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Twelfth session

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: ITEM PROPOSED BY BELGIUMCOLLECTIVE ACTION TO INFORM AND ENLIGHTEN THE PEOPLES
OF THE WORLD AS TO THE DANGERS OF THE ARMAMENTS RACE,
AND PARTICULARLY AS TO THE DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONSLetter dated 9 August 1957 addressed to the Secretary-General by
the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

New York, 9 August 1957

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I have the honour to request, on instructions from the Belgian Government, that the following item be included in the agenda of the twelfth regular session of the Assembly:

"Collective action to inform and enlighten the peoples of the world as to the dangers of the armaments race, and particularly as to the destructive effects of nuclear weapons."

A draft resolution is attached.

(Signed) Joseph NISOT,
Permanent Representative of
Belgium to the United Nations

COLLECTIVE ACTION TO INFORM AND ENLIGHTEN THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD
AS TO THE DANGERS OF THE ARMAMENTS RACE, AND PARTICULARLY AS
TO THE DESTRUCTIVE EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Draft resolution

The General Assembly

Considering that the armaments race, particularly in the field of nuclear weapons, exposes the entire world to the danger of unprecedented devastation and that the peoples of all countries should be made to realize this,

Considering that any agreement whether partial or general, on the regulation of armaments, necessarily implies adequate international control,

Considering that, consequently, public opinion must be made aware both of the effects of nuclear weapons and of the necessity for international control of production and stockpiling, with a view to the progressive reduction of such weapon

Considering that it is therefore desirable to seek ways and means of organizing an effective and continuing publicity campaign on a world-wide scale, under the auspices of the United Nations and disregarding all ideological or political considerations,

Resolves as follows:

The Secretary-General shall submit to the thirteenth regular session of the General Assembly a plan for such a collective publicity campaign.

The plan shall specify, inter alia, the kind of easily comprehensible data to be disseminated, in a concise, simple and attractive form by all information and dissemination media - radio, television, films, etc. - on such subjects as: competition in armaments; the cost of such competition; elementary information concerning nuclear weapons; their destructive effects; and the impracticability of any military or civil defence against them.

It shall also specify what United Nations services and what methods could be used to this end in the various countries.

In drawing up this plan, the Secretary-General shall be assisted by an advisory committee composed of experts of different nationalities, to be appointed by him.

The Secretary-General shall invite the Member States to communicate to him in good time any views they may see fit to submit as to the scope and contents of the proposed plan.
