

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF
USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH
MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS
OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS
Geneva, 10-28 September 1979
Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA*

1. Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General or his representative
2. Organization of the Conference:
 - (a) Appointment of the President
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda
 - (c) Adoption of the rules of procedure
 - (d) Appointment of officers other than the President
 - (e) Appointment of members of subsidiary organs
 - (f) Credentials of representatives
 - (g) Organization of work
3. Consideration of prohibitions or restrictions of use of certain conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects
4. Adoption of the Final Document of the Conference
5. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly

* The Preparatory Conference, in paragraph 41 of its report to the Conference (A/CONF.95/3), recommended that the Conference adopt the provisional agenda reproduced in the present document.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

These annotations were prepared by the Secretary-General under his responsibility to undertake the necessary preparations for the holding of the Conference pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 33/70. 1/ The following paragraphs are keyed to the items of the provisional agenda.

1. Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General or his representative

The Conference will be opened by the Secretary-General or his representative. In accordance with established practice, he will call for the observance of a minute of silent prayer or meditation.

2. Organization of the Conference

(a) Appointment of the President

The President of the Conference is to be appointed pursuant to rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.95/2).

(b) Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda recommended by the Preparatory Conference (A/CONF.95/1) constitutes the draft of the agenda that the Conference is to consider for adoption.

(c) Adoption of the rules of procedure

The provisional rules of procedure recommended by the Preparatory Conference (A/CONF.95/2) are to constitute the draft of the definitive rules to be considered by the Conference.

(d) Appointment of officers other than the President

Pursuant to rule 6, the Conference is to appoint 11 Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. These officers, who together with the President constitute the General Committee, are to be appointed so as to ensure the representative character of that Committee.

(e) Appointment of members of subsidiary organs

- (i) Under paragraph 1 of rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference is to appoint, on the proposal of the President, five members of the Credentials Committee.

1/ The operative part of this resolution appears in paragraph 26 of the report of the Preparatory Conference (A/CONF.95/3).

/...

- (ii) Pursuant to paragraph 1 of rule 37, the Conference is to appoint, on the proposal of the President, nine members of the Drafting Committee. According to that rule, the Drafting Committee is to consist of 10 members, but as the Chairman elected under subitem (d) above counts as one of these, the number to be appointed is one less.

(f) Credentials of representatives

This item is to be taken up after the Credentials Committee has had an opportunity to meet, to appoint its officers (traditionally only a chairman) and to consider a report by the Executive Secretary of the Conference on the credentials submitted. After the Committee has done so, its report will be considered by the Conference.

(g) Organization of work

As suggested in the paper on organization and methods of work of the Conference (A/CONF.95/4), it is expected that the Conference or the Committee of the Whole will refer certain questions to working groups that those bodies may establish pursuant to rule 35 of the provisional rules of procedure. The Conference or the Committee of the Whole may also refer certain questions, as well as eventually all texts to be adopted, to the Drafting Committee. It may be noted that the Preparatory Conference, in paragraph 40 of its report, 2/ recommended that the question of an "umbrella treaty" with optional protocols or clauses which would embody such prohibitions or restrictions of use of certain conventional weapons deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects as might be negotiated at the Conference, be taken up in a subsidiary organ which should commence its work immediately after the opening of the Conference.

3. Consideration of prohibitions or restrictions of use of certain conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects

In the course of the two sessions of the Preparatory Conference a number of proposals pertaining to this item were submitted. In addition, at its second session, the Preparatory Conference adopted three reports in connexion with this item. All these are reproduced in annexes I to IV of its report to the Conference 2/ and, according to rule 28 of the provisional rules of procedure, are to constitute the basic proposals before the Conference.

4. Adoption of the Final Document of the Conference

In paragraph 3 of resolution 33/70, the General Assembly reaffirmed its belief that the Conference should strive to reach agreement on specific instruments in the field of certain conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects.

2/ A/CONF.95/3.

5. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly

Pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 33/70, the Conference is to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.
