

**Seventy-fourth session**

Agenda item 100

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session**Report of the First Committee***Rapporteur:* Ms. Szilvia **Balázs** (Hungary)**I. Introduction**

1. The item entitled:

“Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;
- (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission”

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions [73/81](#) and [73/82](#).

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2019, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 October 2019, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 89 to 105. At its 11th meeting, on 21 October, the Committee decided, on the basis of the conference room paper before it,¹ on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament, which was held at the 15th meeting, on 24 October. At its 3rd to 10th meetings, on 10 and 11 and from 14 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. The Committee also held 11 meetings (11th to 21st), from 21 to 25 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were

¹ [A/C.1/74/CRP.2/Rev.2](#), available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/74/documentation74.shtml.



introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 22nd to 27th meetings, on 1 and from 4 to 8 November.²

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament ([A/74/27](#));
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters ([A/74/247](#));
- (c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research ([A/74/180](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.1/74/L.39](#)

5. On 16 October, the delegation of Zimbabwe submitted a draft resolution entitled “Report of the Conference on Disarmament” ([A/C.1/74/L.39](#)).

6. At the 26th meeting, on 7 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.1/74/L.39](#) without a vote (see para. 12).

B. Draft decision [A/C.1/74/L.52/Rev.1](#) and amendment thereto contained in document [A/C.1/74/L.62](#)

8. On 3 November, the delegations of Australia and Hungary submitted a draft decision entitled “2020 session of the Disarmament Commission” ([A/C.1/74/L.52/Rev.1](#)).

9. At its 26th meeting, on 7 November, the Committee had before it an amendment to draft decision [A/C.1/74/L.52/Rev.1](#), contained in document [A/C.1/74/L.62](#), submitted by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, China and the Syrian Arab Republic joined in sponsoring the amendment.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee rejected the amendment by a recorded vote of 66 to 21, with 59 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Namibia, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia, Zimbabwe.

² For an account of the Committee’s discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/74/PV.1](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.2](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.3](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.4](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.5](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.6](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.7](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.8](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.9](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.10](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.11](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.12](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.13](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.14](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.15](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.16](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.17](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.18](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.19](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.20](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.21](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.22](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.23](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.24](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.25](#), [A/C.1/74/PV.26](#) and [A/C.1/74/PV.27](#).

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee voted on draft decision [A/C.1/74/L.52/Rev.1](#) as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph (a) was retained by a recorded vote of 133 to 1, with 14 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Russian Federation.

Abstaining:

Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lesotho, Mali, Nicaragua, Niger, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

(b) Operative paragraph (b) was retained by a recorded vote of 133 to 1, with 15 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Russian Federation.

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lesotho, Mali, Nicaragua, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

(c) The Committee adopted draft decision [A/C.1/74/L.52/Rev.1](#), as a whole, without a vote (see para. 13).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,¹

Recalling its resolution 73/81 of 5 December 2018,

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the addresses of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, and referring to their various expressions of support for and concern about the endeavours of the Conference and calls for the Conference to commence negotiations without delay to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and emphasizing the importance of effective multilateralism in the context of the changing international climate,

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2019 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work by means of negotiations or agree to a programme of work,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of priority issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to implementing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Underlining the need for continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as among the successive Presidents of the Conference,

Noting with appreciation the contributions made at the 2019 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda,

Acknowledging the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

Recognizing the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2019 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/74/27).*

officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2020 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,² as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Encourages* the current President and the incoming President of the Conference on Disarmament to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* the current President and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the States members of the Conference in the effort to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2020 session;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2020 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the Conference on Disarmament”.

² *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/64/27)*, para. 18.

13. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

2020 session of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution [73/82](#) of 5 December 2018 on the report of the Disarmament Commission and its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution [45/62 B](#) of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”,¹ and Assembly resolution [61/98](#) of 6 December 2006, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,²

Emphasizing once again the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

Reaffirming the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament,

Emphasizing the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion of the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission,

Noting that the Disarmament Commission, for organizational reasons, was unable to commence its substantive session and submit its report as requested in General Assembly resolution [73/82](#),

Decides:

(a) That the Disarmament Commission will hold a substantive session for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2020, namely from 6 to 24 April, and submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

(b) That the Disarmament Commission will hold its organizational session as soon as possible before the substantive session to elect its bureau and address other outstanding organizational matters;

(c) That the Disarmament Commission will continue consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2020:

¹ Resolution [44/119 C](#), annex.

² Resolution [S-10/2](#).

(i) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(ii) Preparation of recommendations to promote the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities;³

(d) That the Disarmament Commission will continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,³ and with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”;¹

(e) To request the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also to request the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 2019 session,⁴ together with all the official records of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present decision;

(f) To include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the Disarmament Commission”.

³ A/68/189.

⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth session, Supplement No. 27 (A/74/27)*.