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Agenda item 42

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Kedar Bhakta SHRESTHA (Nepal)

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session on the basis of General Assembly resolution 3471 (XXX) of 11 December 1975.
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1976, 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 2nd meeting, on 5 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 34 to 50 and 116. The general debate on these items took place at the 20th to 39th meetings, from 1 to 19 November.
4. On 30 November, Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, the United Republic of Cameroon, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Upper Volta and Zaire submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/31/L.31) which was subsequently also sponsored by Senegal. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Nigeria at the 48th meeting, on 1 December.
5. At its 50th meeting, on 2 December, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/31/L.31 without a vote (see para. 6 below).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

6. 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 resolutions 1652 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 3261 E (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 3471 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, in which it called upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa, including the continental African States, Madagascar and other islands surrounding Africa, as a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Recognizing that implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa ^{1/} would contribute to the security of all the African States and to the goals of general and complete disarmament,

Bearing in mind that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirteenth ordinary session, held at Port Louis from 2 to 6 July 1976, expressed grave concern over the continuing collaboration between certain States Members of the United Nations and the racist régime of South Africa, particularly in the military and nuclear fields, thereby enabling it to acquire nuclear-weapon capability,

Concerned that further development of South Africa's military and nuclear-weapon potential would frustrate efforts to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones in Africa and elsewhere as an effective means for preventing the proliferation, both horizontal and vertical, of nuclear weapons and for contributing to the elimination of the danger of a nuclear holocaust,

1. Reaffirms its call upon all States to respect and abide by the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa;

2. Further reaffirms its call upon all States to consider and respect the continent of Africa, including the continental African States, Madagascar and other islands surrounding Africa, as a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

3. Appeals to all States not to deliver to South Africa or place at its disposal any equipment or fissionable material or technology that will enable the racist régime of South Africa to acquire nuclear-weapon capability;

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 105, document A/5975.

4. 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, in which the African Heads of State and Government announced their readiness to undertake, in an international treaty to be concluded under the auspices of the United Nations, not to manufacture or acquire control of nuclear weapons;

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