

**CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE
ON DISARMAMENT**

ENDC/PV.305
15 June 1967
ENGLISH

FINAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations; Geneva,
on Thursday, 15 June 1967, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman:

Sir Harold BEELEY (United Kingdom)

GE.67-10776

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Brazil:

Mr. A.F. AZEREDO da SILVEIRA

Mr. C.A. de SOUZA e SILVA

Mr. S. de QUEIROZ DUARTE

Bulgaria:

Mr. K. CHRISTOV

Mr. B. KONSTANTINOV

Mr. T. DAMIANOV

Mr. D. KOSTOV

Burma:

U MAUNG MAUNG

U KYAW MIN

Canada:

Mr. E.L.M. BURNS

Mr. C.J. MARSHALL

Mr. J.R. MORDEN

Czechoslovakia:

Mr. V. VAJNAR

Ethiopia:

Mr. B. ASSFAW

India:

Mr. V.C. TRIVEDI

Mr. K.P. JAIN

Italy:

Mr. F. CAVELLETTI

Mr. G.P. TOZZOLI

Mr. E. FRANCO

Mr. F. SORO

Mexico:

Mr. J. CASTENEDA

Miss E. AGUIRRE

Mr. F. CORREA

Nigeria:

Alhaji SULE KOLO

Mr. B.O. TONWE

Poland:

Mr. M. BLUSZTAJN

Mr. J. GOLDBLAT

Mr. E. STANIEWSKI

Romania:

Mr. N. ECOBESCO

Mr. C. GEORGESCO

Mr. A. COROIANU

Mr. M. BUHOARA

Sweden:

Mr. A. EDELSTAM

Mr. R. BOMAN

Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics:

Mr. A. A. ROSHCHIN

Mr. V.P. SUSLOV

Mr. R.M. TIMBERBAIEV

Mr. I.M. PALENYKH

United Arab Republic:

Mr. A. OSMAN

Mr. A.A. SALAM

United Kingdom:

Sir Harold BEELEY

Mr. I.F. PORTER

Mr. R.I.T. CROMARTIE

United States of America:

Mr. W.C. FOSTER

Mr. G. BUNN

Mr. C.G. BREAM

Mr. C. GLEYSTEN

Special Representative of the
Secretary-General:

Mr. D. PROTITCH

Deputy Special Representative
of the Secretary-General:

Mr. W. EPSTEIN

1. The CHAIRMAN (United Kingdom): I declare open the 305th plenary meeting of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament.
2. Mr. CAVALLETTI (Italy), (translation from French): The Italian delegation has followed with the greatest interest the debate during the Committee's present session, which has continued to give, among all the problems on its agenda, very special priority to non-proliferation.
3. I should like to refer particularly to the tone of our debate. Despite international difficulties, the exchange of views has taken place in a completely relaxed and, in several respects, improved atmosphere. The sterile polemical positions sometimes adopted in the past have been set aside. That is a positive factor which clearly shows an increased and generalized goodwill and should facilitate the progress of our negotiations by giving them an increasingly constructive character.
4. It is in this favourable climate that our Committee, during this session and the preceding one, has heard a number of well-thought-out, searching and constructive statements on non-proliferation. Some very interesting considerations have been developed both by the delegations of the nuclear countries and by numerous delegations of the non-nuclear countries. These redoubled efforts, these exchanges of views with the active participation of the representatives of the non-nuclear countries have, in our opinion, a very particular usefulness at the present time -- a time which, as was pointed out by the representative of Mexico at our meeting of 13 June (ENDC/PV.304, para.3), could be decisive for the solution of the problem of non-proliferation.
5. We know that our co-Chairmen are engaged at present in a prolonged and delicate negotiation with a view to preparing a joint draft of a non-proliferation treaty. The efforts which the two co-Chairmen are now making in order to reach agreement on this draft are very praiseworthy and must be encouraged. We, on our part, must offer them our co-operation frankly and loyally. Nothing will be more helpful to them than a clear and complete understanding of the points of view of all the delegations as revealed in the current debates. Such an understanding will certainly help to make the work of the co-Chairmen more effective by giving them specific guidelines.
6. The thorough knowledge of the different positions of the delegations will enable our co-Chairmen to submit a realistic draft which will take account of the objective difficulties and of the requirements of everyone by harmonizing them with the higher

(Mr. Cavalletti, Italy)

interest of world peace and security. Correspondence between the draft treaty and these requirements is very important, for it must not be forgotten that, as we have already pointed out in a previous statement, the number of accessions to the treaty depends upon these requirements being respected and that, furthermore, the effectiveness and value of the treaty depend upon the number of accessions. (ENDC/PV.289, paras. 14 and 15).

7. To this end and within this context, the Italian delegation, convinced of the necessity of concluding a non-proliferation treaty, has been at pains, since the beginning of our last session, to make its contribution by putting its suggestions clearly and frankly before this Committee. It was in its statement at our meeting on 28 February that the Italian delegation described the essential lines to which, in its opinion, a non-proliferation treaty should conform in order to be a genuine, just and effective treaty acceptable to everyone (*ibid*, paras. 13 and 14).

8. These principles were so fully explained during that statement that there is no need to revert to them. I should like to add, however, that much of what has since been said and debated, either here or elsewhere, has confirmed the soundness of our position and corroborated the ideas which we put forward.

9. The Italian Government, during the recess, had the opportunity of expounding its ideas on non-proliferation in talks with a number of highly placed persons. And, as Mr. Fanfani, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated on 22 May in the Chamber of Deputies, he had the satisfaction of noting:

"... that at Washington and at Moscow our remarks on non-proliferation were considered neither useless nor negative but, quite on the contrary, pertinent and constructive, so much so that we have received replies which have helped to improve the preliminary draft treaties in a number of respects, particularly as regards the connexion between non-proliferation and disarmament; on the one hand, and the connexion between non-proliferation and scientific and technological progress, on the other."

10. The interest which our ideas aroused during those bilateral talks finds, moreover, a corresponding note in the attitude which several delegations have shown here during our debates in regard to the problems raised by this delegation.

(Mr. Cavalletti, Italy)

11. At our meeting on 28 February, the Italian delegation, pursuing the line of ideas which led it to propose the moratorium (ENDC/157), stated, among other things, that the non proliferation treaty must be: "... the starting point for the process of halting the nuclear arms race and of controlling nuclear weapons pending their gradual elimination." (ENDC/PV.289, para. 17)

12. The idea of expressing in the treaty the necessity of a connexion between non-proliferation and disarmament has been developed by many delegations, so that it can be said that henceforth it is generally recognized as valid, indeed fundamental.

13. General agreement seems also to be asserting itself that the treaty must be a sure and effective means of arriving progressively at the establishment of a new and general situation, better for everyone, in which the nuclear and the non-nuclear countries could find the same security, the same dignity and the same guarantees of peace and progress.

14. The Italian delegation does not believe that at the present stage of our debates it is opportune to go into details or to suggest treaty language for the application of the principles which it has clearly set forth and which, it seems to me, have met with the support of a number of delegations. It will, of course, do so when the time comes. At present I merely wish to recall that these principles are, in our opinion, objectively legitimate and justified and that they correspond to the objectives which are essential for a non-proliferation treaty as we conceive it.

15. The Italian delegation earnestly expresses the hope that it will be possible for the two co-Chairmen to submit a joint draft treaty very shortly, and that that draft will prove to be in accordance with everyone's legitimate expectations and with the needs of security and peace. A joint outline of a treaty emanating from the two co-Chairmen would be a recommendation of great interest; it would be a first step towards a general agreement, a concrete starting point for multilateral negotiation in this Committee in which all the delegations would be invited to take part. Indeed, it is obvious that, while agreement between the big nuclear countries is essential, the assent and co-operation of the non-nuclear countries is no less so. Those who renounce nuclear weapons have, of course, the right freely to decide what is required for their own security, dignity and progress, having due regard to what is needed for the relaxation of tension, international co-operation and peace.

(Mr. Cavalletti, Italy)

16. During that negotiation the Committee will have also, of course, to abide by and apply the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on non-proliferation, which express the almost unanimous will of the countries of the world. Concordance between our deliberations and those of the General Assembly is essential in order to ensure the wide acceptance of the treaty which we believe to be necessary for its effectiveness.

17. The Italian delegation expresses the wish that this important work may be accomplished during the present session so that this Committee may be in a position to submit specific and positive conclusions to the twenty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly.

18. In his remarks to the Italian Parliament, to which I referred earlier, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, confirming once again our resolve to co-operate in the conclusion of a non-proliferation treaty that will be effective and acceptable to a large number of countries, recalled the present political value of such a treaty, as well as the connexion that exists between that treaty, on the one hand, and disarmament and the improvement of the international situation, on the other. He ended his statement by saying: "Now, more than ever, the maintenance of peace concerns us all and involves every human activity."

19. Those are my Government's sentiments and they will guide the Italian delegation in the task which we have before us, in order that a non-proliferation treaty may become a reality and be equitable, genuine and effective -- a true instrument of disarmament, security and progress for all.

The Conference decided to issue the following communiqué:

"The Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament today held its 305th plenary meeting in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Sir Harold Beeley, representative of the United Kingdom.

"A statement was made by the representative of Italy.

"The next meeting of the Conference will be held on Tuesday, 20 June 1967, at 10.30 a.m."

The meeting rose at 10.55 a.m.