

**General Assembly**Distr.
GENERALA/43/837
22 November 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-third session
Agenda item 58**CONCLUSION OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE
NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS****Report of the First Committee****Rapporteur: Mr. Virgilio A. REYES (Philippines)****I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-third session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/32 of 30 November 1987,
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1988, 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 12 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely items 51 to 69 and 139, 141 and 145. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and the 25th meetings, from 17 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/43/PV.3-25). Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on those items took place between 3 and 18 November (see A/C.1/43/PV.26-43).
4. In connection with item 58, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/43/27).

(b) Letter dated 27 May 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the seventy-ninth session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held at Guatemala City from 8 to 16 April 1988 (A/43/370)1

(a) Note verbale dated 19 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/471);

(d) Letter dated 29 July 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/43/495);

(e) Letter dated 29 September 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final document adopted by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Nicosia from 5 to 10 September 1988 (A/43/667-8/20212),

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/43/L.18

5. On 31 October 1988, Pakistan submitted a draft resolution entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (A/C.1/43/L.18), which was introduced by its representative at the 26th meeting, on 7 November.

6. At its 33rd meeting, on 10 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/43/L.18 by a recorded vote of 133 to none, with 4 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows: 2/

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahir'ya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali,

2/ Subsequently, the delegations of Colombia and the Niger indicated that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

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Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Nom.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Brasil, India, United States of America.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to • nruring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Deeply concerned at the continuing • raaladon of the • rnr race, in particular thr nuclear-armr race, and thr possibility of thr use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are • rrentiaA to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Taking into account the principle of the non-use of force or threat of force • n8hrin.d in the Charter of the United Nations,

Deeply concerned about the possibility of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can constitute a positive contribution to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Recalling its resolution 3261 G (XXIX) of 9 December 1974 and 31/189 C of 21 December 1976,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 3/ in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session,

Recalling its resolutions 33/72 B of 14 December 1978, 34/85 of 11 December 1979, 35/155 of 12 December 1980, 36/95 of 9 December 1981, 37/81 of 9 December 1982, 38/68 of 15 December 1983, 39/58 of 12 December 1984, 40/86 of 12 December 1985, 41/52 of 3 December 1986 and 42/32 of 30 November 1987,

Further recalling paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, *inter alia*, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament 4/ urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons, 5/ with a view to reaching agreement on this item,

3/ Resolution S-10/2.

4/ The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament from 7 February 1984.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No.27 (A/40/27 and Corr.1), sect. III.F.

Noting the proposals submitted under that item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the draft of an international convention,

Taking note of the decision of the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 1 to 6 September 1986, 6/ as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference reiterated in the Final Communiqué of the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Amman, Jordan, from 21 to 25 March 1988, 7/ calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to reach an urgent agreement on an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Further noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in 6/ involving a common approach acceptable to all,

1. **Reaffirms** the urgent need to reach agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. **Notes with satisfaction** that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties as pointed out in 6/ involving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. **Appeals** to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to demonstrate the political will necessary to reach agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. **Recommends** that further intensive efforts should be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, should be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. **Recommends** that the Conference on Disarmament should actively continue negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the

6/ See A/41/697-S/18392, annex, meet. I, para. 49.

7/ See A/43/393-8/19930, annex I,

widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective)

6. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".