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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Alemayehu MAKONNEN (Ethiopia)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-sixth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 35/146 A and B of 12 December 1980.
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 September 1981, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 7 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 39 to 56 and 128 and 135. The general debate on these items took place at the 3rd to 26th meetings, from 19 October to 4 November (see A/C.1/36/PV.3-26).
4. In connexion with item 45, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa (A/36/430).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.15

5. On 12 November, Algeria, Angola, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, the Sudan, the United Republic of Cameroon and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.15). which was subsequently sponsored also by Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chad, the Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Mozambique, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Zaire. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Nigeria at the 30th meeting, on 13 November.

6. At its 41st meeting, on 24 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.15 by a recorded vote of 108 to 4, with 9 abstentions (see para. 9, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

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

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

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.16

7. On 12 November, Algeria, Angola, Cape Verde, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, the Sudan, Togo, the United Republic of Cameroon and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.16) which was subsequently sponsored also by Benin, Burundi, Chad, the Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Zaire. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Nigeria at the 30th meeting on 13 November.

8. At its 41st meeting, on 24 November, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/36/L.16, as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 4 was adopted by a recorded vote of 101 to 6, with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

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

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden.

(b) The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a recorded vote of 113 to none, with 11 abstentions (see para. 9, draft resolution B). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa

A

Nuclear capability of South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/76 B of 11 December 1979 and 35/146 A of 12 December 1980,

/...

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa 1/ adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964,

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

Alarmed by the content and growing sophistication of South Africa's military and nuclear programme,

Alarmed also at the fact that South Africa's nuclear programme has enabled it to acquire nuclear-weapon capability enhanced by the continued support and collaboration which certain Western countries and Israel have given to it,

Noting with grave concern that South Africa's capacity to produce nuclear weapons has been established, inter alia by the content of its nuclear programme as well as by the report of the Secretary-General on South Africa's plan and capability in the nuclear field following the reported detonation by that country of a nuclear device on 22 September 1979, 2/ and the fact that it might indeed have acquired nuclear weapons,

Taking note of the report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 421 (1977) concerning the question of ways and means of making the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa more effective, as well as its report pursuant to Security Council resolution 473 (1980), 3/

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General of 9 September 1980 4/ as well as his report of 3 September 1981 5/ pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/146 A on the nuclear capability of South Africa,

Noting with concern that South Africa has persistently refused to conclude an adequate and comprehensive safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency with a view to preventing the diversion of nuclear materials from peaceful uses to the manufacture of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices,

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

2/ A/35/402 and Corr. 1.

3/ S/14179.

4/ A/35/402 and Corr. 1.

5/ A/36/430.

Gravely concerned that South Africa, in flagrant violation of the principles of international law and the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, has continued its military attacks against independent States of southern Africa, in particular Angola, and has increased its acts of subversion aimed at destabilizing those States,

Equally concerned that the acquisition of military equipment and nuclear-weapon capability by the racist régime of South Africa, with its abhorrent system of apartheid and its record of violence and aggression, poses a serious danger to international peace and security,

Recalling its decision taken at the tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, that the Security Council should take appropriate effective steps to prevent the frustration of the decision of the Organization of African Unity for the denuclearization of Africa, 6/

Expressing its indignation at the fact that some Western countries, by a ready recourse to the use of the veto, have continually frustrated every effort at the United Nations to deal with the question of South Africa,

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

2. Reaffirms that the racist régime's plans and capability in the nuclear field constitute a very grave danger to international peace and security and, in particular, jeopardize the security of African States and increase the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

3. Requests the Security Council to intensify its efforts to prohibit all forms of co-operation and collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field and, in particular, to institute effective enforcement action against that régime so as to prevent it from endangering international peace and security through its acquisition of nuclear weapons;

4. Calls upon all States, corporations, institutions and individuals to terminate forthwith all military and nuclear collaboration with the racist régime, including the provision to it of such related materials as computers, electronic equipments and related technology;

5. Demands that South Africa submit all its nuclear installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to follow closely South Africa's evolution in the nuclear field and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

6/ General Assembly resolution S-10/2, para. 63 (c).

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa".

B

Implementation of the Declaration

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo from 17 to 21 July 1964, 7/

Recalling its resolutions 1652 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 32/81 of 12 December 1977, 33/63 of 14 December 1978, 34/76 A of 11 December 1979 and 35/146 B of 12 December 1980, in which it called upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa, comprising the continental African States, Madagascar and other islands surrounding Africa, as a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

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

Reaffirming that the nuclear programme of the racist régime of South Africa constitutes a very grave danger to international peace and security and, in particular, jeopardizes the security of African States,

Noting with concern that South Africa has persistently refused to conclude adequate and comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency with a view to preventing the diversion of nuclear materials from peaceful uses to the manufacture of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices,

Taking note of the report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 421 (1977) concerning the question of South Africa 8/ on ways and means of making the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa more effective, in particular, its recommendation that all forms of nuclear collaboration with South Africa should cease, and the report of the International Conference on Sanctions against South Africa, held in Paris from 20 to 27 May 1981, 9/

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

8/ S/14179.

9/ A/CONF.107/8.

Gravely concerned over the possibility that South Africa has acquired nuclear weapons,

Convinced that the acquisition of such weapons by South Africa would endanger the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa as well as the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing its indignation that certain Western countries and Israel have continued to collaborate with South Africa in the nuclear field despite the risk of proliferation of nuclear weapons which the South African nuclear programme represents,

Recalling its decision taken at the tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, that the Security Council should take appropriate effective steps to prevent the frustration of the decision of the Organization of African Unity for the denuclearization of Africa, 10/

1. Once again reiterates its call upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa, comprising the continental African States, Madagascar and other islands surrounding Africa, as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;
2. Reaffirms that the nuclear programme of the racist régime of South Africa constitutes a very grave danger to international peace and security and, in particular, jeopardizes the security of African States and increases the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons;
3. Condemns any form of nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime of South Africa since such collaboration frustrates, inter alia, the objective of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Organization of African Unity to keep Africa a nuclear-weapon-free zone;
4. Calls upon such States, corporations, institutions and individuals, therefore, to terminate forthwith such military and nuclear collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa, including the provision to it of such related materials as computers, electronic equipments and related technology;
5. Requests the Security Council, in keeping with the recommendation of its Committee established by resolution 421 (1977) concerning the question of South Africa, to prohibit all forms of co-operation and collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the nuclear field;
6. Demands that South Africa submit all its nuclear installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

10/ General Assembly resolution S-10/2, para. 63 (c).

7. Requests the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance to the Organization of African Unity towards the realization of its solemn Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa".
