CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Maxime-Léopold ZOLLNER (Dahomey)

1. The Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States was held at Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2346 (XXII) of 19 December 1967.

2. By a note dated 14 October 1968 (A/7224), the Secretary-General requested, under rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the inclusion of the item "Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States: Final document of the Conference" in the agenda of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly. By a letter dated 28 September 1968 (A/7224/Add.1), the President of the Conference transmitted the Final Document of the Conference (A/7277 and Corr.1 and 2) and drew the Secretary-General's attention in particular to paragraph 17, resolution N, which invited the General Assembly at its twenty-third session to consider the best ways and means for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Conference, and the continuity of the work undertaken, and at a subsequent session to consider the question of the convening of a second Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

3. At its 175th meeting, on 17 October 1968, the General Committee recommended the inclusion of the item in the agenda (A/7250/Add.1).

4. At its 1699th plenary meeting, on 17 October 1968, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee (A/7260/Rev.3) and allocated the item to the First Committee (A/7261/Rev.3) for consideration and report.
5. The item was considered at the 1606th to 1617th meetings from 12 to 22 November, at the 1623rd to 1635th meetings from 27 November to 10 December, and at the 1643rd meeting on 17 December 1968.
6. In addition to the Final Document of the Conference, the Committee had before it the following documents:
   (a) A note by the Secretary-General dated 14 November 1968 (A/7327) attaching an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
   (b) A note by the Secretary-General dated 29 November 1968 (A/7364) attaching an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme;
   (c) A letter dated 25 November 1968 from the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Mexico (A/C.1/976) addressed to the Secretary-General requesting distribution of the document entitled "Working paper on an international programme of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, for the benefit of States which have renounced nuclear weapons", which was submitted by the delegation of Mexico to the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.1/
7. The Committee also had before it the following draft resolutions:
   (a) A draft resolution submitted on 2 December 1968 by Cyprus (A/C.1/L.449) which was also submitted under agenda item 27 (see A/7441, para. 5 (f)). A revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.1/L.449/Rev.1) was submitted on 9 December, by which the General Assembly, considering the availability of the Disarmament Commission, would: (1) request the Disarmament Commission as soon as it reconvened (a) to give studied consideration to the problem of disarmament in its relation to international security through the United Nations with a view to an integrated solution; (b) to present its report to the General Assembly if possible at its twenty-fifth session; (2) request the Secretary-General to provide the Disarmament Commission with all necessary documentation and technical assistance of consultants where necessary.
   (b) A draft resolution submitted on 3 December by Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Japan and the Netherlands (A/C.1/L.450), by which the General Assembly would: A. (1) endorse the declaration of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States; (2) take note of the resolutions adopted by the Conference; (3) request the

1/ A/CONF.35/DCC.15.
Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit those resolutions and the declaration to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to the international bodies concerned, as requested in the respective resolutions; (4) invite the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international bodies concerned to give careful consideration to the recommendations addressed to them by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and to report to the Secretary-General on action taken by them concerning the recommendations contained in the respective resolutions; B. (1) request the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report based on the information supplied by those concerned on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution for consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly; (2) further request the Secretary-General to place the question of the implementation of the results of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, including the question of convening a meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission, on the provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly; C. (1) request the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution G of the Conference, to appoint a group of experts, chosen on a personal basis, to prepare a full report on all possible contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries; (2) endorse the recommendation that the Secretary-General draw the attention of the group of experts to the desirability of taking advantage of the experience of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preparing the report; (3) request the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Government of States Members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

(c) A draft resolution submitted on 5 December by Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Italy, Pakistan and Yugoslavia (A/C.1/L.451), by which the General Assembly would:
I

(1) endorse the Declaration of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States;
(2) endorse the recommendations of the Conference, in resolution C recommending that the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament should undertake negotiations on matters of nuclear disarmament, and in resolution D urging the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States to enter at an early date into bilateral discussions on the limitation of offensive strategic nuclear weapons delivery systems and systems of defence against ballistic missiles;
(3) endorse the recommendation of the Conference, in resolution B, concerning the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones and the urgency of full compliance by the nuclear-weapon Powers with paragraph 4 of resolution 2266 (XXII) adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 1967;
(4) request the prompt attention and full co-operation of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Atomic Energy Agency as regards ways and means for the implementation of the programmes and measures contemplated in resolution J;
(5) note the recommendations of the Conference contained in resolution A reaffirming basic principles of the United Nations Charter, and in resolutions E, F, H, I, K, L and M concerning various issues in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
(6) request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit the above-mentioned resolutions and the Declaration to all the Members of the United Nations, members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to the international bodies concerned, for due consideration;
(7) request further the Secretary-General to submit a report based on the information supplied by those concerned on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.

II

(1) decide to convene the United Nations Disarmament Commission;
(2) request the Secretary-General to consult Member States to ascertain their preference on the alternatives of convening a meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission either not later than July 1969 or after the twenty-fourth
session of the General Assembly and before March 1970: (a) to consider, taking dully into account the reports of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, what new measures could be taken in the field of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, as well as in the field of security assurances; (b) to consider, taking dully into account the reports of the International Atomic Energy Agency and other concerned organizations, further international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy among all States with special regard to the needs and interests of developing countries; (3) recommend that the Disarmament Commission should ensure by appropriate means continuous and efficient efforts in these fields; (4) request the Secretary-General to furnish to the Disarmament Commission all necessary assistance, including the information supplied by those concerned on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution; (5) request the Disarmament Commission to submit a report on its work to the subsequent session of the General Assembly.

III

(1) request the Secretary-General to appoint a group of experts in accordance with resolution G of the Conference, chosen on a personal basis, to prepare a full report on all possible contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries; (2) endorse the recommendation that the Secretary-General draw the attention of the group of experts to the desirability of taking advantage of the experience of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preparing the report; (3) requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, members of its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

IV

request the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with the States Members of the United Nations, members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to transmit to the above-mentioned
Governments, in time for its consideration by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session: (a) A report, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme and the International Atomic Energy Agency, on the establishment, within the United Nations Development Programme, of a Nuclear Technology Research and Development Programme, to be executed as a matter of priority with the co-operation of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the benefit of the developing countries; (b) A report, with the assistance of the group of experts referred to in section III, as well as with the assistance of the International Atomic Energy Agency and of other international bodies concerned, on the establishment within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control.
(d) A draft resolution submitted on 5 December by Bulgaria and Hungary (A/C.1/L.452), by which the General Assembly, convinced that the recommendations of the Conference required careful examination by the Governments of States and by the international organizations to which the recommendations of the Conference were addressed, would: (1) request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with that end in view, to transmit the resolutions and the declaration to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, to the International Atomic Energy Agency, to the specialized agencies concerned and to other international organizations concerned, in accordance with the respective resolutions; (2) request the Secretary-General to ask IAEA, the specialized agencies concerned and other international bodies concerned to give careful consideration to the recommendations addressed to them by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and to include information on the results of that consideration in their annual reports to the General Assembly; (3) request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint a group of experts, chosen in their personal capacity, to prepare a full report on all possible contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries; (4) recommend that, in preparing the report, the group of experts should make full use of the experience and competence of IAEA; (5) request the Secretary-General to transmit the experts' report to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, to IAEA and to the specialized agencies concerned, and to submit it to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its twenty-fourth session; (6) further request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth regular session a report on the results of the consideration by IAEA, the specialized agencies and other international bodies concerned of the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

(e) A draft resolution submitted on 13 December by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands and Pakistan (A/C.1/L.458), subsequently co-sponsored by Dahomey and Peru (A/C.1/L.458/Add.1), by which the General Assembly would:

(1) endorse the Declaration of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States;
(2) take note of the resolutions adopted by the Conference;
(3) request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit the resolutions and the Declaration to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations at its
Nations and members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic
Energy Agency, and to the international bodies concerned, for careful consideration;

(4) invite the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency
and other international bodies concerned to report to the Secretary-General on
action taken by them concerning the recommendations contained in the respective
resolutions;

(5) invite the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the
United Nations Development Programme and the International Atomic Energy Agency to
continue, in consultation with their member States, the study of the recommendations
of concern to those organizations, contained in resolution J;

(6) request the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report based on
the information supplied by those concerned on the progress achieved in the
implementation of the present resolution for consideration at the twenty-fourth
session of the General Assembly;

(7) further request the Secretary-General to place on the provisional agenda
of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly the question of the
implementation, taking into account the reports of the ENDC and the IAEA, of the
results of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, including:

(a) The question of convening early in 1970 a meeting of the United Nations
Disarmament Commission to consider disarmament and the related question of the
security of nations;

(b) The question of further international co-operation in the peaceful uses
of nuclear energy with particular regard to the special needs and interests of
developing countries;

(8) request the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 6 of the
Conference, to appoint a group of experts, chosen on a personal basis, to prepare a
full report on all possible contributions of nuclear technology to the economic
and scientific advancement of the developing countries;

(9) endorse the recommendation that the Secretary-General draw the attention
of the group of experts to the desirability of taking advantage of the experience
of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preparing the report;

(10) request the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Governments
of States Members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies and
of the International Atomic Energy Agency in time to permit its consideration at the
twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.
(f) A draft resolution submitted on 13 December by Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.1/L.459), a revised text of which was submitted on the same date (A/C.1/L.459/Rev.1), subsequently co-sponsored by Ireland (A/C.1/L.459/Rev.1/Add.1), by which the General Assembly would: reiterate the recommendation of the Conference contained in resolution B concerning the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones and specially the urgent appeal for full compliance by the nuclear-weapon Powers with paragraph 4 of resolution 2286 (XXII) adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 1967, in which the Assembly invited Powers possessing nuclear weapons to sign and ratify Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America "as soon as possible".

(g) A draft resolution submitted on 13 December by Austria, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (A/C.1/L.460), subsequently co-sponsored by Ireland (A/C.1/L.460/Add.1), by which the General Assembly would: (1) request the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with the States Members of the United Nations, members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and with the co-operation of the latter and of those specialized agencies that he may consider pertinent, a report on the establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, under appropriate international control; (2) request further the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Governments of the States mentioned in paragraph 1, in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

(h) A draft resolution submitted on 13 December by Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, Iran, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands and Pakistan (A/C.1/L.462), subsequently co-sponsored by Ireland (A/C.1/L.462/Add.1) and Peru (A/C.1/L.462/Add.2), by which the General Assembly would urge the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to enter at an early date into bilateral discussions on the limitation of offensive strategic nuclear-weapon delivery systems and systems of defence against ballistic missiles.
8. At the 2643rd meeting, on 17 December, the Chairman stated that he had been informed by the co-sponsors of draft resolutions A/C.1/L.450 and A/C.1/L.451 that those texts had been withdrawn.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Cyprus stated that he would not press draft resolution A/C.1/L.449/Rev.1 to a vote at the current session.

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan moved that priority in the voting be given to draft resolution A/C.1/L.458. The Committee decided, by 54 votes to 9, with 34 abstentions, to give priority to that draft resolution.

11. The Committee then voted on draft resolution A/C.1/L.458. A separate vote was taken on operative paragraph 1. The voting was as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 84 votes to 8, with 10 abstentions.

(b) The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a roll-call vote of 87 to 8, with 6 abstentions (see paragraph 14 below, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.


Abstaining: Central African Republic, Cuba, Guinea, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Syria.

The representative of Morocco informed the Chairman that, had he been present at the time of voting, he would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

12. The representative of Hungary then stated that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/L.452 would not press that draft resolution to a vote.
13. At the same meeting, the Committee then voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.1/L.459/Rev.1) and on draft resolutions A/C.1/L.460 and A/C.1/L.462. The voting was as follows:

(a) Draft resolution A/C.1/L.459/Rev.1 was adopted by 85 votes to none, with 13 abstentions (see paragraph 14 below, draft resolution B).

(b) Draft resolution A/C.1/L.460 was adopted by a roll-call vote of 59 to 9, with 35 abstentions (see paragraph 14 below, draft resolution C). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Ceylon, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Abstaining: Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Denmark, France, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mauritania, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Syria, Uganda, United Arab Republic, United States of America.

The representative of Morocco informed the Chairman that, had he been present at the time of voting, he would have voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.1/L.460.

(c) Draft resolution A/C.1/L.462 was adopted by 97 votes to none, with 5 abstentions (see paragraph 14 below, draft resolution D).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

14. The First Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:
Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States

A

The General Assembly,

Noting that pursuant to its resolution 2346 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States was held at Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968 and attended by ninety-two non-nuclear-weapon States and four nuclear-weapon States: France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America,

Having examined the Final Document of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States; 2/

Appreciating the importance of the consideration given by the participants in the Conference to the problems of achieving a universal peace and, in particular, the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, cessation of the nuclear arms race, general and complete disarmament and harnessing of nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes,

Noting that the Conference has adopted the Declaration of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and fourteen resolutions containing various recommendations,

Welcoming the constructive proposals adopted by the Conference,

Considering that in order to fulfil the aims of the Conference it is necessary to ensure the implementation of these proposals, which will require appropriate action by the international bodies and Governments concerned,

Noting in particular the decision of the Conference, inviting the General Assembly at its present session to consider the best ways and means for the implementation of its decisions and the continuity of the work undertaken,

1. Endorses the Declaration of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States;
2. Takes note of the resolutions adopted by the Conference;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit the resolutions and the Declaration to the Governments of States Members of the

United Nations and members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to the international bodies concerned, for careful consideration:

4. **Invites** the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international bodies concerned to report to the Secretary-General on action taken by them concerning the recommendations contained in the respective resolutions;

5. **Invites** the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue, in consultation with their member States, the study of the recommendations of concern to those organizations, contained in resolution J of the Conference;

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report based on the information supplied by those concerned on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session;

7. **Further requests** the Secretary-General to place on the provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly the question of the implementation, taking into account the reports of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament\(^3\)/ and the International Atomic Energy Agency,\(^4\)/ of the results of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, including:

(a) The question of convening early in 1970 a meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission to consider disarmament and the related question of the security of nations;

(b) The question of further international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy with particular regard to the special needs and interests of developing countries;

8. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution G of the Conference, to appoint a group of experts, chosen on a personal basis, to prepare a full report on all possible contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries;

\(^3\)/ A/7189.

\(^4\)/ See A/7175 and Add.1.
9. **Endorses** the recommendation that the Secretary-General draw the attention of the group of experts to the desirability of taking advantage of the experience of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preparing the report;

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

B

The General Assembly,

**Having examined** the Final Document of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, 5/

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the initiative of the States situated within each zone concerned, is one of the measures which can contribute most effectively to halting the proliferation of those instruments of mass destruction and to promoting progress towards nuclear disarmament,

Observing that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, opened for signature on 14 February 1967, has already established a nuclear-weapon-free zone comprising territories densely populated by man,

Reiterates the recommendation of the Conference contained in resolution B, concerning the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones and specially the urgent appeal for full compliance by the nuclear-weapon Powers with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2236 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, in which the Assembly invited Powers possessing nuclear weapons to sign and ratify Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America as soon as possible.

C

The General Assembly,

**Having considered** the Final Document of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, 6/

6/ Ibid.
Observing that the use of explosive nuclear devices for peaceful purposes will have an extraordinary importance in the light of the technical documents prepared for the Conference at the request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Recalling the statements made at the 1577th meeting of the First Committee by the representatives of the Co-Chairmen of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, to the effect that it will be convenient to initiate promptly the preparatory work for the determination of the appropriate principles and international procedures that could be adopted, in order that the potential benefits of any peaceful application of nuclear explosions be made available with due consideration for the needs of the developing areas of the world,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with the States Members of the United Nations, members of its specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and with the co-operation of the latter and of those specialized agencies that he may consider pertinent, a report on the establishment, within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, under appropriate international control;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to transmit the report to the Governments of the States mentioned in paragraph 1 above in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

D

The General Assembly,

Noting the recommendation of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States in its resolution D,

Considering that, pursuant to the agreement reached between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America in July 1968 to enter into bilateral discussions on the limitation of both offensive strategic nuclear-weapon delivery systems and systems of defence against ballistic missiles, such discussions could lead to the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to the achievement of nuclear disarmament and relaxation of tensions,
Urge the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to enter at an early date into bilateral discussions on the limitation of offensive strategic nuclear-weapon delivery systems and systems of defence against ballistic missiles.
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Maxime-Léopold ZOLLNER (Dahomey)

1. The item entitled "International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" was included by the Secretary-General in the provisional agenda of the twenty-third session (A/7150) on the basis of General Assembly resolutions 2260 (XXII) of 3 November 1967 and 2345 (XXII) of 19 December 1967.

2. At its 174th meeting, on 25 September 1968, the General Committee recommended the inclusion of the item in the agenda (A/7250).

3. At its 1676th plenary meeting, on 27 September, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee and allocated the item to the First Committee for consideration and report.

4. The item was considered at the 1644th to 1646th meetings on 17 and 18 December.

5. On 17 December, a draft resolution was submitted by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (A/C.1/L.463), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 2221 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, 2250 (S-V) of 23 May 1967 and 2261 (XXII) of 3 November 1967, regarding the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

68-30801"
"Noting that the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was convened in Vienna, Austria from 14 August to 27 August 1968,

"Noting further that the discussions at the Conference have indicated that the exploration and use of outer space could bring immediate practical benefits for all countries regardless of the degree of their economic and scientific development,

"Reaffirming its belief that it is in the interest of all countries, and of the developing countries, in particular, that knowledge and understanding of the achievements of space science and technology should be more widely disseminated and that international co-operation in the field of practical applications of space science and technology should be actively promoted,

"1. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Austria for acting as host of the Conference and for its assistance in the organization of the Conference;

"2. Commends the results of the Conference and notes with gratification that the Conference achieved its purpose of examining the practical benefits of space exploration on the basis of scientific and technical achievements and the opportunities available to non-space Powers for international co-operation in space activities, with special relevance to the needs of the developing countries;

"3. Notes the intention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to consider all proposals arising from the discussions at the Conference;

"4. Welcomes the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to consider in detail all aspects of the proposals made by India that a small advisory group be constituted and that action be taken to arrange panel meetings, fellowships, surveys and technical assistance;

"5. Further welcomes the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to examine the proposal made by Sierra Leone that arrangements should be made for the use of expert services through a United Nations Centre for Information and Consultation in the field of practical applications of space technology;

"6. Urges all Member States to avail themselves to the fullest extent possible of the information contained in the papers presented and discussions held at the Conference in carrying out their national programmes;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General, to bring to the attention of all Member States, in particular the developing countries, the information contained in the papers presented and the discussions held at the Conference;"
"8. Expresses its appreciation for the participation and the contribution of the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WMO, ICAO, ITU, WHO, IMCO, IAEA and COSPAR in the work of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and invites these organizations to consider the work of the Conference and to take the necessary follow-up steps to ensure the future progress of the work in their respective areas of competence;

"9. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to report to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly on the steps taken pursuant to this resolution.

B

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2260 (XXII) of 3 November 1967, and resolution 2345 (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

"Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space document A/7285,

"Welcoming the entry into force on 3 December 1968 of the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space,

"Reaffirming the common interest of mankind in furthering the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

"Believing that benefits of space exploration can be extended to States at all stages of economic and scientific development if Member States conduct their space programmes in a manner designed to promote the maximum international co-operation and widest possible exchange of information in this field,

"Recognizing the importance of international co-operation in developing the rule of law in this new area of human endeavour,

"1. Endorses the recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

"2. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to

(a) complete urgently the preparation of a Draft Agreement on Liability for Damage Caused by the Launching of Objects into Outer Space and to submit it to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and

/...
(b) to continue to study questions relative to the definition of outer space and utilization of outer space and celestial bodies, including various implications of space communications, as well as those comments which may be brought to the attention of the Committee by specialized agencies and the IAEA as a result of their examination of problems that have arisen or may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence;

"3. Urges those countries which have not yet become parties to the Treaty of Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space to give early consideration to ratifying or to acceding to those agreements so that they can have the broadest possible effect;

"4. Reaffirms its belief, as expressed in General Assembly resolution 1721 D (XVI), that communications by means of satellites should be available to the nations of the world as soon as practicable on a global and non-discriminatory basis, and recommends that States parties to negotiations regarding international arrangements in the field of satellite communication constantly bear this principle in mind so that its ultimate realization may not be impaired;

"5. Approves the establishment by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space of a Working Group to study and report on the technical feasibility of communication by direct broadcast from satellites and the current and foreseeable developments in this field, including comparative user costs and other economic considerations, as well as the implications of such developments in the social, cultural, legal and other areas, and expresses the hope that interested States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies will contribute comments and working papers to the Working Group for its information and guidance in the performance of its task;

"6. Welcomes the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to take up at the next session serious consideration of suggestions and views regarding education and training in the field of exploration and peaceful uses of outer space expressed in the General Assembly and in the Committee, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of resolution 2260 (XXII);

"7. Approves continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station and recommends that Member States give consideration to the use of these facilities for appropriate space research activities;

"8. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee that, upon notification of the United Nations by the Government of Argentina that the Mar Chiquita Station near Mar del Plata is operative, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, shall appoint a small group of scientists, drawn from State Members of the Committee and familiar with space research and facilities, to visit the station in Argentina and report to the Committee on its eligibility for United Nations sponsorship, in accordance with the basic principles endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 1802 (XVII) of 14 December 1962;
"9. Welcomes the efforts of a number of Member States to keep the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space fully informed of their activities and invites other Member States to do so;

"10. Notes with appreciation that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI), the Secretary-General continues to maintain a public registry of objects launched into orbit or beyond on basis of information being furnished by Member States;

"11. Requests the specialized agencies and IAEA to examine the particular problems which arise or may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence and which should in their opinion be brought to the attention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and to report thereon to the Committee for its consideration as indicated in paragraph 2 (b) of this resolution;

"12. Invites the specialized agencies concerned and the IAEA to furnish the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, with progress reports on their work in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space;

"13. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work as set out in the present resolution and in previous General Assembly resolutions, and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session."

6. The Committee had before it a letter dated 12 December from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/79).

7. The Committee also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/L.463.

8. At its 1646th meeting, on 13 December, the Committee unanimously adopted the draft resolution (see paragraph 9 below, draft resolutions A and B).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

/...
International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2221 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, 2250 (S-V) of 23 May 1967 and 2261 (XXII) of 3 November 1967 regarding the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,

Noting that the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was convened in Vienna from 14 to 27 August 1968,

Noting further that the discussions at the Conference have indicated that the exploration and use of outer space could bring immediate practical benefits for all countries regardless of the degree of their economic and scientific development,

Reaffirming its belief that it is in the interest of all countries, and of the developing countries in particular, that knowledge and understanding of the achievements of space science and technology should be more widely disseminated and that international co-operation in the field of practical applications of space science and technology should be actively promoted,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Austria for acting as host of the Conference and for its assistance in the organization of the Conference;

2. Commends the results of the Conference and notes with gratification that it achieved its purpose of examining the practical benefits of space exploration on the basis of scientific and technical achievements and the opportunities available to non-space Powers for international co-operation in space activities, with special relevance to the needs of the developing countries,

3. Notes the intention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to consider all proposals arising from the discussions at the Conference,

4. Welcomes the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to consider in detail all aspects of the proposals made by India that a small advisory group be constituted and that action be taken to arrange panel meetings, fellowships, surveys and technical assistance;

/...
5. Further welcomes the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to examine the proposal made by Sierra Leone that arrangements should be made for the use of expert services through a United Nations Centre for Information and Consultation in the field of practical application of space technology;

6. Urges all Member States to avail themselves to the fullest extent possible of the information contained in the papers presented and the discussions held at the Conference in carrying out their national programmes;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of all Member States, in particular the developing countries, the information contained in the papers presented and the discussions held at the Conference;


9. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the steps taken pursuant to the present resolution.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2260 (XXII) of 3 November 1967 and 2345 (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, 1/

1/ A/7235.
Welcoming the entry into force on 3 December 1963 of the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, 2/

Reaffirming the common interest of mankind in furthering the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Believing that benefits of space exploration can be extended to States at all stages of economic and scientific development if Member States conduct their space programmes in a manner designed to promote the maximum international co-operation and widest possible exchange of information in this field,

Recognizing the importance of international co-operation in developing the rule of law in this new area of human endeavour,

1. Endorses the recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

2. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:
   (a) To complete urgently the preparation of a draft Agreement on Liability for Damage caused by the Launching of Objects into Outer Space and to submit it to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session;
   (b) To continue to study questions relative to the definition of outer space and the utilization of outer space and celestial bodies, including various implications of space communications, as well as those comments which may be brought to the attention of the Committee by specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency as a result of their examination of problems that have arisen or may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence;

3. Urges those countries which have not yet become parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 3/ and the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, to give early consideration to ratifying or to acceding to those agreements so that they may have the broadest possible effect;

2/ General Assembly resolution 2345 (XXII), annex.
3/ General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.
4. **Reaffirms its belief**, as expressed in General Assembly resolution 1721 D (XVI) of 20 December 1961, that communications by means of satellites should be available to the nations of the world as soon as practicable on a global and non-discriminatory basis, and recommends that States parties to negotiations regarding international arrangements in the field of satellite communication constantly bear this principle in mind so that its ultimate realization may not be impaired;

5. **Approves** the establishment by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space of a working group to study and report on the technical feasibility of communication by direct broadcast from satellites and the current and foreseeable developments in this field, including comparative user costs and other economic considerations, as well as the implications of such developments in the social, cultural, legal and other areas, and expresses the hope that interested States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies will contribute comments and working papers to the working group for its information and guidance in the performance of its task;

6. **Welcomes** the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to take up at its next session serious consideration of suggestions and views regarding education and training in the field of exploration and peaceful uses of outer space expressed in the General Assembly and in the Committee, as requested by the Assembly in paragraph 11 of resolution 2260 (XXII);

7. **Approves** continuing sponsorship by the United Nations of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station and recommends that Member States should give consideration to the use of these facilities for appropriate space research activities;

8. **Endorses** the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that, upon notification of the United Nations by the Government of Argentina that the Har Chiquita Station near Mar del Plata is operative, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, should appoint a small group of scientists, drawn from States which are members of the Committee and are familiar with space research and facilities, to visit the station in Argentina and report to the Committee on its eligibility for United Nations sponsorship, in accordance with the basic principles endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 1802 (XVII) of 14 December 1962;

/...
9. Welcomes the efforts of a number of Member States to keep the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space fully informed of their activities and invites other Member States to do so;

10. Notes with appreciation that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI), the Secretary-General continues to maintain a public registry of objects launched into orbit or beyond on the basis of information being furnished by Member States;

11. Requests the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to examine the particular problems which arise or may arise from the use of outer space in the fields within their competence and which should in their opinion be brought to the attention of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and to report thereon to the Committee for its consideration, as indicated in paragraph 2 (b) of the present resolution;

12. Invites the specialized agencies concerned and the International Atomic Energy Agency to furnish the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with progress reports on their work in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space;

13. Requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue its work as set out in the present resolution and in previous General Assembly resolutions, and to report to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.