



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/9902
4 December 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth session
Agenda item 28

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. António da COSTA LOBO (Portugal)

1. The item entitled "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons: report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament" was included by the Secretary-General in the provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session on the basis of General Assembly resolution 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973.
2. At its 2236th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1974, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item on the agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee for consideration and report.
3. At its 1987th meeting, on 25 September, the First Committee decided to have a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament and the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, namely:
 - Item 24: Reduction of the military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council by 10 per cent and utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries.
 - Item 27: Napalm and other incendiary weapons and all aspects of their possible use.
 - Item 28: Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons.
 - Item 29: Urgent need for cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear tests and conclusion of a treaty designed to achieve a comprehensive test ban.
 - Item 30: Implementation of General Assembly resolution 3079 (XXVIII) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

- Item 31: Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.
- Item 34: World Disarmament Conference.
- Item 35: General and complete disarmament.
- Item 100: Implementation of General Assembly resolution 2286 (XXII) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco).
- Item 101: Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.
- Item 103: Prohibition of action to influence the environment and climate for military and other purposes incompatible with the maintenance of international security, human well-being and health.
- Item 107: Declaration and establishment of a nuclear-free zone in South Asia.

4. The general debate on these items took place at the 1998th to 2016th meetings, from 21 October to 11 November.

5. In connexion with agenda item 28, the First Committee had before it the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (A/9708-DC/237).

6. On 15 November, Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Canada, Egypt, Finland, Hungary, India, Mongolia, Poland, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.692), which was subsequently also sponsored by Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Portugal. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Poland at the 2021st meeting, on 18 November.

7. At its 2022nd meeting, on 18 November, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/L.692 without a vote (see para. 8 below).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2933 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972 and 3077 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973,

/...

Convinced that the process of détente in the world is conducive to the implementation of further disarmament measures and of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Stressing the contribution that early agreement on the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction would make to general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Recalling that it has repeatedly condemned all actions that are contrary to the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, 1/

Reaffirming the need for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of that Protocol,

Convinced that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction 2/ constitutes an important step towards agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from the arsenals of all States,

Recalling, in this connexion, the undertaking contained in article IX of the Convention to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of their development, production and stockpiling and for their destruction,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, 3/

Noting that draft conventions on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction as well as many other working documents, proposals and suggestions have been submitted to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

Desiring to contribute to the successful conclusion of negotiations on effective measures for the complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction,

1. Reaffirms the objective of reaching agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their elimination from the arsenals of all States;

2. Urges all States to make every effort to facilitate agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

1/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV, No. 2138, p. 65.

2/ General Assembly resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

3/ A/9708-DC/237.

3. Requests the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to continue negotiations as a matter of high priority, bearing in mind existing proposals, with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and for their destruction;

4. Invites all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, with a view to its entry into force and effective implementation at an early date;

5. Invites all States that have not yet done so to accede to or ratify the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, in the course of 1975 in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of its signing, and calls anew for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives contained therein;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents of the First Committee relating to questions connected with the problem of chemical weapons and chemical methods of warfare;

7. Requests the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.
