PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

Third session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 26TH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 13 October 1981, at 3:30 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. ADENLIJI (Nigeria)

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Consideration of other relevant questions relating to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and recommendations thereon, including those in respect of the implementation of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Assembly at its tenth special session.

Future Work of the Preparatory Committee

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.
The meeting was called to order at 5.05 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF OTHER RELEVANT QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS THEREON, INCLUDING THOSE IN RESPECT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

FUTURE WORK OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

1. The CHAIRMAN said that the purpose of the meeting was to inform the Committee of the results of consultations with the officers of the Committee on items 5 and 6 of its agenda (A/AC.206/17).

2. The officers had recommended that one further session of the Preparatory Committee should be held and that the timing should not conflict with the session of the Committee on Disarmament at Geneva. They had suggested that a three-week session, from Monday 26 April to Friday 14 May 1982, would be suitable.

3. It had also been recommended that, in order to give the Secretariat time to prepare the necessary documentation, the second special session devoted to disarmament should begin on Monday, 7 June 1982 and end on Friday, 9 July 1982. In keeping with established practice, however, the Committee might consider it preferable to begin the session on a Tuesday.

4. The officers had considered a suggestion that world religious leaders should be invited to take part in the special session. There was no precedent at any special or regular session of the General Assembly for such an invitation, and no generally accepted definition of the term "world religious leaders" existed, thus if the Preparatory Committee decided to adopt that suggestion, it would have to submit guidelines to the General Assembly to enable the latter to take a decision. Such guidelines would be difficult to draw up, and the officers of the Committee had accordingly recommended that no such invitation should be issued for the time being.

5. On the question of the participation of parliamentarians, the officers had felt that, since parliamentarians were usually included in national delegations, it would be sufficient for the Committee to recommend that those delegations should include as many members of parliament as possible. Alternatively, the Inter-Parliamentary Union could be contacted with a view to establishing a representative group of parliamentarians to participate in the discussion on the day set aside for non-governmental organizations. The question might usefully be referred to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

6. In the preparations for the first special session devoted to disarmament it had been decided that provision should be made for meetings of the Committee of the Whole and whatever other subsidiary bodies were deemed necessary. However, in view of the paramount importance of the Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament at the forthcoming special session, it might be appropriate to specify that a working group should be set up to discuss the Programme.

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7. The Secretariat was preparing a paper on public-information activities in connexion with the special session, and members of the Committee would receive the paper as soon as it became available.

8. In connexion with the future work of the Preparatory Committee, it had been recommended that at its fourth and final session the Committee should address itself to substantive matters, particularly item 5 of its current agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.