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Thirty-eighth session
Agenda item 60

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Humberto Y. GOYEN-ALVEZ (Uruguay)

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-eighth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/97 of 13 December 1982.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1983, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda. At its 4th plenary meeting, on the same day, the Assembly decided to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate followed by an exchange of views on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 43 to 63, 139 and 141. The deliberations on these items, and on items 143 and 144 which were allocated to the First Committee by the General Assembly at its 28th plenary meeting, on 11 October, took place between the 3rd and 31st meetings, from 17 October to 11 November (see A/C.1/38/PV.3-31).
4. In connection with item 60, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference; 1/

1/ Officials Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28).

(b) Letter dated 20 June 1983 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/38/279);

(c) Letter dated 24 October 1983 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the Seventieth Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Seoul on 12 October 1983 (A/38/529).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/38/L.17

5. On 10 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution entitled "World Disarmament Conference" (A/C.1/38/L.17), which was later also sponsored by the Congo, Mali and Mongolia. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, at the 31st meeting, on 11 November.

6. In this connection, the Secretary-General submitted a statement on the administrative and financial implications (A/C.1/38/L.70).

7. At its 34th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.17 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, 35/151 of 12 December 1980, 36/91 of 9 December 1981 and 37/97 of 13 December 1982,

Reiterating its conviction that all the 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, 2/

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 3/ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened, with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

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 should take up the question at its thirty-eighth regular session for further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of that resolution, and resolution 37/97, also adopted by consensus"; 4/

2. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to continue 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 relevant comments and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly;

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28).

3/ Resolution S-10/2.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/38/28), para. 14.

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;

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