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Agenda item 51

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE REGION
OF THE MIDDLE EAST**

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Kazimierz TOMASZEWSKI (Poland)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East; report of the **Secretary-General**" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-second session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/48 of 3 December 1986.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 ~~September~~ 1987, 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 1 October, the First **committee** decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 48 to 69, followed by statements on specific disarmament agenda items and a continuation of the general debate, as necessary. The deliberations on those items **took** place **between the 3rd and the 31st meetings**, from 12 October to 3 November (see A/C.1/42/PV.3-31).
4. In connection with item 51, the First **Committee** had before it the following documents :

(a) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East: report of the Secretary-General (A/42/364) ;

(b) Letter dated 3 March 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final **communiqué**, as well as the resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, held at Kuwait from 26 to 29 Jumada I, 1407H (26 to 29 January 1987) (A/42/178+/18753) ;

(c) Letter dated 23 October 1987 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final **communiqué** of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation to the forty-second session of the General Assembly, held at New York from 5 to 7 October 1987 (A/42/681).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C. 1/42/L.8

5. On 21 October, **Egypt** submitted a draft resolution, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" (A/C.1/42/L.8), which was introduced by its representative at the 21st meeting, on 27 October.

6. At its 37th meeting, on 9 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/42/L.8 without a vote (see para. 7) .

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985 and 41/48 of 3 December 1986 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendation for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (d), Of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 1/

1/ Resolution S-10/2.

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned **resolutions**, which call upon all parties **directly** concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps **required** for the **implementation** of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of **the** Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a **zone**, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of **nuclear** weapons on their territory by any **third** party, to agree to place all **their nuclear** facilities under International **Atomic** Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their **support** for the establishment of the zone **and** deposit such declarations with the **Security** Council for **consideration**, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of **all** States to acquire and **develop** nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasising further the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General **Assembly** at its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous to build on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Emphasizing the essential role of the **United** Nations in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in **the** region of the Middle East,

Having examined the report of the **Secretary-General**, 2/

1. Urges all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the **implementation** of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant **resolutions** of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; 3/

2. Calls upon all countries of the region that have not done **so**, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy **Agency** safeguards;

2/ A/42/364.

3/ Resolution 2373 (XXII), **annex**.

3. Invites those countries, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with the relevant paragraph of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to, disarmament, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;
4. Further invites those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;
5. Invites the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and spirit of the present resolution ;
6. Extends its thanks to the Secretary-General for his report containing the views of parties concerned regarding the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East; 2/
7. Takes note of the above-mentioned report;
8. Requests those parties that have not yet communicated their views to the Secretary-General to do so;
9. Welcomes any further comments from those parties that have already communicated their views to the Secretary-General;
10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;
11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".
