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Chairman:

Mr. RANA

(Nepal)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 45 TO 66 AND 155 (**continued**)

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON ALL DISARMAMENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. NEGROTTO CAMBIASO (Italy): On behalf of the twelve member States of the European Community, I wish to make **some** comments on agenda item 56 (**d**), regarding conventional disarmament, on which a specific draft resolution is under consideration.

Nuclear disarmament is one of the **most** important priorities for the countries on behalf of which I am speaking. At the same time, the Twelve have regularly **emphasized** that conventional arms control and disarmament are essential and must be pursued as a matter of urgency as an integral part of the process of general and complete disarmament, in which all States of the world, according to their security situation, must take an active part.

Since the end of the Second World War numerous conflicts fought with conventional weapons in all parts of the world have continued to cause death and injury to millions of people, bringing about unspeakable destruction and suffering. As conflicts and tensions arising in particular regional situations have been exacerbated by initiatives aimed at acquiring positions of political and economic supremacy, it has become all the more urgent for all States to consider measures of **conventional** arms control and disarmament as a **matter of** priority.

(Mr. Negrotto Cambiase, Italy)

In this light it is incumbent **upon** all States to intensify their efforts and take appropriate steps in the field of conventional disarmament, particularly through regional agreements that *take* into account the particular characteristics of each region. Such agreements are likely to prove the most effective means of achieving progress in the foreseeable future towards the enhancement of peace and security.

The Twelve strongly believe that agreements on conventional arms control and disarmament should be considered a fundamental objective. Such agreements, while **taking into account the** concern to meet the need of all States for undiminished security, should include provisions on effective verification measures as an indispensable tool in ensuring compliance.

The Twelve stress the importance of according priority, in the search for a more stable and secure balance of conventional armed forces at lower levels, to the **reduction of weapons** systems which are particularly suited to large-scale offensive action and surprise attack, in order to **remove** destabilising threats and enhance security.

Europe has embarked on this path. The Twelve welcome the rapid progress in **the Vienna negotiations** taking place in the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (**CSCE**). They look forward to early and successful agreement in both sets of negotiations. They strongly emphasise that they attach the highest priority to the conclusion, at the CSCE summit in Paris next month, of a **treaty** on conventional **forces** in **Europe**. Twenty-two countries are now engaged in a process aimed at reaching agreement on major reductions in their armed forces and on disarmament. The achievement of a first agreement in the negotiations on conventional armed forces **in** Europe will contribute to the subsequent pursuit of more far-reaching measures aimed at enhancing security and stability.

(Mr. Necrrotto Cambiasso, Italy)

The Twelve hope that discussions will be started among the 34 aimed at establishing by 1992, after the Helsinki meeting, a new process of disarmament and confidence-building measures open to all CSCE participants wishing to take part. This first huge reduction of conventional weapons to be agreed upon multilaterally in Europe will represent decisive progress towards greater stability and security and make a substantial contribution to disarmament in general.

Europe's experience indicates that successful disarmament negotiations are significantly facilitated by the creation of appropriately favourable political conditions. **In this** respect, **I** would like to stress the continued determination of **the** Twelve to work for substantive and innovative results in the negotiations on **confidence-** and security-building measures, in **order, inter alia,** further to expand contacts and exchanges of information on military matters and foster greater **transparency** and openness.

The continued exchange of data provided **for** by the United Nations system of **standardized reports** on military budgets constitutes an additional and important general confidence-building measure.

The Twelve reaffirm their resolve to promote wider and better **dissemination of** information on military capabilities and structures and other military matters as a means of alleviating international tension and preventing overestimation of military requirements deriving from a misperception **of** security needs at both the regional and the subregional level. They wish to confirm their support for resolution **43/75 G,** on objective information on military matters, in the expectation that its recommendations will be followed by an increasing number **of** States,

At the same time, the Twelve share the opinion that greater attention should be paid by **the** international community to the issue of arms transfers, which **can**

(Mr. Negrotto Cambiaso, Italy)

have serious implications for disarmament. Restraint and openness are of the utmost importance for the creation of a climate conducive to realistic measures dealing with arms transfers. The **Twelve** have taken note of specific proposals to that effect made in the Committee and will not fail to give them careful consideration. The study on ways and means of promoting transparency that the Secretary-General is undertaking in accordance with resolution **43/75** I is expected to provide the basis for a better understanding of the matter and for devising viable solutions to this problem of such growing relevance.

The subject of conventional arms control and disarmament should be kept at the forefront of the multilateral debate on disarmament. The Twelve welcome the agreement reached by the Disarmament Commission, at its 1990 session, on the **question** of conventional disarmament, after years of efforts in that direction. This is a significant result which opens up new prospects for understanding on a subject whose importance is widely acknowledged. They also welcome the Disarmament Commission's recognition of the importance of efforts to bring about disarmament on a regional scale.

In this connection, the Twelve believe that the experience in this field gained, and yet to **be** acquired, in Europe can provide valuable references and useful indications for work in other regions.

The CHAIRMAN: I call on the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, who will introduce draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.50**.

MR. AGAYEV (Union of **Soviet** Socialist Republics) (**interpretation** from Russian): Today the Soviet delegation is submitting draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.50**, on the subject of defensive security concepts **and policies**, which is sponsored also by Australia, Austria, Indonesia and Sweden.

(Mr. Agayev, USSR)

The world community is now entering a new post-confrontation period. The cold war is a thing of the past. A new spirit of co-operation and **co-ordinated** action is beginning to prevail in international affairs. The first steps have been taken towards genuine disarmament. Power rivalry is giving way to a new model of security which relies exclusively on peaceful means for the settlement of disputes. A legitimate question arises on the role of military capabilities and **armed** forces *in* this changed situation.

(Mr. Agayev, USSR)

It is our firmly held view that, as provided in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, States do in fact possess the inherent right to exercise "individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security."

Indeed, as recent events have demonstrated, defence against aggression remains a crucial factor that must be taken into account by States in defining their policies.

These policies should strictly conform to the requirements of the United Nations Charter and rely on the norms of international law. **That** is why draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.50** contains a proposal to initiate a discussion of approaches to defence policies and possible options for rendering the military capabilities of States purely defensive in nature. This is an **ambitious** task that involves taking **into** account a multitude of political factors, including various concepts of armed-force development and different perceptions of the nature of relations among States. This cannot, **quite** obviously, be accomplished overnight, let alone unilaterally. **It** requires broad dialogue to review and address in concrete terms the entire spectrum of existing opinions on the subject.

We welcome the fact that such an exchange is already under way in Europe. It has received a major impetus from **this year's** seminar in Vienna on military doctrines. The forthcoming agreement on radical cuts in armed **forces** and armaments in Europe holds out the hope that in that region a material groundwork may soon be laid for the development of entirely new perceptions of the role and meaning of military **capabilities**. Europe, however, cannot remain an oasis of security. We expect these positive trends to **emerge** elsewhere **as** well, obviously in *forms* that **will reflect the unique features** of each **particular region**.

(Mr. Agayev, USSR)

In our view all United Nations **Members** must strictly observe the provisions of the United Nations Charter and, to this end, should join the process of defining the parameters and criteria **of** defence policies as an important factor in strengthening security and stability and moving from confrontation to co-operation in every region of the world. **We** therefore welcome the agreement of the Security Commission concluded by representatives of five Central American nations as an important step towards lasting peace and an atmosphere **of** trust in Central America, In addition to all other considerations it has been an interesting example of regional efforts in this area carried out with **the** support of the United Nations.

We are pleased to note that at this session a number of delegations have already called for making disarmament a global process in which all members of the world community should become involved. We believe that that feeling is fully consonant with our proposals on defence concepts. and that it indicates a willingness **on** the part of the international **community** to get **down** to practical **work** in this field. We believe that, in practical terms, that objective **would** be well served by a United Nations study **supported** by Government experts, which is in fact provided for in document **A/C.1/45/L.50**. Such a study could offer a comprehensive picture of existing views and map out the main avenues to be **followed** in **the** formulation of defence policies, thus providing a sense **of** direction to the discussions that will be held on the subject.

For **its** part the Soviet Union has outlined its views with regard to defence concepts and security policies in a letter addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/556) in **which** it has set forth the basic principles **of** Soviet military doctrine and listed the practical measures taken to implement it. We hope that **the** proposed study will **help us, inter alia,** and facilitate further steps towards the achievement of our stated **goal** of adopting a purely defensive military **posture**.

(Mr. Agayev, USSR)

In conclusion **I** should **like** to express our appreciation to the delegations of **Australia, Austria, Indonesia and Sweden** for their constructive co-operation as sponsors of draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.50**. We also earnestly hope that the draft resolution now before the **Committee** will obtain widespread support.

Mr. HERNANDEZ BASAVE (Mexico) (interpretation **from Spanish**): Given the absence of negotiations on the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the reluctance of the nuclear Powers to **abandon** their nuclear military plans, the overwhelming majority of countries in the international **community** have set more modest goals for themselves with a view to halting and reversing the arms race. Unfortunately, even those measures have not always enjoyed the support **of all States and** have not, therefore, **achieved** the desired success. For example, with regard to the non-proliferation **of nuclear weapons** we still **cannot** say that **the international community** has an effective legal **régime** to prevent the proliferation of **such weapons**. Indeed, at the present **time** existing arsenals are not **only** numerically greater than they were 20 years ago but they also have such a destructive capacity **that** if it were decided to detonate only a few of such devices the **entire** planet could disappear in but a few **seconds**. **Hence it cannot** be said **that** initiatives to halt the proliferation of nuclear weapons have thus far been successful.

Another measure **that** many countries have **persistently** advocated **in** their desire to rid themselves of the threat posed by nuclear weapons is the **creation** of nuclear-weapon-free zones in their regions of the world, but even such initiatives have not yielded **the desired** results. Mexico takes great pride in having actively contributed to the preparation of the Tlatelolco **Treaty** for the Prohibition of **Nuclear Weapons** In Latin America, which created the first nuclear-weapon-free **zone** in a heavily populated area. The **conclusion** of the Treaty of Tlatelolco has **been recognized** by the General **Assembly** as an event **of historic significance** in the

(Mr. Hernandez Basave, Mexico)

efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security.

In order to ensure that the statute defined in the Treaty of Tlatelolco and its goals will be fully effective, the Treaty includes two additional protocols, which are open for signature by States that have international responsibility, de jure or de facto, for territories in **the geographic** zone set forth in the Treaty and by nuclear-weapon States.

Additional Protocol II has **been signed and ratified** by the nuclear-weapon States, while Additional Protocol I has been signed and ratified by three of the four States to which it *is* open. **The** first country to accede to Additional Protocol I was **the** United Kingdom, **whⁱch** did so more than 20 years ago; the second was the Netherlands, 19 years ago; and the third the United States of America, 9 years ago. France signed Additional Protocol I in 1979 but has not so far ratified it.

On behalf of **the** delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, **the** Bahamas, Barbados, **Bolivia**, Costa Rica, **the** Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, **Haiti**, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela and Mexico - all States parties to the Tlatelolco Treaty - I have the honour to introduce, under agenda item 45 of the General Assembly's current session, draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.28**, concerning **the** signature and ratification of Additional Protocol I of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in **Latin** America.

(Mr. Hernandez Basave, Mexico)

As in past years, the General Assembly would deplore the fact that **France** had not yet ratified Additional Protocol I **of** the Treaty and would **urge** it once more not to delay any further its ratification. The 18 States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which are sponsoring this draft resolution, firmly believe that France's accession to Additional Protocol **I** would make a **significant** contribution to the full effectiveness of the Treaty and would thus contribute to **realizing** the goals of the Treaty in support **of** nuclear disarmament and international peace and security.

On 3 July 1990, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (**OPANAL**) decided, in its resolution 267 (E-V), to add to the legal title **of** the Treaty the terms "and the Caribbean": this has *been* duly reflected in operative paragraph 3 of the draft now before us.

The **CHAIRMAN**: I now call on the representative of Sierra Leone, who will introduce draft resolutions **A/C.1/45/L.39** and **A/C.1/45/L.40** on behalf of the **Africa:** Group of States.

Mr. **BANGALI** (Sierra Leone): I have the honour, on behalf of the Group of African States to introduce draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.39**, dealing with agenda item 54 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearisation **of** Africa, and draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.40**, on agenda item 56 (m), *concerning* the prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes.

As at previous Assembly sessions *in recent years*, the draft resolution on the implementation **of** the Declaration on the **Denuclearization of** Africa has two parts. Part A deals with the implementation of the Declaration and part B focuses on the related problem **of** South Africa's nuclear capability.

For 26 years, African States have consistently and strongly *reaffirmed* the objectives **of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)** Declaration on the **Denuclearization** of *Africa*, seeing it as an important **measure** designed **to** prevent

(Mr. Bangali, Sierra Leone)

the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote regional as well as international peace and security. Since 1965, when the General Assembly by its resolution 2033 (**XX**) of 3 December endorsed the OAU Declaration, the Assembly has consistently supported the goal of Africa's denuclearisation and called for the **implementation of** the Declaration. The Assembly has also consistently condemned any attempt by South Africa to introduce nuclear weapons into Africa, viewing South Africa's nuclear capability as a threat to international peace and security and, in particular, as an impediment to the realisation of the objective of the OAU Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

South Africa's **refusal to place all its nuclear facilities and** programmes under the safeguards of **the** International Atomic **Energy** Agency (IAEA) and its **unwillingness to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)** cannot but raise serious questions about its nuclear intentions. We find it **difficult to understand why** any country that is serious about non-proliferation would collaborate with South Africa in the nuclear field since South Africa has done nothing to demonstrate its good intentions in this field. We therefore seize this opportunity **once** again to call upon all States, corporations **and institutions** to refrain from any collaboration with South Africa in the nuclear field until South Africa unconditionally accedes to the NPT and places all *its nuclear facilities* and programmes under **IAEA** safeguards. The proliferation of capabilities for the manufacture **of** weapons of **mass** destruction is a threat to all **countries and** to international peace and security as a whole.

Many studies have been done and many reports prepared on South Africa's nuclear capability and the conclusion has been uniform: that South Africa has attained the capability to manufacture, deploy and deliver nuclear weapons. This **is** an alarming and frightening fact which **calls** for urgent **and concrete** action by **the** international community. We therefore urge the adoption and practical

(Mr. Bangali, Sierra Leone)

implementation of the consensus recommendations adopted by the **Disarmament** Commission this year on South Africa's nuclear capability] and in part **A** of draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.39** we call for concrete United Nations support for African efforts to begin to advance the realization **of** the objectives of the 1984 OAU Declaration on the Denuclearisation of Africa.

After all the studies that have been **done** on this subject, and in view of all the other relevant developments that have taken place since the Declaration was adopted, we feel that the question of a convention **or** treaty **on** denuclearisation in all its aspects should now be examined by us and by experts, focusing on the modalities, elements and other related issues. **For** that purpose, we envisage a meeting of experts during 1991 in **Addis** Ababa, the seat of the Organisation of African Unity. For the **organization** and convening **of** that important meeting, which should be open to all OAU member States, we request the Secretary-General to provide such necessary assistance as the OAU may require.

As representatives are aware, the 1964 OAU Declaration on the Denuclearisation of Africa envisaged the preparation of an ****international treaty to be** concluded under the auspices of the United Nations**. Thus, in its resolution 2033 (XX) of 3 December 1965, by which it endorsed the Declaration, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to extend to the **OAU** such assistance and facilities as might be requested in order to achieve the aims of the Declaration.

In subsequent resolutions on this subject, the General Assembly has made similar requests to the Secretary-General, including most recently the request contained in resolution **44/113** A of 15 December 1989. We are **therefore** confident that the Secretary-General will take the necessary measures, not only to ensure the implementation **of** the present resolution, but also to facilitate **the realization of** the objectives of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

(Mr. Bangali, Sierra Leone)

Member States are requested, in part B of the draft resolution, to submit to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions on the Secretary-General's report on South Africa's ballistic missile capability. The Secretary-General is requested to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session. We feel that it would be very helpful for the international community to have the views and suggestions of Member States on the important issues covered in the Secretary-General's study in order to facilitate the taking of appropriate decisions or actions on the matter. If the international community is truly serious about promoting non-proliferation, we are confident that it will support Africa's efforts to implement the Declaration on the Denuclearisation of Africa. Collaboration with, or any sort of support for, South Africa's nuclear programmes can only undermine efforts at non-proliferation. We totally and unequivocally reject any attempts by South Africa to introduce conditions on international demands that it accede to the NPT and place all its nuclear activities under international safeguards and inspection.

In commending draft resolution A/C.1/45/L.39 to the First Committee, the African Group hopes that the draft resolution, in its two parts, will receive the unanimous support of all member States.

(Mr. Bangali, Sierra Leone)

I wish also to introduce draft resolution **A/C.1/45/L.40**, on prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes. The draft resolution speaks for itself and deals with a subject on which the international community is firmly united, namely, protection of the health and safety of human beings, all living organisms and the environment as a whole from the devastating effects of radioactive wastes.

Such wastes **do not** discriminate between people or nations in their destruction; they affect everyone exposed to them. However, some countries or regions are better prepared than others for dealing with such wastes. Some **countries, including** most of the member States of **the** Organisation of African Unity, **do not** produce any radioactive wastes at all: yet some countries which do, have illegally **and callously used our territories** for the dumping of such hazardous wastes. 'This is a blot on the conscience of mankind as a whole which I am confident the international community will readily erase by adopting effective **international instruments** to prohibit the dumping of radioactive wastes. We commend this **draft resolution to the** First Committee for adoption by consensus.

The CHAIRMAN: I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): I **have** to inform the Committee that the following countries have become sponsors of the following draft resolutions: **draft resolutions A/C.1/45/L.11**, Jordan; **L.13, Czechoslovakia** and **Mali; L.15**, Kenya; **L.16**, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; **L.17**, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Sudan, Swaziland and Zimbabwe; **L.21**, Bolivia, India and Suriname; **L.22, L.23, L.24** and **L.26**, Bolivia; **L.28, Grenada;** **L.29** and **L.30**, Bolivia; **L.31**, Chile, India, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Singapore **and Suriname; L.32**, Bolivia; **L.33**, Bolivia and **Myanmar;** **L.34**, Bolivia and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist **Republic; L.36**, Bolivia and Nepal; **L.37, Cyprus;** **2.38**, Australia and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) **L.40** and **L.41**,

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(Mr. Kheradi)

Suriname; L.44, Nepal and **Suriname;** L.49, Indonesia and **Suriname; L.51,** Austria, Colombia and **Mali; L.52, Czechoslovakia** and Ireland; and **L.53,** Bolivia and the Philippines.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.