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Agenda item 50

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "World Disarmament Conference: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-sixth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/151 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, 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 50, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference; 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/36/28).

(b) Letter dated 30 September 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué of the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Headquarters on 25 and 28 September 1981, to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly (A/36/566-S/14713);

(c) Letter dated 5 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Havana from 15 to 23 September 1981 (A/36/584).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/36/L.27

5. On 16 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/36/L.27), subsequently sponsored also by Cuba, Madagascar, Mongolia, the Niger and Panama, which was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 36th meeting, on 19 November.

6. On 24 November, a statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution was circulated (A/C.1/36/L.57). The observations of the Committee on Conferences on the administrative implications of the draft resolution were also circulated (A/C.1/36/L.57/Add.1).

7. At its 44th meeting, on 25 November, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977, 33/69 of 14 December 1978, 34/81 of 11 December 1979 and 35/151 of 12 December 1980,

Reiterating its conviction that all peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

Stressing anew its conviction that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could provide the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, 1/

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling that, in its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980 on the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling further that the subject of the possible convening of a world disarmament conference has been included in the draft agenda for the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, to be held in 1982,

1. Notes with satisfaction that in its report to the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated, inter alia, the following:

"Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly may wish to decide that, after its second special session devoted to disarmament, a world disarmament conference would take place as soon as the necessary consensus on its convening has been reached"; 3/

2. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any possible relevant proposals and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of that Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/36/28), para. 16.

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament and to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".
