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New York

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 35th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. MROZIEWICZ

(Poland)

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In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Alpman (Turkey) took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 11.55 a.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 47 TO 65 (continued)

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS UNDER ALL DISARMAMENT AGENDA ITEMS

The CHAIRMAN: I apologize for the late beginning of this morning's meeting. It was due to the extensive consultations on certain of the remaining draft resolutions. Earlier it had been the Committee's intention to take action this morning on at least eight of these texts, but I have been apprised of ongoing consultations on a number of draft resolutions, and an appeal has been made to postpone action on the ones concerned until tomorrow. Accordingly, the Committee is in a position this morning to take action only on three draft resolutions, which means that some 9 or 10 draft resolutions remain to be acted on. I therefore urge delegations to conclude their consultations and submit any further revisions as early today as possible; otherwise it will be difficult to meet tomorrow's deadline for the conclusion of this phase of our work.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): I would like to inform the Committee that the following countries have become co-sponsors of the following draft resolutions:

A/C.1/46/L.18/Rev.1: Australia, Belarus, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Panama and Rwanda; and

A/C.1/46/L.34: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Kuwait, Samoa, Ukraine, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

The CHAIRMAN: This morning the Committee will take action on the following draft resolutions:

In cluster 3: A/C.1/46/L.11,

In cluster 6: A/C.1/46/L.6, and

In cluster 8: A/C.1/46/L.34.

I call on the representative of the Netherlands to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.18/Rev.1.

Mr. WAGENMAKERS (Netherlands): When the Twelve and Japan first proposed draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11, on a register of arms transfers, they had an objective and they proposed an instrument. The objective was greater transparency as a means of enhancing security, drawing the appropriate lessons from the invasion of Kuwait. The instrument was a register of arms transfers under the auspices of the United Nations. The proposal that we brought to this Committee was already the result of a process of consultations with a wide range of States Members of the United Nations and was intended to implement the principal recommendations of the Secretary-General's Group of Experts on this subject. For the objective - the promotion of transparency in armaments - we found broad support. The same is true for our conviction that the United Nations is the organization best suited for the achievement of this objective. But we also came to understand that more and wider concerns had to be addressed than simply the question of international arms transfers. It became evident that the scope of the draft resolution had to be enlarged.

(Mr. Wagenmakers, Netherlands)

This is why we continued the consultations with a wide range of delegations and why we engaged in negotiations with representatives of the non-aligned group. These negotiations have been intensive, substantive and productive. From these negotiations emerged the common recognition that the international community has a clear responsibility to deal with the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of conventional arms. The associated problems affect countries large and small in all parts of the world.

We also recognized that this question had multiple facets: transfers, production and stocks, and that these aspects are interrelated. Nor, if one is to deal with the problem in a comprehensive manner, can one ignore the relationship between the transfer of high technology with military applications and that of weapons of mass destruction.

It is against this background and to answer the concerns expressed to us that we designed the revised version of our draft resolution, which I have the honour today to introduce, on behalf of 33 sponsors, as document A/C.1/46/L.18/Rev.1.

This new text contains the following elements: first, a decision to establish a register of conventional arms, with a technical panel to work out the procedures necessary for its effective operation. Representatives will note that the title of the register now encompasses conventional arms, and no longer exclusively international arms transfers.

This register is to be built on two main pillars: data on imports and exports of arms; and available background information regarding military holdings, procurement through national production, and relevant policies. At this point, parenthetically, I should point out that we use the term "holdings" as the Secretary-General did in his report, although we would have used the word "stockpile", which has an identical meaning.

(Mr. Wagenmakers, Netherlands)

Secondly, we addressed the concern that the register should not be static, but should at an early date be further developed to take account of additional forms of data, particularly with regard to holdings and national production, and of other categories of armaments.

For this reason we have provided a mechanism to keep the register under review. In particular, over the next two years, Member States are requested to give their views on the register and its expansion. In the meantime, Member States are also invited to take measures on a national, regional and global basis, to promote openness and transparency in armaments.

In parallel with this action by Member States, the Conference on Disarmament is requested to address the question of the interrelated aspects of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms, including military holdings and procurement through national production, and to elaborate universal and non-discriminatory practical means to increase openness and transparency in this field. The Conference on Disarmament is further requested to address the problems of openness and transparency related to the transfer of high technology with military applications and to weapons of mass destruction.

Then, in just over two years from now, at the beginning of 1994, a group of governmental experts will meet to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the register and its further development, with a view to a decision that same year by the General Assembly. All this demonstrates our commitment to the early development of a comprehensive register.

It is our considered view that draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.18/Rev.1 allows the United Nations to take an immediate practical step in the direction of enhanced security through greater transparency in armaments. At the same time it maps out a plan of action to achieve even broader objectives.

(Mr. Wagenmakers, Netherlands)

The general public in all our countries is looking to the United Nations, and that means to us as members of this First Committee, to provide answers to the problems that have been made palpably evident in the past 12 months. This draft resolution offers a practical step forward, but only if there is a collective will to adopt it and to implement it in full.

We urge all delegations to add their voice to make this endeavour universal, so that the United Nations can be seen acting, truly united, with its renewed authority to enhance the security of all its Member States.

Mr. MARIN BOSCH (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): On behalf of the sponsors of the draft decision in document A/C.1/46/L.43, on the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), and its two Additional Protocols, I would like to inform the Committee that we will not insist - I repeat, we will not insist - that the First Committee take a decision in this connection. I would like to add that the withdrawal of this draft decision does not in any way affect our right to have this item placed on the provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly at a later stage.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations wishing to make statements other than in explanation of their position on the draft resolutions in cluster 3.

Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) (interpretation from Spanish): I am grateful for the opportunity to speak in order to add a few considerations to the introduction that I provided some days ago to draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34, entitled "Education and information for disarmament", so that there may be a better understanding of our intention, the main objective of which is to cooperate with the United Nations in the promotion of disarmament by one of the means that we consider to be highly fitting: education for disarmament.

I am very pleased at this time to inform the Committee that the following countries have joined the original sponsors of the text: Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, India, Ireland, Kuwait, Peru, Samoa, the Soviet Union, Spain, Togo, Uruguay, Ukraine, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

As I have already said, our draft resolution is a follow-up on resolution 44/123 adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1989. We have included in the text of our draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34 many of the paragraphs of the earlier resolution, but this draft resolution is not - and should not - be a carbon copy of the earlier one. This is why we retained the second, third and fourth preambular paragraphs as they refer to the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, as regards the objectives of education and information for disarmament and the World Disarmament Campaign. We have included the fifth and sixth preambular paragraphs and the corresponding paragraph 3, which reflect the current political situation and not the one that existed two years ago. We have taken an approach consistent with this new situation rather than retaining those that prevailed during the period of the cold war.

(Mrs. Castro de Barish
Costa Rica)

For example, today it is important and desirable in the context of disarmament, and particularly in that of education and information for disarmament, to mention here the promotion of freedom, democracy, respect for and enjoyment of human rights, and disarmament and social and economic development, as well as the objective of changing basic attitudes about violence, aggression, armaments and war.

In this connection, I believe it is relevant to recall here the statement made by the representative of Chile before the Committee when he said:

"The real peace dividend is a political, intellectual and cultural one. The main benefit should be our own capacity to think with open minds, on the basis of up-to-date criteria, about the problems of peace and security." (A/C.1/46/PV.3, p. 71)

I should like to conclude by reiterating our hope that draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34 will be supported by the members of the First Committee and that it can be adopted without a vote. However, if a vote proves necessary, I should like to request that it be recorded.

The CHAIRMAN: As no representatives wish to explain their votes before the voting, the Committee will now take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11, in cluster 3.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11 has 22 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Canada at the 30th meeting of the First Committee, on 7 November 1991. The sponsors of the draft resolution are as follows: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark

(Mr. Kheradi)

Finland, Indonesia, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Romania, Samoa, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Uruguay.

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee will now vote on draft resolution

A/C.1/46/L.11. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe

Against:

France, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, China, India, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The draft resolution was adopted by 130 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations wishing to explain their vote after the voting.

Mr. JAIN (India): I have asked to speak in order to explain why my delegation has been constrained to abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11, entitled "Prohibition of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes".

Paragraph 16 of the Final Document adopted by consensus in 1978 at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament clearly sets out the stages of the process of nuclear disarmament. We recognize that the purpose of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11 is laudable. However, the partial approach it takes is not in conformity with the Final Document, which correctly sets the issue in its totality. We believe that there should be a simultaneous stoppage in the production of nuclear weapons and all fissionable material for weapons purposes. Only with such a total approach can we introduce a universal, equitable and non-discriminatory system of international safeguards on all nuclear facilities. In our view, draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.19 on this subject, already recommended by the First Committee, is far more in conformity with the goals set out in the Final Document.

Mr. BRECKON (United States of America): The United States wishes to explain its vote against draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.11, entitled "Prohibition of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes".

The United States does not accept the basic premise of this draft resolution. None the less, ever since such draft resolutions were introduced, the United States abstained in the voting rather than opposed them. It did so in prior years mainly because these draft resolutions had not called for

(Mr. Breckon, United States)

immediate action on this issue. Regrettably, the draft resolution before us today differs in this respect from its predecessors. The United States does not believe that it would be productive for the Conference on Disarmament to engage in active consideration of this issue at the current stage of the arms control process and has thus voted against the draft resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Before the Committee proceeds to take decisions on the draft resolutions contained in cluster 6, I shall call on those delegations wishing to introduce draft resolutions.

Mr. BILOA TANG (Cameroon) (interpretation from French): In my statement on 26 October in the general debate on all items relating to disarmament, like a number of other representatives, I noted with satisfaction the fact that recent initiatives have given a new dynamic to the disarmament process which had for many decades evolved at a very slow pace.

Now that States are showing greater political will in keeping with the current climate of international detente, the promotion of international peace and security should be accelerated in the interest of all.

This is certainly a question to which Cameroon and its Central African neighbours attach a great deal of importance. In fact, no country in the subregion is an arms producer; however, some countries in Central Africa have experienced or are experiencing situations that have degenerated or could have triggered conflict. Hence, at a time when the capacity and the role of the United Nations is being increasingly affirmed in promoting and maintaining peace, we in Central Africa are more convinced than ever that it is under the auspices of our Organization that real and effective collective security should be sought. Negotiations under way in our Committee on the establishment in the United Nations of a universal and non-discriminatory

(Mr. Biloua Tang, Cameroon)

register on conventional arms transfers reflect the interest that all States now have in seeing the United Nations increasingly involved in the disarmament process.

It is in this spirit that, on the initiative of Cameroon, the countries members of the Economic Community of Central African States have taken a number of steps towards establishing a climate of confidence in the subregion. In 1988 a meeting of experts was held at the United Nations African Regional Centre for Disarmament in Lomé, Togo. This year a seminar/workshop was held in Yaoundé under the auspices of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and with the cooperation of the Cameroon Government. Representatives of the 10 countries members of the Economic Community of Central African States attended and adopted the recommendations contained in document A/46/307. One of these important recommendations, the creation under United Nations auspices of a standing advisory committee responsible for security questions in the subregion, is the subject of the draft resolution I have the honour to introduce on behalf of the following countries members of the Economic Community of Central African States: Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Zaire, and my own country, Cameroon.

The draft resolution is contained in document A/C.1/46/L.6; it reflects the commitment of all the States of the subregion to live in peace in order to dedicate themselves to the economic and social development of their peoples. It is consistent with the resolutions already adopted by the General Assembly on confidence-building and regional disarmament measures, in other words resolutions 43/78 H, 43/85, 44/245 and 45/58 M.

(Mr. Bilou Tang, Cameroon)

In operative paragraph 3, the General Assembly

"Thanks the Secretary-General for his contribution to the Yaoundé seminar-workshop and requests him to continue providing assistance to the Central African States in implementing the recommendations and conclusions set forth in the Final Document of the seminar-workshop, by, for example, establishing the standing advisory committee on security questions in Central Africa".

(Mr. Biloa Tang, Cameroon)

The Secretary-General is also requested, in consultation with the countries of the subregion, to convene an organizational meeting in the relatively near future in order to establish the modalities for the functioning of the standing advisory committee.

We believe that the ideas contained in document A/46/307, together with all the other contributions, including those of countries that already have experience in the field of regional disarmament, could be examined during that organizational session, with a view to developing the future programme of work of the standing advisory committee. Such a meeting could also make it possible to determine the different stages that will be involved in the establishment of a programme of global security for the subregion.

The Economic Community of Central African States has a membership of 10 countries, with a population of about 60 million. Those countries are more determined than ever to work for peace, and we believe that the General Assembly should encourage them in that endeavour.

While reaffirming our appreciation for the understanding and cooperation that so many delegations have shown in the course of the consultations we have conducted in order to arrive at a compromise text, we hope that draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6 will be adopted by consensus, especially since, according to indications obtained from the Secretary-General, the draft resolution has no financial implications for the regular budget. The Government of Cameroon, for its part, will make its contribution in order to facilitate the proper functioning of the centre.

I should like to point out some changes which we have made in the text at the request of certain delegations. In the third preambular paragraph, as I said during my statement, we deleted the reference to resolution 45/58 P. In

(Mr. Bilou Tang, Cameroon)

paragraph 1, for the sake of clarity, we wish to add the words "in Central Africa" after the words "subregional levels".

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations wishing to make statements other than explanations of their positions on draft resolutions in Cluster 3.

I see none. I shall now call on those delegations wishing to explain their positions before a decision is taken on draft resolutions in Cluster 3.

I see none. We shall now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6 as orally amended.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee, who wishes to make a statement.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, which has been orally amended, has eight sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Cameroon at this meeting of the First Committee. The sponsors are listed as follows: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Gabon, Rwanda and Zaire.

In connection with draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, I wish to read a note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under that draft resolution. However, before doing so, I wish to point out that owing to an oversight in the Secretariat's technical services a preliminary version of a draft concerning the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6 was processed and inadvertently given limited distribution. The technical services have assured the substantive Secretariat that no further distribution of the document will take place. It is accordingly understood that no official document has been issued with respect to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, and the preliminary version that received limited distribution is null and void.

(Mr. Kheradi)

I shall now proceed to read into the official record the note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6. The text of the note reads as follows:

"In order to implement the activities required by operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, the Secretary-General will provide assistance in holding the organizational meeting of the standing advisory committee on security questions in Central Africa for five days in early 1992 in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The related requirements are estimated at 90,000 dollars. The Secretary-General will endeavour to cover these costs from extrabudgetary resources. Therefore, no additional appropriation would be required under Section 5 (Disarmament) of the proposed Programme Budget for the biennium 1992-1993."

The CHAIRMAN: The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that the draft resolution should be adopted by the Committee without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, as orally amended, was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations wishing to explain their positions after a decision has been taken on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, listed in Cluster 3.

Mr. DONOWAKI (Japan): My delegation welcomes the adoption without a vote of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6 and its introduction by the distinguished representative of Cameroon. The useful and constructive efforts in this field by the countries concerned in Central Africa are indeed valuable.

(Mr. Donowaki, Japan)

However, on the question of regional disarmament in general and that of confidence-building measures, I wish to place Japan's position on the record. That position would also apply to the resolution in document A/C.1/46/L.32, adopted on 12 November 1991.

When we consider the possible applicability of confidence-building measures in any particular region, we must first give serious thought, not in abstract but in specific terms, to what concrete actions will be necessary in order to reduce and eliminate mutual distrust among the nations concerned. In East Asia in particular, there still remain a number of issues and sources of tension, such as territorial issues and ongoing regional conflicts. Therefore we ought first to make steady efforts to enhance mutual confidence among the nations concerned by solving those issues and conflicts one by one. It will be through such efforts that we may bring about enhanced mutual confidence among the nations in the region, paving the way in turn for applying some of the European region's experiences with confidence-building and security-building measures.

Mr. BRECKON (United States): The United States has asked to speak in order to explain its position regarding draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, "Regional confidence-building measures."

While we support the concept of regional confidence-building measures, we are obliged to consider the financial implications of this initiative, as well as of all others. We are able to join in the consensus concerning this resolution on the basis, made clear before its adoption, that the activities of the standing advisory committee on security questions will be financed through extrabudgetary funding. However, the advisory committee, in our view, is clearly intended to continue in existence beyond its initial meeting. We

(Mr. Breckon, United States

remain concerned that no provision has been made for its continued funding. The United States is opposed and will strongly object to any initiative in the future to seek funding of that committee from the United Nations regular budget. We firmly believe that the costs of these measures should be borne by the participants themselves or through voluntary contributions rather than by assessments on all States Members of the United Nations.

Mr. KENYON (United Kingdom): I speak on behalf of the delegations of Belgium and the United Kingdom.

Our delegations were pleased to join in the consensus on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.6, "Regional confidence-building measures". We note from the statement of the Secretary that extrabudgetary resources will be used for convening the organizational meeting of the standing advisory committee and that therefore no additional appropriation will be required under section 5 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Our two delegations would like to make it clear that if any follow-up to the organizational meeting were to be proposed, we would consider that to be a perennial activity for which provision is already made in section 5 of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34, listed in cluster 8. I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34 has 29 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Costa Rica at the 29th meeting of the First Committee, on 6 November 1991. The sponsors of the draft resolution are as follows: Bolivia, Benin, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic,

(Mr. Kheradī)

Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Ireland, Kuwait, Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Ukraine, Venezuela, Togo, Uruguay, Samoa, Spain, Zaire and Zimbabwe.

The CHAIRMAN: The sponsors of this draft resolution have expressed the wish that it should be adopted by the Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly?

Draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on those delegations wishing to explain their positions after the decision taken on draft resolution L.34 in cluster 8.

Mr. BRECKON (United States): The United States has asked to speak in order to explain its position on draft resolution L.34, entitled "Education and Information for Disarmament".

Had the draft resolution been put to the vote, the United States would have abstained, in view of our concerns regarding several of its paragraphs. For instance, we do not deem it appropriate to request States to provide for mechanisms to mobilize world public opinion on behalf of disarmament, including the dissemination of information and publicity to complement educational work. Nor does the United States agree that one of our preoccupations should be publicity for the Final Document of the First Special Session on Disarmament, as suggested in one of the preambular paragraphs. While supporting the general concept of openness and transparency, we cannot accept the idea that Governments should be mandated to dictate educational content. Furthermore, the United States is opposed to involving United Nations specialized agencies in matters not within their mandates.

(Mr. Breckon, United States)

Nevertheless, given the overall spirit and motivation with which the sponsors put forward the draft resolution, the United States has decided to go along with the consensus on draft resolution L.34.

Mr. KENYON (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom delegation would like to state that while it was happy to join in the consensus on draft resolution L.34, it shares most of the views just expressed by the delegation of the United States of America.

Mr. ERRERA (France) (interpretation from French): My delegation has asked for the floor in order to explain its position on draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34, entitled "Education and information for disarmament". My delegation decided to join in the consensus on this draft resolution in order to show its interest in the efforts undertaken by the international community to promote disarmament by using all the means available, including education.

My delegation would like to stress, however, that our acceptance of the general objective can in no way affect our national prerogatives in terms of education. Like the co-sponsors of the draft resolution, we feel that education and information are useful elements in promoting disarmament; but they are just two instruments among others. Their use cannot provide a global solution. It is up to each State, therefore, to define the types of action it plans to take to achieve this objective, while respecting the principles of freedom of thought and expression, which are the very foundation of pluralistic democracy.

Mr. LIU JIEYI (China) (interpretation from Chinese): China has always supported and participated in the activities of the World Disarmament Campaign aimed at informing and educating the public and generating understanding of the goals of disarmament. The Chinese delegation agrees to the main concept of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.34, entitled "Education and information for disarmament", and therefore decided to join in the consensus, although it has reservations on certain parts of it.

Mr. NDIAYE (Gabon) (interpretation from French): I have the honour to announce that draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.42/Rev.1 will be revised as follows. First, Gabon will sponsor it on behalf of the African Group; secondly, we will add a tenth preambular paragraph to read as follows:

(Mr. Ndiaye, Gabon)

"Concerned about the transfer of nuclear missile technology to South Africa by a certain State commonly known for its collaboration with South Africa";

thirdly, in the operative part we will add a new paragraph 3 to read as follows:

"Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions and individuals not to engage in collaboration with South Africa that may lead it to violate its commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its safeguard agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency".

Mr. OWOSENI (Nigeria): The African Group has asked me to introduce the following amendments to draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.40, entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes". These amendments, which are mainly technical, came up as a result of the African Group's consultations with other groups and interested delegations over the past two weeks. The purpose of this introduction at this stage is to afford all delegations the opportunity to know these amendments in advance, before the draft resolution itself is issued tomorrow as A/C.1/46/L.40/Rev.1. The new text has already been submitted to the Secretariat of our Committee. Permit me to say that the new text under A/C.1/46/L.40/Rev.1 will be formally introduced tomorrow, Friday, 15 November, by Gabon, Chairman of our Group for the month, on behalf of the sponsors. I therefore crave your indulgence as I read out the changes involved.

A new third preambular paragraph will be inserted in the old text. It will read as follows:

(Mr. Owoseni, Nigeria)

"Welcoming also resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Wastes adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session". The previous third preambular paragraph will now become the fourth and the following paragraphs will be renumbered.

Operative paragraph 1 will be replaced by the following:

"Takes note of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons".

Operative paragraph 4 will be replaced by a new operative paragraph 4 which will read as follows:

"Requests the Conference on Disarmament to take into account in the ongoing negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons and radiological waste as part of the scope of such a convention".

The new operative paragraph 5 will be the previous operative paragraph 8, which will remain unchanged. This is to synchronize with the new operative paragraph 4 I have just read out. The old operative paragraph 5 will now become operative paragraph 6 in the new text.

There will be a new operative paragraph 7 which will affect the existing operative paragraph 6 as it is. The new operative paragraph 7 will read as follows:

"Expresses the hope that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Wastes will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories".

(Mr. Owoseni, Nigeria)

The existing operative paragraph 8 will be replaced by a new text, reading as follows:

"Requests the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue keeping the subject under active review, including the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument in this field".

Operative paragraph 9 will remain the same.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The CHAIRMAN: As has been requested, the revised versions of draft resolutions A/C.1/46/L.42/Rev.1 and L.40 will be issued tomorrow in documents A/C.1/46/L.42/Rev.2 and A/C.1/46/L.40/Rev.1 respectively. Consequently, the Committee will tomorrow take action on all the remaining draft resolutions: in cluster 2, draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.40/Rev.1; in cluster 3, draft resolutions A/C.1/46/L.31/Rev.1 and L.37; in cluster 4, draft resolutions A/C.1/46/L.24/Rev.1, L.41 and L.42/Rev.2; in cluster 6, draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.14; and in cluster 7, draft resolutions A/C.1/46/L.18/Rev.1 and L.23/Rev.1.

I should like to remind members of the Committee that on Monday, 18 November, in accordance with the programme of work and timetable, the Committee will begin its general debate on agenda item 66, "Question of Antarctica". I should also like to remind members that the list of speakers will be closed on Monday, 18 November, at noon. I appeal to representatives who would like to speak on this item to have their names added to the list of speakers as soon as possible so that the Committee's time and resources may be put to the best use.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.