Fortieth session
Agenda item 67

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Yannis SOULIOTIS (Grèce)

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 fortieth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/150 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 9 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 67, 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.1/40/L.50

5. On 7 November, Burundi, Peru, Poland, Spain and Sri Lanka submitted a draft resolution entitled "World Disarmament Conference" (A/C.1/40/L.50). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 33rd meeting, on 11 November.

6. In connection with the draft resolution, the Secretary-General submitted a statement on the programme budget implications (A/C.1/40/L.76).

7. At its 37th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/40/L.50 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

8. 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 the 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,

Recalling also that, in paragraph 23 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, the General Assembly considered it pertinent also to recall that in paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session it had stated that at the earliest appropriate time a world disarmament conference should be convened with universal participation and with adequate preparation,

1. Notes with satisfaction that, in paragraph 14 of 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 should take up the question at its fortieth regular session for further consideration, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 36/91, adopted by consensus, in particular paragraph 1 of that resolution, and resolution 39/150, also adopted by consensus";

2. Renews the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to continue to maintain close contact with the representatives of the nuclear-weapon States in order to remain currently informed of their positions, as well as with all other States, and to consider any relevant comments 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 report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session;

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

3/ Resolution S-10/2.