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Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Pēteris Filipsons (Latvia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2024, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled “Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security” and to allocate it to the First Committee.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 3 October 2024, the First Committee decided to conduct its work in three phases. The first phase would be a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 90 to 106, as well as a general debate on the working methods of the Committee and programme planning, namely items 121 and 140; the second phase would be dedicated to thematic discussions; and the third phase would be for action on all draft proposals.

3. At its 2nd to 10th meetings, from 7 to 10 and from 14 to 17 October, the Committee held its general debate on items 90 to 106. At its 11th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee also held its debate on items 121 and 140. On 18 October, at its 12th meeting, the Committee held exchanges with the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament nominated by regional groups. The Committee also held 15 meetings (12th to 26th), on 18, from 21 to 25 and from 28 to 30 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions and decisions were introduced and considered. At its 27th meeting, on 30 October, the Committee held a joint panel discussion with the Fourth Committee on possible challenges to space



security and sustainability. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 28th to 33rd meetings, on 1 and from 4 to 8 November.¹

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.1/79/L.53/Rev.1](#)

4. On 25 October, the delegation of China, also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Congo, Cuba, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Nauru, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security" ([A/C.1/79/L.53/Rev.1](#)). Subsequently, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Uganda and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

5. At its 31st meeting, on 6 November 2024, the Committee voted on draft resolution [A/C.1/79/L.53/Rev.1](#), as follows:

(a) The eighteenth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 87 to 53, with 22 abstentions. The voting was as follows:²

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain,

¹ For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/79/PV.2](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.3](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.4](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.5](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.6](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.7](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.8](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.9](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.10](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.11](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.12](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.13](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.14](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.15](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.16](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.17](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.18](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.19](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.20](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.21](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.22](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.23](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.24](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.25](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.26](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.27](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.28](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.29](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.30](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.31](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.32](#) and [A/C.1/79/PV.33](#).

² The delegation of Côte d'Ivoire subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.

Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Singapore, Tonga, United Arab Emirates.

(b) Operative paragraph 2 was retained by a recorded vote of 94 to 53, with 17 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Tonga.

(c) Draft resolution [A/C.1/79/L.53/Rev.1](#) was adopted by a recorded vote of 102 to 53, with 25 abstentions (see para. 6). The voting was as follows:³

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti,

³ The delegation of Madagascar subsequently informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Madagascar, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Timor-Leste, Tonga.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

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

Draft resolution

Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [76/234](#) of 24 December 2021 and [77/96](#) of 7 December 2022,

Recalling also the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,¹ the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction² and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction³ and the provisions of relevant United Nations resolutions,

Reaffirming the need for all Member States to abide by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation, in all its aspects, of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Reaffirming also that proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Reaffirming further support for the multilateral treaties whose aim is to eliminate or prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and the importance for all States parties to these treaties of implementing them fully in order to promote international stability and security,

Recognizing that promoting development and international security are mutually reinforcing objectives, and bearing in mind the significant contribution of scientific and technological advances on global economic and social development and their potential impact on global and regional security,

Recognizing also the inalienable right of all States to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming that measures preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons should not hamper international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, while the right to peaceful uses should not be abused for proliferation purposes,

Emphasizing the great importance of promoting international cooperation and assistance, including capacity-building, to access materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes in strengthening the authority and effectiveness of the multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation treaties,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

Reaffirming the sovereign equality of all States and the equal rights of all States in terms of peaceful uses, and recognizing the opportunities offered by science, technology and innovation for the full enjoyment of the right to development by all,

Bearing in mind the significant role of international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes in facilitating the economic and social development of Member States, in particular developing countries,

Acknowledging that all countries are entitled to benefit from science and technology, and that there is a strong need to continue exchanges in science and technology for peaceful purposes, including in accordance with relevant international obligations, with particular attention being paid to the benefit and the interests of developing countries,

Acknowledging also the importance of technology as a key driver of sustainable development, and that broad and equitable access to goods and technologies facilitates current and future development,

Welcoming the commitments by Member States to foster and promote an open, fair and inclusive environment for scientific and technological development and cooperation worldwide, and to collaborate to bridge the science, technology and innovation gap within and between developed and developing countries, to support developing countries to peacefully harness science, technology and innovation to achieve sustainable development,

Welcoming also the political commitments and concrete efforts by Member States in promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses, as well as the progress made within multilateral frameworks and through bilateral channels,

Welcoming further the various initiatives for promoting international cooperation for peaceful uses, including initiatives to strengthen the technical cooperation programme of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the proposal to establish a mechanism to promote the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of article X of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the call for a plan of action for the full implementation of article XI of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Recognizing the need to fulfil obligations and commitments regarding peaceful uses through concrete actions to continuously promote peaceful uses for all States,

Noting with concern the undue and increasing restrictions on exports to Member States, especially developing countries, of materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, in particular unilateral coercive measures that violate international law, and the attempt to impose these measures through non-proliferation control arrangements,

Emphasizing that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements,

Emphasizing also that non-proliferation control arrangements, established to contribute to international security while promoting international trade and cooperation, should be transparent and inclusive, in line with their respective mandates, and should ensure that no undue restrictions are imposed on access to materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries for their continued sustainable development,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session,⁴ as well as the views and recommendations of Member States contained in the report,

Emphasizing the importance of promoting international cooperation for peaceful purposes and the need for further deliberation on this important topic within the framework of the United Nations in an open and inclusive way and utilizing existing international, regional and bilateral mechanisms and arrangements,

1. *Urges* all Member States, without prejudice to their non-proliferation obligations, to take concrete measures to promote international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, in particular not to maintain any restrictions incompatible with the obligations undertaken;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, on the basis of sovereign equality and the report of the Secretary-General and the views and recommendations contained therein, to continue dialogues on promoting peaceful uses and relevant international cooperation, including by identifying gaps and challenges, as well as ideas and opportunities for strengthening cooperation, and explore possible ways forward, such as formulating guiding principles as appropriate;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session the item entitled “Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security”.

⁴ [A/77/96](#).