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Agenda item 49

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN SOUTH ASIA

#### Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ngaré KESSELY (Chad)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-ninth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/65 of 15 December 1983.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1984, 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 15 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 45 to 65 and item 142 which was allocated to the First Committee by the General Assembly at its 27th plenary meeting, on 9 October, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and continuation of the general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and the 36th meetings, from 17 October to 12 November (see A/C.1/39/PV.3-36).
4. In connection with item 49, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Secretary-General (A/39/434);
  - (b) Letter dated 15 March 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the reports, resolutions and final declaration adopted at the Fourteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Dhaka from 6 to 11 December 1983 (A/39/133-S/16417).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/39/L.6

5. On 31 October, Pakistan submitted a draft resolution entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia" (A/C.1/39/L.6), which was introduced by its representative at the 35th meeting, on 9 November.
6. At its 45th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/39/L.6 by a recorded vote of 90 to 2, with 43 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Bhutan, India.

Abstaining: Arghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Leo People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Sao Tome and Principe, Sweden, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia.

## III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in South Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3265 B (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3476 B (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/73 of 10 December 1976, 32/83 of 12 December 1977, 33/65 of 14 December 1978, 34/78 of 11 December 1979, 35/148 of 12 December 1980, 36/88 of 9 December 1981, 37/76 of 9 December 1982 and 38/65 of 15 December 1983 concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Reiterating its conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is one of the measures which can contribute most effectively to the objectives of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, as in other regions, will strengthen the security of the States of the region against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the declarations issued at the highest level by Governments of South Asian States reaffirming their undertaking not to acquire or manufacture nuclear weapons and to devote their nuclear programmes exclusively to the economic and social advancement of their peoples,

Recalling that in the above-mentioned resolutions it called upon the States of the South Asian region, and such other neighbouring non-nuclear-weapon States as might be interested, to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to refrain, in the meantime, from any action contrary to this objective,

Further recalling that, in its resolution 3265 B (XXIX), it requested the Secretary-General to convene a meeting for the purpose of the consultations mentioned therein and to render such assistance as might be required to promote the efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraphs 60 to 63 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly 1/ regarding the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, including in the region of South Asia,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, 2/

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1/ Resolution S-10/2.

2/ A/39/434.

1. Reaffirms its endorsement, in principle, of the concept of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;
  2. Urges once again the States of South Asia, and such other neighbouring non-nuclear-weapon States as may be interested, to continue to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to refrain, in the meantime, from any action contrary to this objective;
  3. Calls upon those nuclear-weapon States that have not done so to respond positively to this proposal and to extend the necessary co-operation in the efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia;
  4. Requests the Secretary-General to render such assistance as may be required to promote the efforts for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia and to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fortieth session;
  5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia".
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