Thirty-fifth session
Agenda item 42

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ronald Listeri KERSTMIL (Suriname)

I. INTRODUCTION

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-fifth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/81 of 11 December 1979.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1980, 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 9 October, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 31 to 49 and 121. The general debate on these items took place at the 4th to 28th meetings, from 15 October to 4 November (see A/C.1/35/PV.4-28).

4. In connexion with item 42, the First Committee had before it the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference. 1/

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/35/L.24

5. On 17 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/35/L.24), subsequently sponsored also by Mongolia, which was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 35th meeting, on 19 November.


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6. At its 40th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 7).

III. 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,


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 provide 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 the General Assembly, 3/ it decided that, at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

Noting that, in its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, on the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that paragraph 122 of the Final Document stated that at the earliest appropriate time, a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,


3/ 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, inter alia, 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"; 4/

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 of the General Assembly;

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

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