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Chairman; Mr. **ZACHMANN** (German Democratic Republic)

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The meeting was called to order at 15.40 a.m.

AGENDA **ITEMS** 46 TO 65 AND 144

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION **UPON** DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON DISARMAMENT **ITEMS**

The CHAIRMAN: In accordance with the programme of work and timetable, this morning the Committee will proceed to its third phase of work, namely, consideration of and action upon draft resolutions under disarmament agenda items 46 to 65 and 144. As I informed the Committee yesterday, the meetings scheduled for today and tomorrow will be devoted to introduction of and **comments** on the draft resolutions which are before it.

Mr. NUÑEZ MOSQUERA (Cubaj (interpretation from Spanish): The purpose of our statement today is briefly to introduce, on behalf of the delegations of Australia, Hungary, Japan, Sweden and Cuba, draft resolution **A/C.1/41/L.7**, submitted under agenda item 60 **(d)** and entitled "Prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons".

(Mr. Nuñez Mosquera, Cuba)

The draft resolution is in keeping with the similar draft resolution the Committee adopted Past year without a vote. The operative part consists of six paragraphs. It takes note ~~of~~ that part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament dealing with the question of radiological weapons and of the recommendation of the Conference on Disarmament that the Ad Hoc Committee on that item should ~~be~~ re-established at the beginning of the Conference's 1987 ~~session~~. It recognizes the work done by the Ad Hoc Committee this year and requests the Conference on Disarmament to continue its negotiations on the subject ~~with~~ a view to a prompt conclusion of its work. It also requests that the Secretary-General transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all relevant documents relating to the discussion of radiological weapons at this session and decides to include the item in the provisional agenda of the forty-second session of the General Assembly.

Last year, the Conference on Disarmament continued the work it had begun on ~~this~~ agenda item. The Ad Hoc Committee established a number of contact groups in which very active work was done and in which all delegations exerted tremendous effort. In the course of that exercise, greater clarity was achieved with regard to the positions of various countries and the ~~substantive~~ differences of approach that still persist were revealed. The re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee at the beginning of 1987 and the continuation of negotiations on this item in that forum will make it possible to make greater progress ~~on~~ this important question, in which all the peoples of the world have an interest.

On behalf of the sponsora, I should like to express the hope ~~that~~ draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.7 will be adopted by the Committee again this year without a vote.

Mr. ČESÁŘ (Czechoslovakia) (interpretation from Russian) : The delegation of Czechoslovakia has the honour to submit **draft** resolution **A/C.1/41/L.47**, entitled "International **co-operation** for disarmament". The draft resolution **is** sponsored by Afghanistan, Angola, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, the German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Viet **Nam** and Czechoslovakia.,

The question of international co-operation for disarmament is closely linked to the efforts being made to implement United Nations decisions on disarmament issues and, in particular, to the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. The constant support given those efforts since 1979 in the Declaration on International Co-operation for Disarmament and various resolutions adopted on the subject, as well as the vital need to proceed to concrete measures towards halting the arms race and attaining disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field, are very clear.

This year, the role to be **played** with regard to halting the arms race and preventing its extension to outer space falls upon the shoulders of the two major nuclear Powers. The debates in the First Committee confirm the fact that States consider the goal of disarmament as vital to the basic interests of all peoples, to the maintenance of peace, the strengthening of international security and the freeing of the resources indispensable to ensure economic development in order to alleviate the backward status of **some** countries and solve other global problems facing mankind.

We see ever more striking evidence that security in the nuclear era is essential and can be achieved only through political means and through the determined efforts of all States. Proof of that are the appeals and proposals made

(Mr. Cesar, Czechoslovakia)

by the group of six States of five continents and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. We believe that a considerable contribution has been made through such efforts to achieve genuine disarmament.

In the light of present-day phenomena and circumstances, the sponsors of draft resolution L.47 believe it is **essential** to stress once again the need **for** constructive international co-operation for disarmament based on the political goodwill of **States** and for the holding of fruitful disarmament negotiations as set out in the Final Document **of** the General Assembly's tenth special session. The sponsors are convinced **that** such international co-operation must be aimed at averting nuclear war through the gradual elimination of nuclear weapons, the discontinuation of **nuclear-weapon** tests and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that such efforts must also be aimed at **increased** confidence-building as an indispensable component of relations among States.

The crux of draft resolution L.47 is therefore **an** appeal to all States to increase co-operation and to strive actively for meaningful disarmament negotiations on the basis of reciprocity, equality, **undiminished** security and the non-use of force in international relations, so that they may prevent qualitative enhancement and quantitative accumulation of weapons, **which** represent a true **obstacle** to disarmament.

The draft resolution also stresses the **importance** of strengthening the effectiveness of the United Nations in fulfilling its central role and primary responsibility in the **sphere** of disarmament. It emphasizes the necessity of refraining from dissemination of any doctrines and concepts endangering international peace and justifying the unleashing of nuclear war and declares that the use of force in international relations as well **as** in attempts to prevent the

(Mr. Cesar, Czechoslovakia)

full implementation of the **Declaration** on the Granting of Independence to **Colonial** Countr **ies** and **Peoples** constitutes a phenomenon incompatible with the ideas of international co-operation for disarmament.

The draft resolution reiterates the profound conviction that outer space should be used **exclusively** for **peaceful** purposes for the benefit of all mankind and appeals to **States** that are **members of** military groupings to promote the gradual mutual limitation of **military activities** of those groupings, **thus** creating conditions for **their dissolution**.

The ideas for developing international co-operation for disarmament set forth in draft **resolution L.47** are intended to **serve as** constructive and effective auxiliary components of the overall efforts being made by the international **community** to prevent **nuclear war** and to bring about **disarmament**.

(Mr. Cesar, Czechoslovakia)

This concept embraces a number of timely directives underlying more energetic joint activity of States to put an end to the ~~arms~~ race and to create the conditions for genuine disarmament to be broached. For that reason, on behalf of the sponsors I should like to express the hope that the draft resolution I have ~~just introduced~~ will win wide support in the First Committee.

Mr. DESPRES (Canada) : Today I should like to introduce for consideration the draft resolution in document **A/C.1/41/L.58**, dated ~~30 October~~ 1986 and entitled "Prohibition of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes". In addition to Canada, it is sponsored by Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Sweden and **Uruguay**.

First allow me to correct a small typographical error in the third line of the first preambular paragraph. After "**20 December 1983**" the text ~~should read~~ "**39/151 H** of December 1984" and ~~so on~~.

I am very pleased to introduce once again a draft ~~resolution~~ calling for the prohibition of the production of fissionable material for ~~weapons purposes~~. I am delighted that Canada is in the company of sponsors from every continent, east and west, north and **south**.

Although this resolution may be viewed simply as a procedural one, it is ~~nevertheless~~ a very important statement for a number of **reasons**. First, it stands as a reminder that the cessation of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes constitutes a key element in any progress towards **nuclear** disarmament. Secondly, the draft resolution recognizes that the continuing production of fissionable material is related both to the arms race and to the proliferation of nuclear weapons. **Thirdly**, the draft resolution also points to an effective means of stopping both the horizontal and the vertical **proliferation of** nuclear weapons.

(Mr. Despres, Canada)

It has been noted that the wording of the draft resolution is echoed in others on the nuclear-arms race. ~~These~~ draft resolutions, however, have adopted what could be called a package approach to nuclear disarmament. Such an approach ignores the ~~fact~~ that specific disarmament ~~measures are~~ most fruitfully negotiated on a step-by-step basis. In order to achieve realistic progress towards ~~complete~~ nuclear disarmament, there is a ~~requirement~~ to negotiate agreements on specific arms control ~~measures~~ in a ~~logical sequence~~. A ban on the production of fissionable material for weapons ~~purposes~~ represents ~~one such~~ step in this ~~sequence~~.

In the aftermath of the Reykjavik ~~summit~~, which has raised the hopes of 11 nations that agreements on reductions of nuclear ~~weapons~~ and testing will be achieved, adoption of the draft resolution before us takes on added ~~meaning~~. I urge all delegations to ~~join~~ in supporting this important draft resolution in the hope that it will continue to attract strong and broad support.

Mr. MÖLANDER (Sweden) : I am ~~speaking~~ to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.57, concerning the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions ~~or Restrictions on~~ the ~~Use~~ of Certain Conventional ~~Weapons~~ Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, together with three Protocols ~~on~~ non-detectable fragments, on land mines, booby traps and other devices, and on incendiary weapons.

The adoption of that Convention on 10 December 1980 was the result of several years of preparation. The fact that it entered into force on 2 December 1983 - that is, less than three years after its adoption - ~~is~~ a ~~very~~ encouraging indication of the desire of the international community progressively to develop international humanitarian law in this ~~field~~ and to give it ~~effect~~. The draft resolution reflects the satisfaction felt at this positive ~~development~~ and also notes the possibility laid down in article 8 of the Convention for reviewing the

(Mr. Molander, Sweden)

scope and operation of the Convention and its Protocols and for further international standard-setting relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered.

In this context the Swedish delegation would like to make the following remarks.

In our view some weapons categories, like incendiary weapons, should be made the object of further specific restrictions. A category like sea mines could, as has been suggested in the United Nations study on the naval arms race, be made the object of restrictions in a new protocol, possibly - but not necessarily - within the framework of the present Convention.

In addition, new developments in laser technology should be followed closely. There seems to be a possible trend towards developing laser weapons for anti-personnel purposes on the conventional battlefield. Lasers based, for example, on land vehicles could be designed for anti-personnel use. Such weapons could under certain circumstances blind soldiers permanently - that is, make human beings blind for the rest of their lives. We should prevent such methods of warfare from being developed by declaring them contrary to existing international law. With regard to laser weapons specifically designed for such anti-personnel use, a prohibition should be considered.

In this context I should like to inform the Committee that during the recent International Red Cross Conference in Geneva, Sweden and Switzerland presented a substantial working paper on the two issues I have just mentioned, namely sea mines and laser technology for combat purposes. This document will be distributed to interested members of the Committee by the Swedish delegation.

The Convention and the three annexed Protocols have as of July 1986 been acceded to by 25 States parties. The draft resolution urges States which have not.

(Mr. Molander, Sweden)

yet become **parties** to the Convention **and its** annexed **Protocols** to exert their **best endeavours** to do so **an early as** possible no **that** the instruments might ultimately obtain **universality** of **adherence**.

The sponsors of the draft **resolution** are the **delegations** of **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cuha, Denmark, Finland, Prance, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia** and **my own** delegation, that of Sweden. On behalf of those aponsore I **should** like to **express** the hope that the draft resolution contained in document **A/C.1/41/L.57** will be adopted by **consensus**.

Mr. HADDAWI (Iraq) : For four decades now the Middle East region has been witnessing acute and alarming conditions characterized by uprisings, instability, tensions, wars and civil wars. Unless all the causes of these conditions are eliminated, the area will by no means enjoy peace and security for a long time to come. This region, as everyone well knows, is one of the most sensitive and volatile regions of the world for strategic, political and economic reasons. All upheavals that occur in our region must inevitably create a serious, if not dangerous, impact on other parts of the world - so much so that such upheavals may drive the world to more tension or perhaps place it before a serious confrontation.

One of the major factors which increases those threats is the perpetuation by Israel of aggression whenever and wherever it determines to launch such an aggression, deploying to it whatever military means it needs to achieve its expansionist policies in the area. Indeed, Israel would not hesitate to launch again a military attack against the Iraqi nuclear facilities or on any other reactor that any State in the region might in the future decide to build for peaceful purposes.

Naturally, therefore, Israel's attack on nuclear reactors in the Middle East will always remain a potential threat unless Israel is made to behave with responsibility and unless it respects the will of the United Nations. Israel must agree to subject its nuclear installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and give emphatic and unequivocal guarantees that it will never again attack nuclear installations in the Middle East.

Draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.40, which has been submitted by my delegation, makes reference in its preambular part to a number of relevant General Assembly resolutions, Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and resolutions of the IAEA which, together with others, urge all States to support

(Mr. Haddawi, Iraq)

actions in international forums to reach an international agreement that will prohibit armed attacks against installations devoted to peaceful purposes by individual States because the destruction such attacks cause may release into the environment huge amounts of dangerous radioactive material, resulting in serious radioactive contamination.

Draft resolution A/C.1/41/L.40, in paragraph 1, considers that the Israeli attack against the Iraqi safeguarded nuclear facilities as an unprecedented danger which could have initiated radiological warfare; while paragraph 2 reaffirms that military attacks of any kind against nuclear facilities are tantamount to the Use of radiological weapons due to the dangerous radioactive forces caused to be released by such attacks. In paragraph 3, the draft resolution requests the Conference on Disarmament to reach an agreement prohibiting military attacks against nuclear facilities.

While putting this draft resolution before the First Committee for its consideration, my delegation draws attention to the fact that an attack against any nuclear facilities by any Power will undoubtedly inflict disastrous consequences that know no geographical limits or physical precautions.

The CHAIRMAN; Before adjourning the meeting, I would like to inform the Committee that the following delegations are included in the List of speakers for this afternoon's meeting: the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Peru, China, India, Argentina, Italy and Iraq-

I hope that the time still available to us this morning will be effectively used for informal consultations on draft resolutions before the Committee.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.