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Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Saada Daher **Hassan** (Djibouti)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty” was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 68/68 of 5 December 2013.
2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2014, 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 1st meeting, on 3 October 2014, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 87 to 104. From 7 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items (see [A/C.1/69/PV.2-9](#)). On 15 and 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on follow-up of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and presentation of reports (see [A/C.1/69/PV.8](#)) and an exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament (see [A/C.1/69/PV.9](#)). The Committee also held 11 meetings, on 16 and 17, from 20 to 24 and on 27 and 28 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts (see [A/C.1/69/PV.9-19](#)). At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 20th to 24th meetings, from 29 to 31 October and on 3 and 4 November (see [A/C.1/69/PV.20-24](#)).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty ([A/69/137](#)).

* Reissued for technical reasons on 4 February 2015.



II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.1/69/L.56](#)

5. At its 22nd meeting, on 31 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty” ([A/C.1/69/L.56](#)) submitted by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Yemen. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Georgia, Guyana, Iceland, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Singapore, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee took action on draft resolution [A/C.1/69/L.56](#), as follows:

(a) The sixth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 167 to none, with 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:¹

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia,

¹ Subsequently, the delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against; the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic informed the Secretariat that it had not intended to participate in the voting.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Israel, Mauritius, Pakistan.

(b) Draft resolution [A/C.1/69/L.56](#), as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 170 to 1, with 3 abstentions (see para 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Abstaining:

India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

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

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that, after more than 15 years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 183 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 163 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 68/68 of 5 December 2013,

Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,¹ in which the Conference, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming also the Final Declaration adopted by the eighth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 27 September 2013, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 26 September 2014,

Noting the establishment of a group of eminent persons to complement efforts to secure ratifications from the remaining Annex 2 countries and to support the article XIV process, and noting also that the group met in Stockholm on 10 and 11 April 2014 and decided to establish three subgroups to focus on the promotion of ratification by countries whose ratification is needed for the entry into force of the Treaty,

¹ 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions.

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;²

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Shares the grave concern* of the Security Council about the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 12 February 2013, expressed in Council resolution 2094 (2013) of 7 March 2013, recalls Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 and 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009, calls for full compliance with the obligations under the relevant resolutions, and reaffirms its support for the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Welcomes*, since its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by the Congo and Niue, since every ratification is a significant step towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. *Also welcomes* the recent expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

10. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and on possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

² See resolution 50/245 and [A/50/1027](#).