

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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ENGLISH

FINAL RECORD OF THE FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 22 August 1989, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. El Ghali Benhima (Morocco)

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): The 528th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament is called to order.

Today the Conference continues its consideration of the reports of its ad hoc subsidiary bodies, as well as the consideration and adoption of its annual report to the United Nations General Assembly. However, in conformity with rule 30 of the rules of procedure, any representative who so wishes may raise any matter relevant to the work of the Conference. I have no speakers on my list for today, but in accordance with the practice of the Conference, I would like to ask whether there are any delegations wishing to take the floor. I give the floor to the United States Ambassador.

Mr. FRIEDERSDORF (United States of America): I would like for the Conference on Disarmament to acknowledge the presence in the chamber today of United States Congressman H. Martin Lancaster of North Carolina. Congressman Lancaster is a member of the House of Representatives Arms Control Observer Group and we are pleased to welcome him to the Conference. He is spending three days in Geneva on consultations and observing our negotiations and we are very grateful for his interest and support for our work.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I thank the Ambassador for the information he has provided. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Conference, I welcome the Congressman and offer him our wishes for success on his mission to Geneva. Are there any other speakers? It would seem not.

Allow me now to report to you on the state of progress with the annual report of the Conference to the United Nations General Assembly. Next Thursday, at 3 p.m. the Ad hoc Committee on the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament will hold its last meeting to adopt its report to the Conference. Informal consultations are continuing in the Ad hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, and I hope that the Committee's report will be adopted at the meeting scheduled for 3 p.m. tomorrow. As for the informal open-ended consultations on the substantive paragraphs relating to agenda items 2, 3, 7 and 1, they will be held immediately after this plenary meeting in room I. These consultations, which will continue until midday, will be followed by informal consultations among members of the Ad hoc Committee on outer space. I should like on this occasion to appeal to all delegations to ensure that these consultations conclude as soon as possible. As you know, the secretariat requires sufficient time to prepare the draft report to the General Assembly which we are to adopt on 31 August. The adoption on schedule of the last of the documents on Thursday afternoon will leave three working days for the secretariat to distribute to delegations the reports of the two ad hoc committees and the draft annual report in all the official languages of the Conference. As usual, the latter will include the technical parts of the report, together with the substantive paragraphs on agenda items 1, 2, 3 and 7. The reports of the ad hoc committees as adopted by the Conference will be incorporated in the final text of the annual report, which will subsequently be distributed as an official CD document. The second reading of the technical parts of the report and the substantive paragraphs

(The President)

will take place in an informal meeting immediately before the adoption of the annual report by the Conference, since it will be impossible to have the documentation available before Wednesday afternoon.

I have no other matters to be considered, and I therefore intend to close this meeting. The next plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament will be held on Thursday, 24 August at 10 a.m.

The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.