Twenty-second session
Agenda item 91

TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. C. Torsten W. Örn (Sweden)

1. The item entitled "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America" was included in the provisional agenda of the twenty-second session (A/6860/Rev.1) at the request of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, which was transmitted to the Secretary-General by a letter dated 11 July 1967 (A/6676). An explanatory memorandum was attached to the request. Subsequently, the following States added their names to those listed above: Paraguay (A/6676/Add.1), Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua (A/6676/Add.2), Argentina (A/6676/Add.3) and Honduras (A/6676/Add.4).

2. At its 166th meeting, on 21 September 1967, the General Committee recommended the inclusion of the item in the agenda (A/6840).

3. At its 1564th plenary meeting, on 23 September, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee (A/6850/Rev.1) and allocated the item to the First Committee for consideration and report (A/6851/Rev.1).

4. The First Committee considered the item at its 1504th to 1511th meetings, from 23 to 30 October, and at its 1531st, 1533rd, 1535th and 1538th meetings on 17, 21, 24 and 28 November.

5. On 30 October, a draft resolution was submitted by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.1/L.406), a revised text of which

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was subsequently submitted on 13 November by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.1/L.406/Rev.1). By the revised draft resolution the General Assembly would: (1) welcome with special satisfaction the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, which constituted an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and promote international peace and security and which at the same time established the right of Latin American countries to use nuclear energy for demonstrated peaceful purposes in order to accelerate the economic and social development of their peoples; (2) call upon all States to give their full co-operation to ensure that the régime laid down in the Treaty enjoyed the universal observance to which its lofty principles and noble aims entitled it; (3) recommend that States which were or might become signatories of the Treaty and those contemplated in Additional Protocol I of the Treaty should strive to take all measures within their power to ensure that the Treaty speedily obtained the widest application among them; (4) invite Powers possessing nuclear weapons to sign and ratify Additional Protocol II of the Treaty as soon as possible.

6. On 21 November, the sponsors of the revised draft resolution (A/C.1/L.406/Rev.1) submitted a further revised text thereof (A/C.1/L.406/Rev.2), which included a new penultimate preambular paragraph reading as follows: "Noting that it is the intent of the signatory States that all existing States within the zone defined in the Treaty may become parties to it without any restriction."

7. At its 1538th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution (A/C.1/L.406/Rev.2) by a roll-call vote of 79 to none, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg,
8. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

**Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America**

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would carry out studies and take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

Recalling also that in the same resolution it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and particularly the nuclear Powers, would lend it their full co-operation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

Considering that in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965 it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of the nuclear and non-nuclear Powers,

Bearing in mind that in its resolution 2153 A (XXI) of 4 November 1966 it expressly called upon all nuclear-weapon Powers to refrain from the use, or the
threat of use, of nuclear weapons against States which might conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories,

Noting that is precisely the object of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America signed at Tlatelolco, Mexico, by twenty-one Latin American States, which are convinced that the Treaty will constitute a measure that will spare their peoples from squandering their limited resources on nuclear armaments and will protect them against possible nuclear attacks on their territories, and noting also that it will be a stimulus to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the promotion of economic and social development and that it will act as a significant contribution towards preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and a powerful factor for general and complete disarmament,

Noting further that it is the intent of the signatory States that all existing States within the zone defined in the Treaty may become parties to the Treaty without any restriction,

Taking note of the fact that the Treaty contains two additional protocols open, respectively, to the signature of States which, de jure or de facto, are internationally responsible for territories which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty, and to the signature of States possessing nuclear weapons, and convinced that the co-operation of such States is necessary for the greater effectiveness of the Treaty,

1. Welcomes with special satisfaction the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, which constitutes an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security, and which at the same time establishes the right of Latin American countries to use nuclear energy for demostrated peaceful purposes in order to accelerate the economic and social development of their peoples;

2. Calls upon all States to give their full co-operation to ensure that the régime laid down in the Treaty enjoys the universal observance to which its lofty principles and noble aims entitle it;

3. Recommends States which are or may become signatories of the Treaty and those contemplated in Additional Protocol I of the Treaty to strive to take all
measures within their power to ensure that the Treaty speedily obtains the widest possible application among them:

4. **Invites** Powers possessing nuclear weapons to sign and ratify Additional Protocol II of the Treaty as soon as possible.