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### PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND NEW SYSTEMS OF SUCH WEAPONS

#### Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Luvsangiin ERDENECHULUUN (Mongolia)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Committee on Disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-seventh session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/89 of 9 December 1981.
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. At its 2nd meeting, on 29 September, the First Committee decided to hold a combined general debate on the items allocated to it relating to disarmament, namely, items 39 to 57, 133 and 136. The general debate on these items and on items 138 and 139, which were allocated to the First Committee by the General Assembly at its 24th plenary meeting on 8 October 1982, took place at the 3rd to 28th meetings, from 18 October to 5 November (see A/C.1/37/PV.3-28).
4. In connexion with item 47, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Committee on Disarmament; 1/

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/37/27).

(b) Letter dated 22 June 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Final Communiqué and other documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana from 31 May to 5 June 1982, to the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly (A/37/333-S/15278).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.43

5. On 17 November, Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Bulgaria, Burundi, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Mozambique, the Niger, Poland, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam and Yemen submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/37/L.43). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic at the 36th meeting, on 18 November.

6. At its 41st meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.43 by a recorded vote of 99 to none, with 26 abstentions (see para. 10, draft resolution I). The vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Israel,

Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.46

7. On 17 November, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution entitled "Renunciation of the use of new discoveries and scientific and technical achievements for military purposes" (A/C.1/37/L.46), which was later also sponsored by Mali and Romania. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic at the 36th meeting, on 18 November.

8. On 24 November, the sponsors submitted a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.1/37/L.46/Rev.1), under which the operative paragraph, which read:

"Calls upon all States to renounce the use of new discoveries and scientific and technological achievements for military purposes."

was replaced by the following text:

"Calls upon all States to undertake efforts to ensure that ultimately scientific and technological achievements may be used solely for peaceful purposes."

9. At its 44th meeting, on 26 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/37/L.46/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 89 to 10, with 18 abstentions (see para. 10, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Belgium, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Liberia, Malawi, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Spain.

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3479 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/74 of 10 December 1976, 32/84 A of 12 December 1977, 33/66 B of 14 December 1978, 34/79 of 11 December 1979, 35/149 of 12 December 1980 and 36/89 of 9 December 1981 concerning the prohibition of new types of weapons of mass destruction,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 39 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/ according to which qualitative and quantitative disarmament measures are both important for halting the arms race and efforts to that end must include negotiations on the limitation and cessation of the qualitative improvement of armaments, especially weapons of mass destruction, and the development of new means of warfare,

Recalling the decision contained in paragraph 77 of the Final Document to the effect that, in order to help prevent a qualitative arms race and so that scientific and technological achievements might ultimately be used solely for peaceful purposes, effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction based on new scientific principles and achievements, and that efforts aiming at the prohibition of such new types and new systems of weapons of mass destruction should be appropriately pursued,

Expressing once again its firm belief, in the light of the decisions adopted at the tenth special session, in the importance of concluding an

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2/ Resolution S-10/2.

agreement or agreements to prevent the use of scientific and technological progress for the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Noting that, in the course of its session in 1982, the Committee on Disarmament considered the item entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: radiological weapons",

Noting with satisfaction that in the course of its session in 1982 the Committee on Disarmament held informal meetings with the participation of qualified governmental experts on this item,

Convinced that all ways and means should be utilized to prevent the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Taking into consideration the part of the report of the Committee on Disarmament relating to this question, 3/

1. Requests the Committee on Disarmament, in the light of its existing priorities, to intensify negotiations, with the assistance of qualified governmental experts, with a view to preparing a draft comprehensive agreement on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, and to draft possible agreements on particular types of such weapons;
2. Once again urges all States to refrain from any action which could adversely affect the talks aimed at working out an agreement or agreements to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons;
3. Calls upon the States permanent members of the Security Council as well as upon other militarily significant States to make declarations, identical in substance, concerning the refusal to create new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, as a first step towards the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement on this subject, bearing in mind that such declarations would be approved thereafter by a decision of the Security Council;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Committee on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;
5. Requests the Committee on Disarmament to submit a report on the results achieved to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-eighth session;

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3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/37/27), sect. III, paras. 76, 77 and 84-89.

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Committee on Disarmament".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Renunciation of the use of new discoveries and scientific and technical achievements for military purposes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 39 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, according to which qualitative and quantitative measures are both important for halting the arms race and efforts to that end must include negotiations on the limitation and cessation of the qualitative improvement of armaments, especially weapons of mass destruction and the development of new means of warfare so that ultimately scientific and technological achievements may be used solely for peaceful purposes,

Recalling its Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, 4/

Noting that scientific and technological progress has become one of the most important factors in the development of mankind,

Noting with concern that new discoveries and scientific and technical achievements can be used to intensify dangerously the arms race,

Recognizing the necessity to ensure that scientific and technological progress is used exclusively to serve the peaceful aspirations of humanity,

Aware that the time has come to consider ways to solve the problem of renunciation of the use of new discoveries and scientific and technological achievements for military purposes,

Calls upon all States to undertake efforts to ensure that ultimately scientific and technological achievements may be used solely for peaceful purposes.

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