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Chairman: Sir Claude COREA (Ceylon).

AGENDA ITEMS 67, 86, 69 AND 73


Suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests (A/4414, A/C.1/L.252/Rev.1, A/C.1/L.254 and Add.1) (continued)


1. The CHAIRMAN noted that the general debate on the question of disarmament had been concluded and that no speakers had requested the floor. Since it was the general feeling of the Committee that conducted efforts should be made to draft a compromise resolution which would lead to the resumption of disarmament negotiations, he invited the Committee to take up the order of priority of agenda items before proceeding to the consideration of the draft resolutions concerning disarmament.

Order of discussion of agenda items (A/C.1/B25 and Add.1) (continued)

2. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the question of the place on the Committee's agenda to be assigned to the Cuban item (item 90 of the Assembly's agenda) should be left aside briefly until the Cuban and Sudanese representatives had completed their discussion of the African delegations' views on the matter.

3. U THANT (Burma) said that in view of the fact that the Committee was unlikely to complete its consideration of all the items on its agenda by 17 December, the date on which the General Assembly was scheduled to adjourn, the Asian-African group of delegations had instructed him to propose formally that the question of Algeria (agenda item 71) should be taken up on 5 December, whatever other item might be under consideration at that time. The Asian-African delegations felt that the urgency of the Algerian question justified such a procedure.

4. Mr. SLIM (Tunisia) observed that important though the other items on the Committee's agenda might be, the Algerian item was the only one that related to a war which had been going on for a number of years and was still in progress. His delegation therefore supported the Burmese representative's proposal.

5. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) expressed her delegation's support for the Burmese proposal.

6. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in the absence of any objections the proposal might be regarded as adopted.

It was so decided.

7. Mr. CHORFI (Morocco) said that his delegation was gratified at the decision just taken with regard to consideration of the Algerian question. He drew attention to the Committee's previous decision (1064th meeting) that inasmuch as Mauritania was scheduled to become independent on 28 November, the problem of Mauritania (agenda item 79) should be taken up before that date; he proposed that 15 November should be fixed as the date for its consideration.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that the Sudanese representative, having completed his conversation with the Cuban representative, now wished to speak on the priority to be given to the Cuban item.

9. Mr. OBEID (Sudan) proposed that, unless new developments necessitated its earlier consideration, the Cuban item should be taken up after the Committee had completed the three items relating to Africa (agenda items 71, 79 and 88).

10. Mr. BISBE (Cuba) endorsed the Sudanese representative's proposal, while reserving the right to raise the Cuban item as a matter of urgency if events should subsequently warrant that course.

11. Mr. WADSWORTH (United States of America) said that his delegation had no objection to the proposed order of consideration of agenda items. He hoped, however, that the discussion on disarmament would be resumed as soon as the members of the Committee had had an opportunity to study the various resolutions which had been submitted—perhaps after consideration of the problem of Mauritania.
12. Mr. MOROZOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Mr. ORMISBY-GORE (United Kingdom) said that their delegations had agreed to the temporary interruption of the disarmament discussion on the understanding that consideration of disarmament retained priority and could be resumed at any time deemed appropriate by the Committee.

13. The CHAIRMAN suggested that in the absence of any objections the proposals made with regard to the Mauritanian and Cuban items might be regarded as unanimously adopted.

It was so decided.

14. With reference to the remarks made by the United States, Soviet and United Kingdom representatives, the CHAIRMAN observed that the suspension of the disarmament discussion had been prompted solely by the considerations to which he had referred at the beginning of the meeting, and in no sense by lack of interest in the question of disarmament or in any of the draft resolutions submitted to the Committee.

The meeting rose at 11:45 a.m.