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FIRST COMMITTEE
25th meeting
held on
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New York

UN/SA COLLECTION

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 25TH MEETING

Chairman: Mr. PASTINEN (Finland)

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GUARANTEES OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR STATES (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 128 (continued)

CONCLUSION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF GUARANTEES OF THE SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR STATES (A/33/241; A/C.1/33/L.6)

Mr. ERDEMBILEG (Mongolia) (interpretation from Russian): The tenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament, stressed in its conclusions that the most effective guarantee against the danger of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In the Final Document it is also pointed out that pending the achievement of that goal States possessing nuclear weapons have special responsibilities to undertake measures to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war and the use of force in international relations, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Charter, and including the use of nuclear weapons.

To that we should like to add that not a great deal of time has elapsed since the General Assembly adopted the decision on the non-use of force in international relations and the permanent prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. As everyone knows, that decision of the General Assembly was adopted on the initiative of the delegation of the Soviet Union. To supplement that important provision, at this session the Soviet delegation has proposed a new constructive idea: the conclusion of an international convention on strengthening security guarantees of non-nuclear States, the key provisions of which have been set forth in the proposals of the Soviet Union on "Practical measures for ending the arms race" (A/S-10/AC.1/4, Annex) submitted to the special session of the General Assembly on 26 May of this year.

The Mongolian delegation views this new proposal of the Soviet Union as a striking example of its realistic approach to the practical implementation of the important recommendations of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. The First Secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the President of the Presidium of the Great People's Khural of the Mongolian People's Republic, Comrade Yumjagyn Tsedenbal, speaking at the opening of the 87th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance on 27 September of this year, in Ulan Bator, stated:

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

"The Soviet Union's proposal for the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States, submitted to the United Nations General Assembly at its current thirty-third session, has won the unanimous support and approval of the countries of the socialist community and of all peace-loving mankind. This new Soviet initiative is designed to give reliable protection to non-nuclear States against the most destructive weapons of mass annihilation, and thereby to help reduce the threat of thermonuclear war."

It should be stressed that the concrete and businesslike discussions on the new Soviet proposal in the First Committee demonstrate its timeliness. A broad segment of international public opinion is now focused on this question.

The Mongolian delegation believes that the Soviet proposal on the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of security guarantees for non-nuclear States has further translated into reality the repeated statement of the Soviet Union that it will never use nuclear weapons against those States which renounce the manufacture or acquisition of such weapons and do not have such weapons on their territory.

An important element in the international convention proposed by the Soviet Union lies primarily in the preparation of agreed obligations on guarantees which should be assumed by all nuclear Powers. These obligations should be clear-cut and distinct, as, indeed, they are in the draft convention in document A/C.1/33/L.6 - that is, States parties to this convention which possess nuclear weapons should undertake not to use nuclear weapons and not to threaten to use them against non-nuclear States parties to the convention which renounce the manufacture and acquisition of nuclear weapons and do not have nuclear weapons on their territory or anywhere under their jurisdiction or control on land, at sea, in the air or in outer space.

It seems to us that the renunciation by States of the acquisition of nuclear weapons would undoubtedly promote the strengthening of the régime of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. A substantial supplement to this would be measures for the creation of zones free of nuclear weapons. Among measures designed to bring about the cessation of qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and development of new types of such weapons of mass destruction we should include measures to bring about as early as possible the cessation of all nuclear-weapons testing.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

I should also like to point out that in the matter of curbing the nuclear arms race and preventing the outbreak of nuclear war it would be of the highest importance to conclude new agreements on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons. We hope that the Soviet-American talks, the most recent round of which took place in a businesslike atmosphere in Moscow, will very soon end successfully with the conclusion of an agreement on this question that will serve as a practical step towards the deepening of détente and the strengthening of international security. We are therefore firmly convinced that the attainment of a universally acceptable solution to the question of the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of security guarantees to non-nuclear States and concerted efforts undertaken at the same time in other areas of disarmament would in the final analysis promote the interests of all countries and peoples. However, we should like to stress once again the importance of the assumption by nuclear Powers of obligations on agreed guarantees embodied in an international agreement, stress being laid on the concrete interdependence between this provision and the problem of strengthening the non-proliferation régime. This is called for, inter alia, by the fact that, with the connivance of certain circles within NATO, South Africa and Israel are striving to acquire nuclear weapons.

The Soviet proposal on the non-emplacement of nuclear weapons where they do not exist at present is therefore deserving of whole-hearted support. All the other nuclear Powers, aware of their responsibility, should react favourably in support of this proposal in the interests of strengthening the non-proliferation régime and consolidating international peace and security.

States which preserve their non-nuclear status are without any doubt entitled to obtain international legal guarantees that nuclear weapons will not be used against them. The concern of non-nuclear States regarding the strengthening of their security guarantees is in turn aroused by the fact that, because of the adventuristic policy of those who are banking on stepping up international tension and exacerbating relations among States in various parts of the world, there still exist hotbeds of conflict fraught with the danger of the serious consequences for peace. On the other hand, in the field of halting the arms race and bringing about disarmament, we have not yet achieved a fundamental breakthrough. The arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, is continuing at a fast pace, swallowing up vast human and material resources.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

We witness attempts to create and manufacture new and particularly inhumane means of the mass destruction of people. Therefore, the timeliness of the new Soviet initiative lies, we believe, in the fact that the question of prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons, and hence the strengthening of security guarantees of non-nuclear States, is brought into the forefront of world opinion in the light of the continuing improvement of nuclear weapons by creating new more sophisticated types of such weapons, such as the neutron weapon.

The Mongolian People's Republic, like other peace-loving States, has expressed serious concern about the adoption by the Government of the United States of a decision to begin production of the main components of a neutron weapon. This irresponsible step is fraught with the danger of the opening up of a new phase in the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, and hence of increasing the threat of the outbreak of a nuclear war.

Mongolian public opinion resolutely demands that the Government of the United States cancel this decision and totally renounce the manufacture of nuclear neutron weapons. The concern not to permit an increase in the rate of the arms race motivated the socialist countries members of the Committee on Disarmament, when, on 9 March of this year, they submitted in that Committee a draft convention on the prohibition of the manufacture, stockpiling, deployment and use of nuclear neutron weapons. (CCD/559)

The initiative of the socialist countries is worthy of the most serious attention and immediate consideration in the Committee on Disarmament. The conclusion of such an international agreement would undoubtedly be an important contribution in preventing the nuclear arms race and bringing about concrete measures in the field of disarmament. We hope that all States, and primarily all nuclear States, will take practical steps to promote and take an active part in the elaboration and conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of security guarantees of non-nuclear States in compliance with the urgent appeal of the General Assembly contained in the Final Document of the tenth special session.

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

If we are to produce successfully an international convention on this question, it seems to us that the appropriate conditions now exist. All nuclear Powers have, in one form or another, made statements with regard to the non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear States. Those States which do not possess nuclear weapons have clearly expressed their interest in obtaining from nuclear States appropriate security guarantees.

In our view the main task at the present time is for all States, and primarily the nuclear States, to act in concert and in a constructive spirit. However, unfortunately we cannot fail to note that yesterday, in this Committee, an irresponsible statement on the item under discussion here was made by the delegation of a nuclear Power, namely China, which stubbornly persists in taking a negative stand on all the fundamental issues of disarmament. Such an obstructionist approach to so timely and important a question as the conclusion of international agreement on the strengthening of security guarantees of non-nuclear States is in no way in keeping with their wishes and interests - that is, the wishes and interests of the non-nuclear States, which found their reflection in the new Soviet proposal - and runs directly counter to the efforts of the peoples of the world to strengthen international peace and security.

My delegation, having set forth its views on the question under discussion in the First Committee, would like to express its full support for draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.6 introduced by the Soviet delegation on 30 October. We believe it advisable for the General Assembly, having taken note of the draft international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States annexed to the draft resolution, to take the decision to refer this matter to the Committee on Disarmament for practical consideration in that body with a view to arriving at agreement on the text of such a convention.

The Mongolian People's Republic, as a member of the Committee on Disarmament, is ready to do everything in its power to promote the work for early agreement on the text of an appropriate document. We see in the Soviet draft convention a good basis for producing international legal norms

(Mr. Erdembileg, Mongolia)

whereby security guarantees of non-nuclear States would be strengthened.

In conclusion, the Mongolian delegation would like to express the hope that the forthcoming talks on bringing about a universally acceptable solution to this important problem will take place in a spirit of co-operation and that sufficient political will will be displayed by all those taking part in the talks.

Mr. DE LAIGLESIA (Spain) (interpretation from Spanish): Speaking on behalf of the Spanish delegation, I am aware of the overriding importance and significance for all States of the item under discussion: namely, the conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States. We believe in fact that the Soviet Union's initiative in proposing the inclusion of this item in the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly deserves thorough consideration and that we should not miss the opportunity we are afforded to express our views thereon.

Since the adoption by the General Assembly in 1968 of resolution 2373 (XXII) on the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and by the Security Council of resolution 255 (1968) on the guarantees offered by some nuclear States to States which do not possess such weapons, the Spanish delegation has always laid emphasis, whenever it has had an opportunity to do so, on the desirability of establishing a system which would effectively guarantee non-nuclear States against the use or the threat of the use of nuclear weapons against them.

May I be permitted, in this connexion, to recall the words of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Oreja, in his statement in the general debate during the tenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament, on 2 June last:

"... we say to those who do possess such weapons and are still improving them that, so long as they are not able effectively to guarantee the security of countries that do not wish to become nuclear Powers, and so long as they do not provide those countries with sufficient access to the benefits of nuclear economics and technology for peaceful purposes, they are blocking the way to genuine non-proliferation measures."

(A/S-10/PV.14, p. 67)

The proposals on effective guarantees for non-nuclear-weapon States acquire full meaning in the context of this endeavour aimed at achieving genuine non-proliferation. In our view, there still exists a marked imbalance between the obligations to be borne by the nuclear Powers and those to be fulfilled by States which do not possess that type of weapon. It may well be that, through the conclusion of a convention of the kind that is now suggested, this situation may be redressed. That is why we regard the Soviet proposal as constructive.

However, this is a highly complex question which requires careful consideration. In my delegation's view, when tackling this question a number of principles should be taken into account.

First of all, we deem it essential that a convention of this kind be acceded to by all nuclear-weapon States since, if any of the latter were to remain outside the convention, the effectiveness of the legal instrument in question would be virtually nil and the process of elaboration of a text unacceptable to any of the nuclear Powers would amount to a mere exercise in rhetoric.

Secondly, the elaboration of a convention of the kind proposed by the Soviet Union should be placed within the context of measures aimed at nuclear disarmament. Hence, the convention should not be limited to the question of guarantees, but should also embody a series of commitments on the part of the nuclear Powers to try to adopt measures on nuclear disarmament. We believe, and have so stated repeatedly, that it is not possible to separate horizontal from vertical proliferation. Therefore, guarantees given to non-nuclear States should be supplemented by measures aimed at halting the nuclear arms race.

(Mr. de Laiglesia, Spain)

Thirdly, the Spanish delegation agrees with the views of those delegations which regard as appropriate the proposal that negotiations on a possible convention be undertaken by the Committee on Disarmament. My delegation wishes to emphasize, however, that we should be very careful with the recommendations we make to the Committee on Disarmament in connexion with its work. We do not deem it advisable to give the impression that we prejudge the specific scope of its work, something that the Committee alone can decide. In this connexion, the Spanish delegation, while welcoming the initiative of the Soviet Union as a positive proposal, feels that the General Assembly should recommend to the Committee on Disarmament that it negotiate the elaboration of a convention and that for the purpose it make use of all the suggestions that may be put forward by member and non-member States of that Committee, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the tenth special session devoted to disarmament concerning non-members. Under no circumstance should we, a priori, limit the work of the Committee in Geneva to the consideration of a single draft convention.

The view has also been put forward that the Security Council should take note of the unilateral declarations of a number of nuclear-weapon States concerning guarantees not to use such weapons against non-nuclear States, in order to strengthen their effectiveness. We believe that this proposal is not incompatible with the one at present under discussion. However, those unilateral declarations of which we have taken note with satisfaction obviously lack the binding force of an international convention.

We have listened with great interest to the statements of previous speakers and we are gratified to note that a number of them have stressed the importance of ensuring that a convention of this kind be based on nuclear disarmament. In this connexion, we express our agreement

with what was said yesterday by the representative of Argentina,

Mr. Ortiz de Rozas:

"... the supreme and most effective protection against the threat of the use or the actual use of nuclear weapons can consist only in the complete elimination of nuclear armaments." (A/AC.1/33/PV.24, p. 21)

Similarly, and although, as we have already said, we believe it useful for the Security Council to speak out on this question, we share the doubts expressed by a number of delegations concerning the effectiveness of measures which could be neutralized by a simple veto. If we endorse the elaboration of a convention guaranteeing the security of non-nuclear States against the use or the threat of use of nuclear weapons, it is because we believe we must go far beyond the provisions of Article 51 of the Charter, which was drawn up in a very different international context from the one we live in today.

At past Assemblies we have supported a number of successful resolutions aimed at the adoption of measures to strengthen the security of non-nuclear States. We believe that the idea of negotiating a convention along these lines will contribute to the attainment of an objective which, as I said earlier, we have been pursuing for a decade. In our view, therefore, if an instrument consistent with the views of the non-nuclear States - and as is well known, they represent the overwhelming majority in this Organization - is submitted to the international community, not only will their logical concerns be met, but it will also be possible to consolidate that non-proliferation of nuclear weapons which we all so ardently desire.

Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): Quite obviously, this is neither the time nor the place to embark on a thorough analysis of the draft convention submitted by the Soviet Union which is annexed to draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.6. I shall therefore confine myself in this statement to making a few general remarks about some of the elements of this agenda item which we regard as being of the highest relevance.

I shall begin by recalling that a little over 10 years ago - in August 1968 - the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, endorsing a Mexican initiative, stated in its resolution B the conviction that the co-operation of nuclear-weapon States with States belonging to a nuclear-weapon-free zone should take the form of

"... commitments likewise undertaken in a formal international instrument which is legally binding, such as a treaty, convention or protocol."

(A/7277, resolution B, p. 5)

In the light of that statement, which also upon Mexico's proposal has been reiterated in all the numerous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on the conclusion and ratification of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, it is only natural that we should consider most appropriate the procedure suggested by the Soviet Union for the granting of security guarantees to non-nuclear-weapon States, in other words, the conclusion of an international convention. This should of course not be construed as meaning acceptance of the present text of that draft to which, among other changes, we believe a number of amendments should be made along the lines of those proposed by the representative of Pakistan in his statement two days ago. He highlighted, among other things, what has been so clearly and unequivocally set forth in the Final Document of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, that is, that existing nuclear arsenals pose a threat to the very survival of mankind and that, as a result, the nuclear arms race must be halted and reversed until its complete elimination has been achieved. That position, which was so clearly defined in the Final Document, implies no innovation whatsoever as far as my country is concerned.

(Mr. Garcia Robles, Mexico)

Speaking on behalf of Mexico on 18 March 1969, almost a decade ago, at the inaugural meeting of that year's session of the Disarmament Committee - which was then composed of 18 nations - I had the privilege of stressing our conviction that either the world put an end to nuclear weapons or nuclear weapons put an end to the world, and I added the following:

"We refuse to believe that the so-called deterrent power - a term which, regrettably, has been abused - of such weapons could be regarded as a positive factor justifying their existence. The fact that during the last 20 years we should have had a precarious peace based on an alarming balance of terror is, to us, far from a convincing argument. During the millions of years of prehistory, which it is customary to divide into the stone, bronze and iron ages, all that man needed was the deterrent power of primitive tools made with those materials. And in the millenia of history - when we must not forget that there have been numerous periods of more than half a century during which peace prevailed - deterrent power never went much further - and this relatively quite recently - than the instruments of destruction already dreadful enough based on TNT or dynamite. We fail to understand why today it should be necessary to have international peace and security depend on arms such as nuclear weapons, the mere existence of which entails the danger of universal suicide.

"To the alleged need for the deterrent power of nuclear weapons, we must oppose the very genuine need of justifying the moral deterrent power of all the peoples of the world, who each day with growing impatience and urgency demand that an end be put to a situation which endangers the very survival of the human race."

That is what we said almost 10 years ago and, in essence, it is in keeping with what was stated in the Final Document of the recent special session of the Assembly.

(Mr. Garcia Robles, Mexico)

However, although we are convinced that, as stated in the Final Document, nuclear weapons pose the gravest danger to mankind and to the survival of civilization, which is why we must strive for their complete elimination, yet, at the same time, we also realize that it would be illusory, and perhaps even rather demagogic, to reject efforts at achieving gradual progress by applying the peremptory concept of "all or nothing". That was why we gave our full support to the consensus which made possible the adoption of paragraph 60 of the Final Document, which provides that:

"The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constitutes an important disarmament measure." (A/RES/S-10/2, para. 60)

And with the same spontaneity we adopted the following paragraph which provides that:

"The process of establishing such zones in different parts of the world should be encouraged with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons." (Ibid. para. 61)

It was not in vain that when in 1975, in Geneva, what was called the broad study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects was considered, the Mexican delegation stated through me that it felt it only natural and appropriate that, as regards nuclear weapons, we should resort to procedures such as those applied in the case of an epidemic - in other words, that we endeavour to enlarge gradually those areas of the world where nuclear weapons are outlawed, until such time as the territories of those States which obstinately insist on possessing them constitute something like contaminated islands subject to quarantine.

Given the importance that my delegation, which represents the depositary State of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, attaches to nuclear-weapon-free zones, I shall make an exception to what I said at the outset, and would take the liberty of advancing one of the amendments which, in due time, my delegation will submit to the Soviet draft, and which consists in the addition of an article similar to the one which, upon Mexico's suggestion, was included in the Treaty on the military denuclearization of the sea-bed and ocean floor, and which in the case of the draft convention now under discussion could read approximately as follows:

(Mr. Garcia Robles, Mexico)

"The provisions of the present convention in no way affect the obligations assumed by States parties thereto, or which those States may assume by virtue of international instruments relating to the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones."

The last remark I should like to make in this statement relates to the procedure proposed in the Soviet draft resolution. That procedure, namely, the forwarding to the Committee on Disarmament of all documents relating to the General Assembly's discussion of item 128 of its agenda - documents which we think should include the working paper drawn up by the delegation of Pakistan, even though it was not submitted formally - should not, of course, in any way affect the priorities already granted to a number of the items that the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament has been dealing with and which will be the subject of the deliberations of the Committee on Disarmament. We therefore feel that it would at least be premature to request the inclusion, as provided in paragraph 5 of the Soviet draft resolution, of an item entitled "Conclusion of an international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States" in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session of the Assembly.

In the context that derives from the observations I have just made, my delegation will co-operate in the competent organs to ensure that the work connected with this question be so channelled as to ensure that efforts in this field will contribute to the attainment of that objective which, in paragraph 61 of the Final Document to which I referred earlier, is described as "achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons". (Ibid.)

Mr. GLAIEEL (Syrian Arab Republic) (interpretation from Arabic): The issue of providing guarantees for the security of non-nuclear States is part of the over-all disarmament question and one of the transitional methods of saving the small countries from the danger of a headlong rush to acquire all types of weapons. As my delegation has stated, disarmament requires, above all, political will on the part of the countries producing those weapons and of the industrially advanced States to decrease their military budgets gradually until such time as they finally cease manufacturing weapons -- particularly nuclear weapons -- because this constitutes the most effective guarantee against the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapons.

(Mr. Glaiel, Syrian Arab Republic)

Until this objective is achieved, the non-nuclear countries must live in peace having the necessary guarantees from the nuclear States that they will not use such weapons against them. Included among the stipulations of paragraph 54 of the Final Document of the special session devoted to disarmament was the adoption of parallel political or international legal measures to strengthen the security of States as a means of facilitating significant progress in nuclear disarmament. My delegation at that time stated that countries having nuclear weapons should provide the necessary guarantees to smaller and weaker countries that they would not use such weapons against them and should prevent the smaller countries, particularly those known for their aggressive policies, from acquiring nuclear weapons because there would be no deterrent to the use of those weapons against other parties in current conflicts among them. The statements by the nuclear countries that they will not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear countries was a courageous initiative which imposes on them a very great responsibility which they should be aware of and should fulfil. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his country will never use nuclear weapons against countries which renounce the production and acquisition of such weapons, and which do not have them on their territories.

The draft international convention on the strengthening of guarantees of the security of non-nuclear States embodies and represents the feelings of countries which can be described briefly as countries that are peace-loving and that intend to remain so and to provide prosperity for their peoples. Behind that objective is the fact that the small peace-loving countries renounce all aggressive ambitions and any desire to acquire nuclear weapons, and will not hesitate to adhere to the necessary conventions and agreements which guarantee the attainment of that objective. My delegation considers that the first requisite, in addition to the will of the nuclear countries, is

(Mr. Glaiel, Syrian Arab Republic)

that the non-nuclear countries should accept the guarantees and proclaim that they do not have nuclear weapons, that they renounce and will continue to renounce the acquisition of nuclear weapons. When we speak of the desire of countries in different parts of the world to maintain their regions as nuclear-weapon-free zones, we think, for example, of the decision adopted by the General Assembly at the thirty-second session, in its resolution 32/82, on the "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East", which our Committee will be discussing at this session under item 42 of the agenda. That decision did not receive the approval of all the countries of the area, since it was objected to by Israel, the aggressive State. It would be difficult for the countries of that region, or any other region of the world, to respect the text of a convention if they found that other parties did not respect it because they found that their higher interests were jeopardized. My delegation considers that the various agreements within such a framework of disarmament complement each other, and that therefore there must be pressure on countries which have not signed such international conventions regulating the production and acquisition of nuclear weapons to adhere to them as soon as possible in order to facilitate the signing of an agreement with regard to the consolidation of guarantees.

Finally, the Syrian Arab Republic considers that the Soviet draft convention is an initiative from which we should benefit. We hope it will not remain just ink on paper and that contacts will be intensified amongst the countries concerned so that it may be possible to formulate the decisive legal guarantees which will afford security to the non-nuclear countries and render the international community responsible for their protection from any nuclear aggression.

(Mr. Glaiel, Syrian Arab Republic)

We also hope that all the parties covered by the provisions of the convention will be taken into account, and that the nuclear countries will join with them in order to provide the strongest possible guarantees with a view to preventing the production of nuclear weapons and destroying existing stockpiles thereof. Adherence by the nuclear-weapon countries to one single convention facilitates negotiations in the event of any threat to international peace and security. It also gives a binding and mandatory nature to the decisions taken, linking them directly to the United Nations Charter as well as the functions and competence of the Security Council in safeguarding international peace and security and in saving humanity from the scourge of war and the danger of annihilation.

The CHAIRMAN: Before I adjourn the meeting I would draw attention to three new documents that have been distributed. They are: document A/C.1/33/L.8, containing amendments proposed by Japan to draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.3; draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.9, submitted by the delegations of Argentina, Cuba, Iran, Mexico, Sweden, Venezuela and Zaire under agenda item 125; and draft resolution A/C.1/33/L.10, also under item 125, entitled "Dissemination of information on the arms race and disarmament" and submitted by the delegations of Argentina, Denmark, Ecuador, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Venezuela.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.