Twenty-second session
Agenda item 28

NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Report of the First Committee

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

1. The item "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons: (a) report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament; (b) report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Non-Nuclear Weapon States" was included by the Secretary-General in the provisional agenda of the twenty-second session (A/6680/Rev.1), on the basis of resolutions 2153 A and B (XXI) of 17 November 1966.

2. At its 165th meeting, on 20 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.2) and allocated the item to the First Committee (A/6851/Rev.2) for consideration and report. It was considered at the 1552nd to 1555th meetings from 15 to 18 December 1967.

4. On 14 December, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, India, Iraq, Libya, Mexico, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.416) on sub-item (a), a revised text of which was subsequently submitted on 18 December. By the revised draft resolution, which was co-sponsored by Italy (A/C.1/L.416/Rev.1), the General Assembly would: (1) reaffirm its resolutions 2028 (XX), 2149 (XXI) and 2153 A (XXI); (2) call upon the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament urgently to continue its work giving all due consideration to all proposals submitted to the Committee, and to the views expressed by Member States
during the twenty-second session of the General Assembly; (3) request the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly on or before 15 March 1968 a full report on the negotiations on a draft treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, together with pertinent documents and records; (4) recommend that upon receipt of such report appropriate consultations be initiated in accordance with the rules of procedure on the setting of an early date after 15 March for the resumption of the twenty-second session to consider item 28 (a): "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons: Report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament."

5. On 15 December, Burundi, Chile, Ghana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.420) under sub-item (b), a revised text of which was subsequently submitted on 18 December. By the revised draft resolution, which was co-sponsored by Italy (A/C.1/L.420/Rev.1), the General Assembly would:

(1) approve the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of the Non-Nuclear-Weapon States (A/6817) subject to paragraph 2; (2) decide to convene the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States in Geneva from 11 March to 10 April 1968; (3) decide to invite Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Members of the United Nations, and members of the specialised agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the Conference; (4) request the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements for convening the Conference in accordance with the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States (A/6817).

6. At the 1555th meeting, on 18 December, in the light of information supplied by the Secretariat, the Committee decided to insert the dates 29 August to 28 September 1968 in operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.1/L.420/Rev.1.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee approved draft resolution A/C.1/L.416/Rev.1 by 94 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions (see paragraph 9 below, draft resolution A).

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee approved draft resolution A/C.1/L.420/Rev.1 by a roll-call vote of 90 to none, with 8 abstentions (see paragraph 9 below, draft resolution B). The voting was as follows:
In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Burma, Cameroon, Cuba, Cyprus, France, Guinea, India.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

A

The General Assembly,

Having received the interim report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,\(^1\)/

Noting the progress that the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament has made towards preparing a draft international treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Noting further that it has not been possible to complete the text of an international treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons,

\(^1\)/ A/6951.
Reaffirming that it is imperative to make further efforts to conclude such a treaty at the earliest possible date,
Expressing the hope that the remaining differences between all the States concerned can be quickly resolved,
Taking into account the fact that the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament is continuing its work with a view to negotiating a draft treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and intends to submit a full report for the consideration of the General Assembly as soon as possible,
1. Reaffirms its resolutions 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, 2149 (XXI) of 6 November 1966 and 2153 A (XXI) of 17 November 1966;
2. Calls upon the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament urgently to continue its work, giving all due consideration to all proposals submitted to the Committee and to the views expressed by Member States during the twenty-second session of the General Assembly;
3. Requests the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly on or before 15 March 1968 a full report on the negotiations regarding a draft treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, together with the pertinent documents and records;
4. Recommends that upon the receipt of that report appropriate consultations should be initiated in accordance with the rules of procedure on the setting of an early date after 15 March 1968 for the resumption of the twenty-second session of the General Assembly to consider the item 28 (a) "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons: report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament".

B

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 2153 B (XXI) of 17 November 1966, by which it decided that a Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States should be convened not later than July 1968,
Having considered with appreciation the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, 1/

1/ A/6817.
1. Approves the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of the Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, subject to paragraph 2 below;

2. Decides to convene the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States in Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968;

3. Decides to invite to the Conference non-nuclear-weapon States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements for convening the Conference in accordance with the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee.