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Agenda item 39

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN
AS A ZONE OF PEACE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernst SUCHARIPA (Austria)

1. The item entitled:

"Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace:

(a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;

(b) Report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean"

was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/68 of 14 December 1978.

2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1979, 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 3rd meeting, on 1 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 30 to 45, 120 and 121. The general debate on those items took place at the 4th to 30th meetings, from 16 October to 5 November (A/C.1/34/PV.4-30).

4. In connexion with item 39, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean 1/ containing, inter alia, two draft resolutions unanimously recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee for adoption by the General Assembly; 2/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/34/29).

2/ Ibid., para. 21.

- (b) Report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean; 3/
- (c) Letter dated 6 July 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 4 to 9 June 1979 (A/34/357);
- (d) Letter dated 27 July 1979 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the resolutions and final communiqué of the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Fez from 8 to 12 May 1979 (A/34/389);
- (e) Letter dated 1 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents of the Sixth Conference of Heads of States or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979 (A/34/542).

5. At the 33rd meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Sri Lanka, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, introduced the report of the Ad Hoc Committee containing draft resolutions A and B.

6. On 28 November, the Secretary-General submitted a statement (A/C.1/34/L.53) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At its 50th meeting, on 30 November, the First Committee voted on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee in paragraph 21 of its report. The voting was as follows:

(a) Draft resolution A was adopted by a recorded vote of 102 to none, with 23 abstentions (see para. 8, draft resolution A): 4/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia,

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 45 (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

4/ Subsequently, the delegations of Cyprus, Guinea and the Seychelles advised the Secretariat that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

/...

Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Belgium, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

(b) Draft resolution B was adopted by a recorded vote of 111 to none, with 14 abstentions (see para. 8, draft resolution B): 5/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

5/ Subsequently, the delegations of Cyprus, Guinea and the Seychelles advised the Secretariat that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the Declaration of the
Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 2992 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3080 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, 3259 A (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3468 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/88 of 14 December 1976, 32/86 of 12 December 1977, S-10/2 of 30 June 1978 and 33/68 of 14 December 1978,

Encouraged by the continued support extended to the Declaration by the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979, 6/

Reaffirming its conviction that concrete action in furtherance of the objectives of the Declaration would be a substantial contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Deeply concerned at the intensification of great-Power military presence, conceived in the context of great-Power rivalry, leading to an increase of tension in the area,

Considering that the continued military presence of the great Powers in the Indian Ocean, conceived in the context of great-Power rivalry, with the danger of a competitive escalation of such a military presence, gives greater urgency to the need to take practical steps for the early implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace,

Considering also that the creation of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean requires co-operation among the regional States to ensure conditions of peace and security within the region, as envisaged in the Declaration, and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the littoral and hinterland States,

Further considering that, at its tenth special session, devoted to disarmament, it noted the proposal for establishing the Indian Ocean as a zone of

6/ See A/34/542.

peace, taking into account its deliberations and its relevant resolutions and the need to ensure the maintenance of peace and security in the region, 7/

Noting that talks were initiated between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America regarding their military presence in the Indian Ocean, and that the two countries have kept the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean informed of the current situation concerning these talks,

Regretting, however, that the talks still remain suspended,

Encouraged by the holding of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, which provided an opportunity for the further harmonization of the positions of the littoral and hinterland States,

1. Takes note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean 8/ and the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean; 9/

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the issues on which the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean succeeded in harmonizing a common position;

3. Expresses the hope for the early implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace as contained in General Assembly resolution 2832 (XXVI);

4. Urges that the talks between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America regarding their military presence in the Indian Ocean should be resumed without delay and that the parties should refrain from any activity prejudicial to the implementation of resolution 2832 (XXVI);

5. Renews the general mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions;

6. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session a full report on its work;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records.

7/ Resolution S-10/2, para. 64 (b).

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/34/29).

9/ Ibid., Supplement No. 45 (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling the recommendations contained in paragraphs 34 and 35 of the report of the Meeting of Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean,

1. Decides to enlarge the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean by the addition of new members to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee:
2. Invites the permanent members of the Security Council and major maritime users of the Indian Ocean referred to in paragraph 12 (c) of the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean that have not yet done so to serve on the expanded Ad Hoc Committee;
3. Decides to convene a Conference on the Indian Ocean during 1981 at Colombo, Sri Lanka, for the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace as contained in General Assembly resolution 2832 (XXVI);
4. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to undertake the preparatory work for the convening of the Conference, including consideration of appropriate arrangements for any international agreement that may ultimately be reached for the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, as referred to in paragraph 3 of resolution 2832 (XXVI), and to hold its preparatory sessions at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at least two such sessions, including the final one, in Mauritius;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary provision for the Conference, including the essential background information, relevant documentation and summary records, and to render all necessary assistance to the expanded Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records and interpretation in the languages of the General Assembly, as required.



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Agenda item 40

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernst SUCHARIPA (Austria)

1. The item entitled "World Disarmament Conference: report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/69 of 14 December 1978.
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1979, 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 3rd meeting, on 1 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 30 to 45, 120 and 121. The general debate on these items took place at the 4th to 30th meetings, from 16 October to 5 November (A/C.1/34/PV.4-30).
4. In connexion with item 40, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference; 1/
 - (b) Letter dated 6 July 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Colombo from 4 to 9 June 1979 (A/34/357);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 28 (A/34/28).

- (c) Letter dated 1 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 3 to 9 September 1979 (A/34/542).

5. On 14 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/34/L.22), which was subsequently also sponsored by Mongolia and Viet Nam. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 35th meeting, on 15 November.

6. At its 40th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/34/L.22 without a vote (see para. 7).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

World Disarmament Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2833 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, 2930 (XXVII) of 29 November 1972, 3183 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3260 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3469 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/190 of 21 December 1976, 32/89 of 12 December 1977 and 33/69 of 14 December 1978,

Reiterating its conviction that all peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States should be in a position to contribute to the adoption of measures for the achievement of this goal,

Stressing anew its conviction that a world disarmament conference, adequately prepared and convened at an appropriate time, could promote the realization of such an aim and that the co-operation of all nuclear-weapon Powers would considerably facilitate its attainment,

Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference, 2/

Recalling that, in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of General Assembly, 2/ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

2/ Resolution S-10/2.

1. Notes with satisfaction that in its report to the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference stated the following:

"Having regard for the important requirements of a world disarmament conference to be convened at the earliest appropriate time, with universal participation and with adequate preparation, the General Assembly may wish to decide that, after its second special session devoted to disarmament, a world disarmament conference would take place as soon as the necessary consensus on its convening has been reached"; 3/

2. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to maintain close contact with the representatives of the States possessing nuclear weapons in order to remain currently informed of their attitudes, as well as with all other States, and to consider any possible relevant proposals and observations which might be made to the Committee, especially having in mind paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session;

4. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session the item entitled "World Disarmament Conference".
