Fortieth session
Agenda item 65

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND
DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH
SPECIAL SESSION

Report of the First Committee (Part I)

Rapporteur: Mr. Yannis SOULIOTIS (Greece)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by
the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(c) Status of multilateral disarmament agreements: report of the
Secretary-General;

"(d) Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies: report of the Secretary-General;

"(e) Cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament: report of the
Conference on Disarmament;

"(f) Non-use of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war: report of the
Conference on Disarmament;

"(g) Prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon: report of the Conference on
Disarmament;

* Reissued for technical reasons.
"(h) Prevention of nuclear war:

"(i) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(ii) Reports of the Secretary-General;

"(i) Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations;

"(j) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research: report of the Director of the Institute;

"(k) Comprehensive programme of disarmament: report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(l) Disarmament Week: report of the Secretary-General;

"(m) Implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the tenth special session:

"(i) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(ii) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(n) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade: report of the Disarmament Commission"

was included in the provisional agenda of the fortieth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 39/148 B to R of 17 December 1984.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, 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 2nd meeting, on 15 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 48 to 69 and item 145, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and continuation of general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and the 32nd meetings, from 14 October to 8 November (see A/C.1/40/PV.3-32).

4. In connection with item 65, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission; 2/

c) Report of the Secretary-General on the climatic effects of nuclear war, including nuclear winter (A/40/449);

d) Report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of nuclear war (A/40/498);

e) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of multilateral disarmament agreements (A/40/551);

f) Report of the Secretary-General on Disarmament Week (A/40/552 and Corr.1);

g) Report of the Secretary-General on the Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies (A/40/744);

h) Note by the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/40/725);

i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting information received from Governments in connection with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 39/1480 (A/40/842);

j) Letter dated 21 December 1984 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/57);

k) Letter dated 30 January 1985 from the representatives of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Delhi Declaration adopted and issued at New Delhi on 28 January 1985 by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania (A/40/114-S/16921);

l) Letter dated 11 February 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/125);

m) Letter dated 15 February 1985 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/130-S/16958);

n) Letter dated 8 April 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/228);

5. The consideration of proposals submitted under this agenda item is divided into two parts. Part I deals only with a draft resolution entitled "Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations". Part II deals with all other proposals submitted under the agenda item.

Draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.60

6. On 7 November 1985, Algeria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Sri Lanka, Yemen and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution entitled "Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations" (A/C.1/40/L.60), which was subsequently also sponsored by Ecuador and Zimbabwe. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Yugoslavia at the 34th meeting, on 12 November.
7. At its 38th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.60 by a recorded vote of 117 to none, with 16 abstentions (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, 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: Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations

The General Assembly,

Noting the agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to begin negotiations on "a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms both strategic and intermediate range" with the objective "to work out effective agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on Earth", which negotiations ultimately "should lead to the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere",

/...
Deeply concerned by the fact that humanity is confronted today with an unprecedented threat to its survival arising from the massive and competitive accumulation of the most destructive weapons ever produced, especially nuclear weapons more than sufficient to destroy all life on Earth,

Conscious that such a situation is all the more difficult to justify if one takes into account that there already exists an international consensus that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought,

1. Expresses its hope that the forthcoming meeting between the two leaders of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will give a decisive impetus to their current bilateral negotiations so that these negotiations produce early and effective agreements on the halting of the nuclear-arms race with its negative effects on international security as well as on social and economic development, reduction of their nuclear arsenals, prevention of the arms race in outer space and its use for peaceful purposes;

2. Invites the two negotiating parties to keep the General Assembly duly informed of the progress of their negotiations;

3. Reaffirms that in these negotiations the vital interests of all peoples, including those of the two negotiating parties, are at stake;

4. Further reaffirms that bilateral negotiations do not in any way diminish the urgent need to initiate and pursue multilateral negotiations on the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and nuclear disarmament and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to convey this resolution to the leaders of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics before their meeting at Geneva on 19 and 20 November 1985.