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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROVISIONS OF THE  
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF  
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Luvsangiin ERDENECHULUUN (Mongolia)

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The additional item entitled "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security" was included in the agenda of the thirty-seventh session in accordance with the request contained in a letter dated 30 August 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/37/241).
2. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1982, 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. The First Committee considered the item at its 46th, 49th to 56th, 58th and 59th meetings, held from 29 November to 9 December 1982 (A/C.1/37/PV.46, 49-56, 58 and 59).
4. The Committee had before it the request contained in the letter referred to in paragraph 1 above.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/37/L.73 and Rev.1 and 2

5. At the 46th meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Sierra Leone, on behalf of Algeria, the Bahamas, Benin, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Egypt, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Panama, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Yugoslavia and Zambia, introduced draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.73, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the primary purpose of the United Nations, which is the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as the requirement to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace,

"Noting the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security,

"Gravely concerned over the growing tendency by States to resort to the use of force to resolve regional and international disputes, thus ignoring the Charter,

"Further concerned about the inability of the Security Council to take decisive action for the maintenance of international peace and for resolving international conflicts,

"Conscious of the important role that collective security measures can play in enhancing the role of the Security Council in carrying out its responsibility to promote and maintain international peace and security,

Regretting that the collective security measures provisions of the Charter have not been implemented,

"Taking into account, in this connection, the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,

"Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security",

"Recognizing that the fundamental approaches to genuine security include, inter alia, the strengthening of the Charter system of collective security and promoting disarmament,

"Convinced of the usefulness of a study on all aspects of collective security,

"1. Invites the Security Council to study this question as a matter of high priority and to inform the General Assembly of the result of such a study;

"2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.

6. Later, the representative of Sierra Leone, on behalf of the above-mentioned sponsors joined also by Angola, Colombia the Congo, Malta, Singapore, the Sudan, Togo and Zimbabwe, introduced a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.1/37/L.73/Rev.1), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the primary purpose of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security,

"Reaffirming further the fundamental principle of the Charter of the United Nations that all States have the duty not to threaten or use force against the sovereignty, political independence or territorial integrity of other States,

"Noting the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security,

"Stressing that the purposes of the United Nations can be achieved only under conditions where peoples enjoy freedom and States enjoy sovereign equality and comply fully with the requirements of these principles in their international relations,

"Gravely concerned over the growing tendency by States to resort to the use of force in international relations, thus ignoring the Charter and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States,

"Further concerned that the Security Council has not been able to take decisive action for the maintenance of international peace and for resolving international problems,

"Conscious of the important role that collective security measures can play in enhancing the role of the Security Council in carrying out its responsibility to promote and maintain international peace and security in accordance with the Charter,

"Regretting that the collective security measures provisions of the Charter have not been fully implemented,

"Taking into account, in this connection, the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, 1/

"Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security",

"Recognizing that fundamental approaches to genuine security include, inter alia, the strengthening of the Charter system of collective security the establishment of the new international economic order and promotion of general and complete disarmament under effective international control in conformity with the principles and priorities agreed upon in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, reaffirmed in the Concluding Document of the second,

"Convinced that a comprehensive study on all aspects of collective security is timely and necessary,

"1. Requests the Security Council as a matter of high priority to study the question of implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

"2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled Implementation of the collective security provisions of the charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.

7. The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.73/Rev.1, joined by Ecuador, the Gambia and Rwanda, further revised the draft resolution (A/C.1/37/L.73/Rev.2) as follows:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph the word "purpose" was replaced by the word "function".

(b) In the fourth preambular paragraph, second line, the words "peoples enjoy freedom and" were deleted and the paragraph was modified to read:

"Stressing that the purposes and principles of the United Nations can be achieved only under conditions in which States enjoy sovereign equality and comply fully with the requirements of these purposes and principles in their international relations,".

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1/ A/37/1.

8. At the 58th meeting, on 8 December, Peru, Madagascar, the Niger and Nicaragua joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.73/Rev.2. At the same meeting, the representative of Sierra Leone, on behalf of the sponsors, orally restructured the draft resolution by proposing that the eleventh preambular paragraph starting with the words "Recognizing that fundamental approaches to genuine security include ..." should follow immediately after the sixth preambular paragraph, which begins "Further concerned ...". He also revised the twelfth preambular paragraph by deleting the words "comprehensive" and "all aspects of". Thus this paragraph was changed to read:

"Convinced that a study on collective security is timely and necessary".

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 10).

### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the collective security provisions of the  
Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of  
international peace and security

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the primary function of the United Nations is the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming further the fundamental principle of the Charter of the United Nations that all States have the duty not to threaten or use force against the sovereignty, political independence or territorial integrity of other States,

Noting the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Stressing that the purposes and principles of the United Nations can be achieved only under conditions in which States enjoy sovereign equality and comply fully with the requirements of these purposes and principles in their international relations,

Gravely concerned over the growing tendency by States to resort to the use of force in international relations, thus ignoring the Charter and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 2/

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2/ Resolution 2625 (XXV).

Further concerned that the Security Council has not been able to take decisive action for the maintenance of international peace and for resolving international problems,

Recognizing that fundamental approaches to genuine security include, inter alia, the strengthening of the Charter system of collective security, the establishment of the new international economic order and promotion of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, in conformity with the principles and priorities agreed upon in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly 3/ devoted to disarmament, reaffirmed in the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session, 4/

Conscious of the important role that collective security measures can play in enhancing the role of the Security Council in carrying out its responsibility to promote and maintain international peace and security in accordance with the Charter,

Regretting that the collective security measures provisions of the Charter have not been fully implemented,

Taking into account, in this connection, the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, 5/

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security",

Convinced that a study on collective security is timely and necessary,

1. Requests the Security Council as a matter of high priority to study the question of implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session;

2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security".

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3/ Resolution S-10/2.

4/ Resolution S-12/24.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/37/1).