 6 of the draft resolution by the following paragraph:

The General Assembly considers it essential to instruct the Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments Commission to prepare within a period of three months and submit for the consideration of the Security Council practical proposals for the application of this decision.

8. Delete paragraph 7 of the draft resolution.

9. Replace paragraph 8 of the draft resolution by the following:

The General Assembly invites the governments of all States, both Members of the United Nations and States not at present Members of the United Nations, to examine at a world conference the question of a substantial reduction of

armed forces and armaments and also of practical measures for the prohibition of atomic weapons and the establishment of international control over the enforcement of such prohibition.

Recommends that the said world conference be convened at the earliest possible moment and in any case not later than 1 June 1952.

10. Delete paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.
15. At the 466th meeting on 14 December 1951, Lebanon submitted amendments (A/C.1/678) to the tripartite draft resolution as follows:

- (a) To add a new first paragraph to the preamble;
- (b) To make consequential changes in the present first paragraph of the preamble;
- (c) To add a phrase to the present second paragraph (this amendment was withdrawn at the same meeting);
- (d) To call the proposed Commission the "Disarmament Commission".

The first amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the tripartite draft resolution at the 467th meeting.

16. At the 468th meeting on 17 December, Yugoslavia submitted an amendment (A/C.1/679) to the tripartite draft resolution to provide additional clarifying phraseology in paragraph 6(b). This amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the tripartite draft resolution at the same meeting.

17. At the same meeting Poland submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/680) which provided, inter alia, for the General Assembly, noting the memorandum of the Sub-Committee (A/C.1/677), to:

- (a) Establish under the Security Council an Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments Commission with the membership of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, which were to be dissolved;
- (b) Transmit to the proposed Commission for its consideration the tripartite draft resolution (A/C.1/667/Rev.1) and the USSR amendments (A/C.1/668/Rev.1).

18. At the same meeting Egypt submitted an amendment (A/C.1/681) to the tripartite draft resolution providing for:

- (a) A new second paragraph of the preamble setting out the unconditional prohibition of the use of atomic and all other weapons of mass destruction as a most important objective;
- (b) A new first paragraph of the operative part calling for study by the Sixth Committee of the above prohibition with the object of preparing a draft treaty during this session.

19. At the same meeting, Peru submitted an amendment (A/C.1/682) to the tripartite draft resolution providing for the insertion in the third paragraph of the preamble and in paragraph 3 of the operative part of phraseology extending the text to include the elimination of all major weapons adaptable to mass destruction. This amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the tripartite draft resolution at the 470th meeting.

20. At the 470th meeting on 18 December, Czechoslovakia submitted an amendment (A/C.1/683) to the tripartite draft resolution providing for:

- (a) The deletion of the first four paragraphs of the preamble;
- (b) The deletion of paragraphs 3 to 10 inclusive of the operative part;
- (c) The addition of a new paragraph to the operative part providing for the transmission to the proposed Commission for its consideration of the tripartite draft resolution (A/C.1/667/Rev.1) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments (A/C.1/668/Rev.2).

21. The discussion of the two items was concluded at the 470th meeting.

At its 471st meeting on 19 December, the Committee proceeded to vote on the resolutions and the amendments submitted.

22. The proposal by the representative of Poland to vote first on the Polish draft resolution (A/C.1/680) had been rejected at the 470th meeting by 39 votes to 6, with 13 abstentions. The tripartite draft resolution (A/C.1/667/Rev.1) and the amendments thereto were voted upon first with the following results:

The first paragraph of the preamble, incorporating the first Lebanese amendment, was adopted by 37 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The first paragraph of the Czechoslovak amendment was rejected by 34 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 of the Lebanese amendments was adopted by 27 votes to none, with 27 abstentions.

The second paragraph of the preamble incorporating the Lebanese amendment was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Paragraph I of the Egyptian amendment was rejected by 35 votes to 14, with 5 abstentions.

The third paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 41 votes to none, with 14 abstentions.

In paragraph I of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments, the first three lines of the proposed text beginning with "Recognizing"...and ending with "prohibition", were rejected by 40 votes to 11, with 6 abstentions. The remainder of the paragraph was rejected by 40 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

The fourth paragraph of the preamble, incorporating the Peruvian amendment, was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

The fifth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

The sixth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 50 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 of the Egyptian amendment to the operative part was withdrawn by the representative of Egypt and immediately reintroduced by the representative of Poland. It was rejected by 39 votes to 9, with 9 abstentions.

The first part of paragraph 2 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 42 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions. The second part of paragraph 2 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 39 votes to 5, with 13 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 of the Lebanese amendment, to call the proposed commission the "Disarmament Commission" throughout the draft resolution, was adopted by 13 votes to 12, with 33 abstentions.

Paragraph 1 of the operative part, as amended, was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 of the operative part was adopted by 51 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 36 votes to 7, with 15 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 of the Czechoslovak amendments was rejected by 40 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 of the Czechoslovak amendments was rejected by 42 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 38 votes to 6, with 14 abstentions.

The introduction to paragraph 3 of the operative part, incorporating the Peruvian amendment, was adopted by 45 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 3 of the operative part was adopted by 42 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 3 of the operative part was adopted by 42 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 3 of the operative part was adopted by 41 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 3 of the operative part was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (e) of paragraph 3 of the operative part was adopted by 43 votes to none, with 15 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 42 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions.

Paragraph 6 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 44 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 of the operative part was adopted by 44 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 of the operative part was adopted by 44 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 7 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 41 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

Paragraph 6 of the operative part, incorporating the Yugoslav amendment, was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 8 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 43 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

Paragraph 7 of the operative part was adopted by 43 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions.

The first part of paragraph 9 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 37 votes to 7, with 11 abstentions.

The second part of paragraph 9 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 41 votes to 5, with 12 abstentions.

Paragraph 8 of the operative part was adopted by 45 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions.

Paragraph 10 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics amendments was rejected by 43 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 9 of the operative part was adopted by 44 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 10 of the operative part was adopted by 45 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 44 to 5, with 10 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: Byelorussia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republics, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Argentina, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi-Arabia, Syria, Yemen.

23. The draft resolution submitted by Poland (A/C.1/680) was rejected by 38 votes to 6, with 10 abstentions.

24. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

REGULATION, LIMITATION AND BALANCED REDUCTION OF  
ALL ARMED FORCES AND ALL ARMAMENTS

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY: REPORT OF  
THE COMMITTEE OF TWELVE (ESTABLISHED BY  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 496(V))

The General Assembly,

Moved by anxiety at the general lack of confidence plaguing the world and leading to the burden of increasing armaments and the fear of war,

Desiring to lift from the peoples of the world this burden and this fear, and thus to liberate new energies and resources for positive programmes of reconstruction and development,

Reaffirming its desire that the United Nations develop an effective collective security system to maintain the peace and that the armed forces and armaments of the world be progressively reduced in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the Charter,

Believing that a necessary means to this end is the development by the United Nations of comprehensive and co-ordinated plans, under international control, for the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, for the elimination of all major weapons adaptable to mass destruction, and for the effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only,

Recognizing that a genuine system for disarmament must include all kinds of armed forces and armaments; must be accepted by all nations whose military resources are such that their failure to accept would endanger the system, and must include safeguards that will ensure the compliance of all such nations,

Noting the recommendation of the Committee of Twelve established by resolution 496 (V) that the General Assembly should establish a new commission to carry forward the tasks originally assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments,

1. Establishes under the Security Council a Disarmament Commission. This Commission shall have the same membership as the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, and shall function under the rules of procedure of the Atomic Energy Commission with such modifications as the Commission shall deem necessary;

/2. Dissolves

2. Dissolves the Atomic Energy Commission and recommends to the Security Council that it dissolve the Commission for Conventional Armaments;

3. Directs the Disarmament Commission to prepare proposals to be embodied in a draft treaty (or treaties) for the regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, for the elimination of all major weapons adaptable to mass destruction, and for effective international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only. The Commission shall be guided by the following principles:

(a) In a system of guaranteed disarmament there must be progressive disclosure and verification on a continuing basis of all armed forces - including para-military, security and police forces - and all armaments including atomic;

(b) Such verification must be based on effective international inspection to ensure the adequacy and accuracy of the information disclosed; this inspection to be carried out in accordance with the decisions of the international control organ (or organs) to be established;

(c) The Commission shall be ready to consider any proposals or plans for control that may be put forward involving either conventional armaments or atomic energy. Unless a better or no less effective system is devised, the United Nations plan for the international control of atomic energy and the prohibition of atomic weapons should continue to serve as the basis for the international control of atomic energy to ensure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only;

(d) There must be an adequate system of safeguards to ensure observance of the disarmament programme, so as to provide for the prompt detection of violations while at the same time causing the minimum degree of interference in the internal life of each country;

(e) The treaty (or treaties) shall specifically be open to all states for signature and ratification or adherence. The treaty (or treaties) shall provide what States must become parties thereto before the treaty (or treaties) shall enter into force;

4. Directs the Commission, when preparing the proposals referred to in the preceding paragraph, to formulate plans for the establishment within the framework of the Security Council of an international control organ (or organs) to ensure the implementation of the treaty (or treaties). The functions and powers of the  
/control



control organ (or organs) shall be defined in the treaty which establishes it;

5. Directs the Commission, in preparing the proposals referred to in paragraph 3 above, to consider from the out-set plans for progressive and continuing disclosure and verification, the implementation of which is recognized as a first and indispensable step in carrying out the disarmament programme envisaged in the present resolution;

6. Directs the Commission, in working out plans for the regulation, limitation, and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments,

(a) To determine how overall limits and restrictions on all armed forces and all armaments can be calculated and fixed;

(b) To consider methods according to which States can agree by negotiation among themselves, under the auspices of the Commission, concerning the determination of the overall limits and restrictions referred to in sub-paragraph (a) above and the allocation within their respective national military establishments of the permitted national armed forces and armaments;

7. Directs the Commission to commence its work not later than thirty days from the adoption of this resolution and to report periodically, for information, to the Security Council and to the General Assembly, or to the Members of the United Nations when the General Assembly is not in session. The Commission shall submit its first report not later than 1 June 1952;

8. Declares that a conference of all States should be convened to consider the proposals for a draft treaty (or treaties) prepared by the Commission as soon as the work of the Commission shall have progressed to a point where in the judgment of the Commission any part of its programme is ready for submission to governments;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to convene such a conference when so advised by the Commission;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to furnish such experts, staff and facilities as the Commission may consider necessary for the effective accomplishment of the purposes of the present resolution.