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Agenda item 41

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miodrag MIHAJLOVIĆ (Yugoslavia)

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-third session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/81 of 12 December 1977.
2. At its 4th and 5th plenary meetings, on 22 September 1978, 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 3rd meeting, on 6 October, the First Committee decided to consider separately items 125 and 128 and then to hold a combined general debate on the other items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely items 35 to 49. The general debate on those items took place at the 29th to 50th meetings, from 6 to 24 November.
4. In connexion with item 41, the Committee had before it a letter dated 14 June 1978 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Dakar from 24 to 28 April 1978 (A/33/151).
5. On 17 November, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chad, the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahirya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Upper Volta, Zaire and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/33/L.30), which was reissued on 21 November (A/C.1/33/L.30/Rev.1) with the addition of Jordan and Lesotho as sponsors. It was subsequently sponsored also by Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Kenya, Mauritius and the Philippines. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Nigeria at the 50th meeting, on 24 November.

6. At its 54th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.30/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 114 to none, with 3 abstentions 1/ (see para. 7 below). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Empire, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

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

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/81 of 12 December 1977, in which it requested all States to refrain from co-operation with South Africa in the nuclear field

1/ Subsequently the delegations of Costa Rica and Liberia advised the Secretariat that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour.

so as not to enable the aggressive and racist régime of that country to acquire nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa ^{2/} 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 its resolutions 1652 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 3261 E (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3471 (XXX) of 11 December 1975 and 31/69 of 10 December 1976, 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,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977, in which the Council, inter alia, decided that all States should refrain from any co-operation with South Africa in the manufacture and development of nuclear weapons,

Gravely concerned that South Africa has not renounced the acquisition of nuclear weapons and therefore may still detonate a nuclear explosion and acquire nuclear-weapon capability in contravention of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council,

Convinced that this situation constitutes a grave danger to international peace and security and a permanent challenge to the efforts of the international community to establish Africa as a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Reiterating its decision, taken at the tenth special session, that the Security Council shall take appropriate effective steps to prevent the frustration of the decision of the Organization of African Unity for the denuclearization of Africa, ^{3/}

1. Strongly 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. Vigorously condemns any attempt by South Africa to introduce in any way whatsoever nuclear weapons into the African continent;
3. Demands that South Africa refrain forthwith from conducting any nuclear explosion in the continent of Africa or elsewhere;

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 105, document A/5975.

^{3/} See resolution A/S-10/2, para. 63(c).

4. Requests the Security Council to exercise a close watch on South Africa and to take appropriate effective steps to prevent South Africa from developing and acquiring nuclear weapons which endanger international peace and security;

5. Condemns any nuclear collaboration by any State, corporation, institution or individual with the racist régime which could frustrate the objective of the Organization of African Unity to keep Africa a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

6. Demands that South Africa submit all its nuclear facilities for inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

7. Appeals to all States to refrain from all co-operation with South Africa in the nuclear field so as not to enable the racist régime to acquire nuclear weapons, and to dissuade corporations, institutions and individuals within their jurisdiction from any co-operation with South Africa in this field;

8. 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;

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