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Agenda item 92

Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Nazim **Khalidi** (Algeria)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2022, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-seventh session the item entitled “Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” and to allocate it to the First Committee.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2022, the First Committee decided to conduct its work in three phases. The first phase would be a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 90 to 108, as well as a general debate on the working methods of the Committee and programme planning, namely items 124 and 139; the second phase would be dedicated to thematic discussions; and the third phase would be for action on all draft proposals.

3. At its 2nd to 10th meetings, on 3, 4, 6 and 7 and from 10 to 13 October, the Committee held its general debate on items 90 to 108. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee also held its general debate on items 124 and 139. On 14 October, at its 11th meeting, the Committee held exchanges with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament nominated by regional groups. The Committee also held 14 meetings (11th to 24th), on 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions and decisions were introduced and considered. At its 23rd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee held a joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions



and decisions at its 25th to 32nd meetings, on 28 and 31 October and from 1 to 4 November.¹

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.13](#)

5. On 3 October, the delegation of Mexico, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), submitted a draft resolution entitled “Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)” ([A/C.1/77/L.13](#)). Subsequently, the Bahamas, Barbados, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guyana, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 25th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.13](#) without a vote (see para. 7).

¹ For an account of the Committee’s discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/77/PV.2](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.3](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.4](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.5](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.6](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.7](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.8](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.9](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.10](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.11](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.12](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.13](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.14](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.15](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.16](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.17](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.18](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.19](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.20](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.21](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.22](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.23](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.24](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.25](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.25 \(Resumption 1\)](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.26](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.27](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.28](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.29](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.30](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.31](#) and [A/C.1/77/PV.32](#).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

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

Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)¹ was opened for signature in Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its resolution [2286 \(XXII\)](#) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling further that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco notes that the establishment of militarily denuclearized zones is closely linked with the maintenance of peace and security in the respective regions and that the military denuclearization of vast geographical zones, adopted by the sovereign decision of the States comprised therein, will exercise a beneficial influence on other regions where similar conditions exist,

Considering that, 55 years following its adoption, the Treaty of Tlatelolco remains a living instrument and a source of inspiration for the creation of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Taking note of the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of peace by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States at its second summit, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014, and the commitment undertaken in this context by the States of the region to continue to promote nuclear disarmament as a priority objective,²

Highlighting the fact that the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which is in force for all 33 sovereign States of the region, consolidated the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Recognizing the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga,³ Bangkok⁴ and Pelindaba⁵ and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,⁶ as well as the Antarctic Treaty⁷ and the declaration by Mongolia of its nuclear-weapon-free status, to the achievement of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

² See [A/68/914](#), annex.

³ *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

⁵ [A/50/426](#), annex.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Recalling all relevant United Nations resolutions in support of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Highlighting the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zones, including through the holding of joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to the treaties establishing such zones,

Welcoming the convening of Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and their contribution to achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Noting that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in its Final Document,⁸ encouraged the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and the fostering of cooperation and enhanced consultation mechanisms among the existing nuclear-weapon-free zones through the establishment of concrete measures, in order to fully implement the principles and objectives of the relevant nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, and commended the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean for its leadership in this field,

Reaffirming the importance of the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring full compliance with and implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as cooperation with the entities of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recalling that its resolution [73/71](#) of 5 December 2018 decided to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia as a one-day conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on a date yet to be determined,

Recalling also its resolution [74/27](#) of 12 December 2019,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) is in force for all sovereign States of the region;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the year 2022 marks the fifty-third anniversary of the entry into force, on 25 April 1969, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and of the establishment of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the memorandum of understanding signed between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the African Commission on Nuclear Energy on 1 December 2021, and encourages both regions to advance in its full and effective implementation with the objective of fostering cooperation and consultation mechanisms;

4. *Encourages once again* States parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco⁹ to review their interpretative declarations thereto, in accordance with action 9 of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,¹⁰ reaffirming and recognizing the legitimate interests of the States that comprise the nuclear-

⁸ 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

⁹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 634, No. 9068.

¹⁰ See 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, section I, entitled “Nuclear disarmament”.

weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean in receiving full and unequivocal security assurances from the nuclear-weapon States;

5. *Encourages* the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean to continue the activities and efforts that they conduct jointly with the Agency, inter alia:

(a) To support the efforts that are being undertaken in a multilateral context to identify and seek effective measures that favour compliance with disarmament and non-proliferation commitments;

(b) To enhance cooperation with States parties and signatories to treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia;

(c) To promote activities on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled “Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)”.
