

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

*Official Records*

FIRST COMMITTEE  
32nd meeting  
held on  
Thursday, 9 November 1989  
at 10 a.m.  
New York

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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 32nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. TAYLHARDAT (Venezuela)

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(continued)

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/C.1/44/PV. 32  
14 November 1989  
ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 49 TO 69 AND 151 (continued)

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON DISARMAMENT ITEMS

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I call first on the Secretary of the Committee, who has some information to give the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): I would like to inform the Committee that the following countries have become co-sponsors of the following draft resolutions: A/C.1/44/L.36 - Angola; A/C.1/44/L.61 - Angola and Samoa; A/C.1/44/L.32 - Romania; A/C.1/44/L.51 - Romania; A/C.1/44/L.62 - Romania; A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1 - Cuba; A/C.1/44/L.49 - Nepal; A/C.1/44/L.37 - Canada.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): In keeping with our programme of work and the timetable we have adopted, we shall now begin consideration of draft resolutions on disarmament items in cluster 1. Those draft resolutions were listed in the informal paper distributed on 6 November to members of the Committee. As I said at the meeting yesterday, in cluster 1 we shall be taking action on draft resolutions A/C.1/44/L.6, A/C.1/44/L.32, A/C.1/44/L.51, and A/C.1/44/L.62.

Before proceeding to take decisions on those draft resolutions, I wish to remind members of the procedure to be followed during this phase of our work. As concerns action on each of the clusters, delegations will first have an opportunity to introduce the draft resolutions contained in that cluster. They will then have a chance to make any comments they may wish to make other than explanations of position or explanations of vote - that is, any remarks they may wish to make in connection with the draft resolutions. Delegations will then have a second opportunity to speak and may then make any comments they wish but may not explain their position or explain their vote. Later, delegations wishing to explain their vote or their position on any of the draft resolutions in a given cluster before

(The Chairman)

the vote is taken will then be given a chance to speak. After the Committee has taken its position on the draft resolutions contained in a given cluster, any delegation that wishes to do so will have another opportunity to explain its vote or its position after the voting.

(The Chairman)

Of course, delegations are encouraged to make a single, consolidated statement on the draft resolutions within each cluster. That is also true of their statements of position or explanations of vote.

Before we proceed to take action on the draft resolutions in cluster 1, I shall call on those delegations wishing to introduce draft resolutions.

Mr. AZIKIWE (Nigeria): On behalf of the Nigerian delegation, I wish to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.62, concerning the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade.

The draft resolution is procedural in nature and contains no contentious element. In its preamble, the General Assembly recalls its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it declared the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade. It also recalls its resolution 34/75 of 11 December 1979, in which it directed the Disarmament Commission to prepare elements of a draft resolution entitled "Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade" for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session for consideration and adoption, and notes that the Second Disarmament Decade, declared by its resolution 35/46, is coming to an end.

Also in the preamble the General Assembly recalls its resolution 43/78 L of 7 December 1988, in which it decided to declare the decade of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade and directed the Disarmament Commission, at its substantive session of 1989, to prepare elements of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade". It reaffirms the responsibility of the United Nations in the attainment of disarmament, and notes the progress in the disarmament talks between the Soviet Union and the United States and its positive impact on the attainment of global peace and security. Furthermore, it states that it is desirous of maintaining the current momentum

(Mr. Azikiwe, Nigeria)

in the disarmament process, and is convinced that a third disarmament decade will accelerate the disarmament process.

The operative paragraphs are very clear. In paragraph 1, the General Assembly would take note of the work of the Disarmament Commission at its substantive session of 1989, on the declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade. In consideration of the fact that the Disarmament Commission did not succeed in concluding action on the item during the 1989 session, the General Assembly would, in paragraph 2, direct the Disarmament Commission, at its substantive session in 1990, to finalize the preparation of elements of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade" and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session for consideration and adoption. In paragraph 3 the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to render all necessary assistance to the Disarmament Commission in implementing the resolution. Finally, in paragraph 4 the General Assembly would decide to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

In proclaiming the decade of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade of the United Nations, the General Assembly conceived the goals and principles of the decade within the context of the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process, which is general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as elaborated in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

Regrettably, the decade has virtually come to an end without achieving the aims for which it was declared the Second Disarmament Decade. Two special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament held during the decade resulted in failure and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament, the single multilateral

(Mr. Azikiwe, Nigeria)

disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, was also unable to conclude a single disarmament treaty during the decade.

However, during the closing years of the decade there have been encouraging signs in the disarmament process, brought about by the thaw in the otherwise frosty relationship between the super-Powers, which has already resulted in the conclusion and entry into force of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles - the INF Treaty - and the intensification of efforts in their talks for the elimination of 50 per cent of their strategic nuclear arsenals. Appreciable progress has also been made towards the elaboration of the chemical-weapons convention.

It is imperative that the current momentum in the disarmament process should be maintained. Hence the need for effective and realistic elements for the Third Disarmament Decade, which, by the draft resolution, the Disarmament Commission will be directed to finalize for consideration and adoption during the forty-fifth session in 1990.

In conclusion, I call upon the Committee to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now call on delegations wishing to make comments other than in explanation of vote or position on the draft resolutions in cluster 1.

Mr. OGRYZKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) (interpretation from Russian): I wish to speak briefly about some of the draft resolutions in the first group - draft resolutions A/C.1/44/L.51, "Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament: report of the Disarmament Commission" and draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.62, "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

(Mr. Ogryzko, Ukrainian SSR)

The position of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic on United Nations machinery in the field of disarmament and the need to make it as efficient as possible in order to attain practical results is well known to all. Therefore, we very much support the request to the Disarmament Commission in paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.51 to continue its consideration of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament as a matter of priority, with a view to the elaboration of concrete recommendations and proposals.

(Mr. Ogryzko, Ukrainian SSR)

This is all the more necessary in the light of the new role the United Nations is beginning to play in international affairs and in the light of the need to improve the efficiency of the United Nations machinery in the field of disarmament, in particular the Disarmament Commission. I think it especially important, in the light of the ongoing restructuring of the work of the Disarmament Commission, to lighten the Commission's share of the United Nations load. Paragraphs 2, 5 and 6 of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.8 are of particular interest in that regard. Consultations are continuing on this.

I take note of paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.62, which would direct the Disarmament Commission, at its substantive session in 1990, to finalize the preparation of a draft resolution to be entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade".

We hope that the adoption of these draft resolutions without a vote will give added force to their provisions.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I call next on delegations wishing to explain their votes or positions on draft resolutions in cluster 1.

Mr. FELAEZ (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to refer to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.6, under agenda item 55, entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects". My delegation firmly supports that Convention. Steps are now being taken in our national Congress to make it a part of Argentine law, and we hope the Convention will be ratified as soon as possible.

Mr. ORTIZ GANDARILLAS (Bolivia) (interpretation from Spanish): I wish to announce that Bolivia is joining in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52, on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons.



Mr. FRIEDERSDORF (United States of America): The United States delegation has asked to speak in order to explain its vote on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.51 concerning the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. The United States has been willing to join consensus on this item in the past, despite its misgivings with regard to the form of words used in the draft resolutions regarding the role and responsibility of the United Nations in the sphere of disarmament. As a result of the discussion on this item in the Disarmament Commission last spring, we deem it important to state our views.

As we see it, the purpose of the exercise is to determine what role the United Nations should play in disarmament, and especially how United Nations disarmament machinery can be rationalized. There are disagreements on the question of the primacy of the United Nations' role in disarmament. It is questionable in a consensus draft resolution to attempt to predetermine just what that role should be. The assertion in the fourth paragraph of the preamble that the United Nations has a central role and primary responsibility "in accordance with its Charter" is inaccurate. The Charter makes no such statement. The notion that the United Nations has a "central role and primary responsibility" in disarmament also overlooks the many important negotiations, agreements and discussions that take place outside its purview.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now proceed to take a decision on the draft resolutions and the draft decision in cluster 1.

We turn first to draft decision A/C.1/44/L.6, submitted by the delegation of Sweden and entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects". The sponsor has expressed a wish that the draft

(The Chairman)

decision be adopted without a vote. May I take it that the Committee agrees to adopt this text?

Draft decision A/C.1/44/L.6 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): We turn now to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.32, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development". The draft resolution is sponsored by the delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Romania and Yugoslavia, and it was introduced by the representative of Yugoslavia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, at the 31st meeting of the First Committee, held on 8 November 1989. The sponsors have requested that the draft resolution be adopted without a vote. May I take it that the Committee decides to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.32 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.51, entitled "Review of the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament: report of the Disarmament Commission". This draft resolution is sponsored by the delegations of Cameroon and Romania, which have asked that the Committee adopt it without a vote. If there is no objection I shall take it that the Committee wishes to adopt the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.51 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The Committee will now consider the draft resolution entitled "Declaration of the 1990s as the Third Disarmament Decade", contained in document A/C.1/44/L.62. The draft resolution is sponsored by Nigeria and Romania. It was introduced today by the representative of Nigeria. The sponsors of the draft resolution have asked that the Committee adopt it without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.62 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): That concludes our consideration of the draft resolutions contained in cluster 1.

I now call on those representatives who wish to explain their position on the resolutions and the decision contained in cluster 1.

Mr. FREDERSDORF (United States of America): The United States delegation did not participate in the action of the First Committee on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.32. As everyone knows, the United States believes that disarmament and development are two distinct issues that cannot be considered as organically linked. Consequently, the United States delegation declined to participate in the International Conference on that matter. For that reason, the United States delegation requests that the record of today's proceedings reflect the fact that the United States has not participated in the consideration of, or action on, draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.32.

At the same time, our delegation takes this opportunity to state again that the United States Government does not and will not consider itself bound by the declaration in the Final Document of the International Conference, nor committed to the terms of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.32.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): If there are no other representatives wishing to explain their position on the draft resolutions and draft decision just adopted, I propose that we proceed to the draft resolutions contained in cluster 2. In that cluster, the Committee will be taking action on draft resolutions A/C.1/44/L. 43 and A/C.1/44/L. 52.

Mr. DIETZE (German Democratic Republic): I would like to make some comments in connection with the Review Conference on the sea-bed Treaty. This year, the parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof met for the Third Review Conference. In the view of my country, assessments at the Conference were generally positive, particularly in the light of the facts that the Treaty has successfully kept two-thirds of our planet free from arms competition in the categories of the most dangerous weapons, that it has been an essential element in the maintenance of strategic stability, and that it has created favourable conditions for tapping the resources of the sea-bed and the subsoil thereof.

In the period that has elapsed since the sea-bed Treaty entered into force 17 years ago, that instrument, in our opinion, has lost nothing of its topicality. That is all the more true since accelerating weapons sophistication and especially the naval arms race make it more imperative today than ever before to work towards preserving and further strengthening that Treaty.

Therefore, we are particularly appreciative of the fact that the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference contains elements that are designed to achieve that goal. That relates, as we see it, particularly to the declaration on the part of all States parties that they have no nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction emplaced on the sea-bed outside the zone of application of the Treaty and that they have no such intention. In fact, it is certainly justified

(Mr. Dietze, German Democratic Republic)

to regard that Declaration as a de facto extension of the Treaty to territorial and international seas.

By the same token, we appreciate the fact that in the Declaration the Conference on Disarmament was again requested to proceed promptly with consideration of further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof. That is consonant with the German Democratic Republic's position that the sea-bed, the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof should be completely demilitarized.

We were also gratified to note that, according to the Final Declaration, no information was presented to the Conference indicating that major technological developments had taken place since 1983 that affected the operation of the Treaty. That is true also of the request addressed to the Secretary-General to submit relevant reports on technological developments, including dual-purpose technologies for peaceful and specified military ends, just as it holds true for the assistance of appropriate expertise on which the Secretary-General should draw.

The German Democratic Republic joins all those States parties to the Treaty which are calling upon the States that have not yet become parties, particularly those possessing nuclear weapons or other types of weapons of mass destruction, to do so at the earliest possible date. That would decisively add to the authority of the sea-bed Treaty as a major instrument in curbing the arms race.

Finally, I take this opportunity to commend the President of the Third Review Conference, Mr. Duarte of Brazil, for his commitment and for his personal contribution to making the Conference a success, and to thank him for the good co-operative relationship.

Mr. FREIDERSDORF (United States of America): The United States delegation is pleased to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 because it recognizes the positive outcome of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof.

(Mr. Friedersdorf, United States)

We also note with satisfaction that the Review Conference concluded that the obligations assumed under the Treaty had been faithfully observed by the States parties.

The United States delegation, however, notes that paragraph 8 allows the Secretary-General to use the assistance of appropriate expertise in reporting on technological developments relevant to the Treaty and to verification of compliance with the Treaty. Should the Secretary-General find it necessary to use such expertise, it should be done within existing budgetary resources and should not involve any increase in the level of United Nations expenditures.

Mr. CHACON (Costa Rica) (interpretation from Spanish): Costa Rica is joining in sponsoring draft resolutions A/C.1/44/L.43 and and A/C.1/44/L.52.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43, entitled "Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof". The draft resolution is sponsored by 38 delegations and was introduced by the representative of Brazil at the 31st meeting of the First Committee, held on 8 November 1989.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the First Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 is sponsored by the following delegations: Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, the Ukrainian

(Mr. Kheradi)

Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia.

I wish to make the following statement on behalf of the Secretary-General with regard to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43, entitled "Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof". By the terms of paragraph 8 of that draft resolution the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to report by 1992, and every three years thereafter until the Fourth Review Conference is convened, on technological developments relevant to the Treaty and to the verification of compliance with the Treaty, including dual purpose technologies for peaceful and specified military ends. In carrying out this task the Secretary-General should draw from official sources and from contributions by States parties to the sea-bed Treaty, and may use the assistance of appropriate expertise. In that regard, the Secretary-General considers that, should the draft resolution be adopted by the General Assembly, the programme budget implications that might arise in connection with paragraph 8 of the draft resolution will be taken up within the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 have requested that the draft resolution be adopted without a vote. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to adopt the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): We turn now to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations of the



(The Chairman)

Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction". The draft resolution has 40 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Austria.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the First Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52 is sponsored by the following States: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zaire.

I should like to make the following statement on behalf of the Secretary-General with regard to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction". By the terms of paragraph 3 of that draft resolution the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the relevant parts of the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference on the biological weapons Convention.

(Mr. Kheradi)

The wording of paragraph 3 is identical to that of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/74 B, adopted last year. Consequently, it should be reiterated that the Secretary-General considers that if the draft resolution is adopted by the General Assembly, he would be

"required to render technical services and assistance to States parties to the Convention with a view to enabling them to implement relevant parts of the Final Declaration of the Review Conference, it being understood that such services and assistance would have no financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations and that all related costs would be met by the States parties to the Convention, in accordance with the rules of procedure adopted by the Second Review Conference."

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The First Committee will now consider draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52. The sponsors have asked that the Committee adopt the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Committee decides to do so?

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.52 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to explain their position on the draft resolutions just adopted.

Mr. de La BAUME (France) (interpretation from French): My delegation did not participate in the voting on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43, and I would be grateful if that were reflected in the Committee's report.

Mr. HU Xiaodi (China) (interpretation from Chinese): The Chinese delegation did not object to the consensus adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 on the Review Conference of the Parties to the Sea-bed Treaty. At

(Mr. Hu Xiaodi, China)

the same time, I should like to state that China is not at present a party to that Treaty and did not participate in the Treaty's Review Conference.

Mr. AZIKIWE (Nigeria): Nigeria did not participate in the voting on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.43 as we are not a party to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof. We wish to note that Nigeria did not participate in the recently concluded Review Conference held at Geneva two months ago.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): Since no other delegations wish to explain their position, the Committee has thus concluded its consideration of the draft resolutions in cluster 2.

The Committee will now turn to cluster 3, which contains draft resolutions A/C.1/44/L.4, L.59/Rev.1 and L.61.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): I should like to inform delegations that the following countries have become sponsors of the following draft resolutions: draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4, Mongolia; draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1, Bolivia.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now call upon delegations wishing to introduce draft resolutions in cluster 3.

Mr. AZIKIWE (Nigeria): On behalf of Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ethiopia, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Liberia, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Zaire and Nigeria, I wish to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1, "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme".

(Mr. Azikiwe, Nigeria)

The fellowship programme has proved to be more useful to Member States than was envisaged at the time of its establishment at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. There have been increasing demands for places in the programme - more than the number available - which demonstrates the importance Member States attach to it.

The United Nations Regional Disarmament Workshop for Africa, which was held at Lagos early this year under the auspices of the programme, and which provided an opportunity for the consideration of African security perceptions and requirements, including related regional issues, proved very helpful.

I should like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all the Governments that have offered assistance to ensure the successful implementation of the programme, which has been so well executed by the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

My delegation notes with satisfaction that former fellows have been actively contributing to the work of the First Committee. The draft resolution recognizes the appreciable number of fellows that have been trained under the programme and expresses the belief that the forms of assistance available to Member States under the programme will facilitate better understanding of disarmament issues. In its operative section the draft resolution commends the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out and requests him to continue its implementation.

We commend the draft resolution for adoption by consensus, without a vote.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I now call upon delegations who wish to speak in explanation of vote before the voting on any of the draft resolutions in cluster 3.

Mr. FRIEDERSDORF (United States of America): The United States delegation has asked to speak to explain its vote on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4, concerning the World Disarmament Campaign.

We would note that operative paragraph 4 is inaccurate and inappropriate because most of the States that have the largest military expenditures do indeed make financial contributions to the World Disarmament Campaign through their United Nations assessed contributions. That paragraph is inappropriate because, by definition, voluntary contributions cannot be contributions made under duress, and language applying such pressure should not appear in a United Nations resolution.

Regrettably, we must abstain in the voting on this draft resolution because of its financial implications, as well as because of the paragraph I have just mentioned. Under the decision taken at the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, the Campaign was to be financed solely from voluntary contributions. It is not. A substantial part of the funding of the Campaign now comes from United Nations assessed contributions.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The Committee will now take action on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4, "World Disarmament Campaign". The draft resolution has 15 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Mexico at the 29th meeting of the First Committee on 7 November.

I now call on the Secretary of the Committee to read out the list of sponsors.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4 is sponsored by the following delegations: Bangladesh, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Egypt, the German Democratic Republic, Indonesia, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The Committee will now proceed to the vote on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece; Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4 was adopted by 117 votes to none, with

9 abstentions.\*

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\* Subsequently the delegations of Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Kuwait, Mauritania and the Sudan advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The Committee will now turn to draft resolution A/C.1/L.59/Rev.1, "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme". The draft resolution has 22 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Nigeria. I call upon the Committee's Secretary to read the list of sponsors.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1 are: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Liberia, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Zaire.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1 have asked that it be adopted by the Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Committee wishes to do so?

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The Committee will now turn to draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.61, "Disarmament Week". The draft resolution has 15 sponsors and was introduced by the representative of Mongolia at the 31st meeting of the First Committee, on 8 November 1989.

I call upon the Committee Secretary.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.61 has the following sponsors: Angola, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Viet Nam.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.61 have requested that it be adopted by the Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Committee wishes to do so?

Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.61 was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): I now call upon delegations wishing to make statements in explanation of their vote on position on the draft resolutions in cluster 3.

Mr. von STÜLPNAGEL (Federal Republic of Germany): I should like to speak on agenda item 64 (d), "World Disarmament Campaign", and on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4.

From the start, in 1982, the Federal Republic of Germany has fully and actively supported the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign. We consider its goal of providing world public opinion with impartial and comprehensive information of questions of arms control and disarmament as important for our common task of achieving peace and security.

As was already stated in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1978, it is essential that not only Governments but also the peoples of the world recognize and understand the underlying factors. Public opinion needs access to information and expertise. In democratic societies the decision-making process of the Government has to take public opinion into account, which thereby, and by its expertise, shares in controlling its policy.

The commitment of the Federal Republic of Germany to the World Disarmament Campaign has to be seen in that context. At this year's Pledging Conference the Federal Republic of Germany once again made a voluntary contribution in order to



(Mr. von Stülpnagel, Federal  
Republic of Germany)

ensure the future work of the Secretariat in spreading information on disarmament.  
Let me avail myself of this opportunity to express my Government's appreciation for  
the competent work of the Department for Disarmament Affairs in this field as well.

(Mr. von Stülpnagel,  
Federal Republic of Germany)

The World Disarmament Campaign has always been financed within existing United Nations resources supplemented by voluntary contributions from Member States and private sources. There are many ways to contribute to achieving the goals of the World Disarmament Campaign. There are Governments that make direct grants to foundations, universities and other institutions that carry out research in the disarmament field and spread related information. They can, furthermore, organize seminars, workshops, information campaigns and so forth on their own initiative and at their own expense.

We consider it helpful that any Government or private institution can freely choose from among different options the appropriate way to support the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign. Contributions to its trust fund, as one possible option, must therefore remain voluntary, and a one-time grant cannot be regarded as an initial payment that would entail an obligation. We continue to support the common practice of earmarking donated funds. It goes without saying that these decisions are made in close contact with the Department of Disarmament Affairs.

For those reasons, we could not support draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.4, which questions the aforementioned principles, and we abstained in the vote.

Mr. DONOWAKI (Japan): Japan wishes to explain its vote on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.59/Rev.1, on the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme. Japan considers that the United Nations fellowship programme is very important in promoting expertise in disarmament, especially in developing countries. At the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1982, the Assembly adopted annex IV to the Concluding Document with

(Mr. Donowaki, Japan)

respect to this programme, in which it was decided to continue the programme and to increase the number of participants from 20 to 25. At that time Japan proposed to invite the participants in the programme to make a study-visit to Japan, including Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Based upon that proposal, we have to date received a number of participants every year since 1983.

I wish to inform the Committee that this year again, like last year, Japan was happy to welcome participants in this programme to come to Japan. Japan is willing to continue to co-operate with this programme, which is why we voted in favour of the draft resolution.

The CHAIRMAN (interpretation from Spanish): At our next meeting, to be held tomorrow morning, I propose that the Committee proceed to take action on the following draft resolutions: in cluster 3, A/C.1/44/L.17/Rev.1; in cluster 5, A/C.1/44/L.12, L.14, L.24, L.31 and L.34; in cluster 6, A/C.1/44/L.3 and L.39; and in cluster 7, A/C.1/44/L.5, L.9, L.21, L.42, L.48 and L.53/Rev.1.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.