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President: Mr. Edvard HAMBRO (Norway).

AGENDA ITEM 20

**Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful
Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-
General**

1. Mr. FINGER (United States of America): It is my privilege to introduce, on behalf of the Governments of Canada, France, the United Kingdom and the United States, a draft resolution [A/L.615] on the subject of the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which is scheduled to convene in Geneva in the autumn of 1971. My Government wishes, furthermore, to express its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report to the General Assembly [A/8157 and Corr.1] concerning preparations undertaken by the Secretariat and by the International Atomic Energy Agency for the conference.

2. My Government recognizes that the planning and organization of a conference of such magnitude is indeed a difficult and complex task, but in the light of our experience with the first three Conferences on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, the United States is confident that the fourth conference in this series will be an outstanding success and will contribute substantially to the growth of knowledge in the important field of nuclear energy.

3. We are all mindful of the importance, and necessity of harnessing the atom for the benefit of all mankind. For that reason the United States has actively and consistently supported the development of peaceful applications of nuclear energy on both multilateral and bilateral bases. We have, accordingly, supported the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency as the pre-eminent organization within the United Nations family to promote such peaceful uses, as well as the convening of past conferences on the peaceful uses

of atomic energy, which have been so successful in facilitating the flow of ideas and highlighting the technological advances in this field over the last fifteen years.

4. As President Nixon indicated in his message to the fourteenth IAEA General Conference in September of this year, the coming into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [resolution 2373 (XXII)] has more than ever focused the attention of the community of nations on the great opportunities for advancing the interests of nations in the peaceful applications of nuclear energy. Furthermore, President Nixon pledged that the United States will vigorously support international efforts to meet the responsibilities imposed by the non-proliferation Treaty and to fulfil the opportunities for peaceful applications. It is in that spirit, therefore, that the United States will seek to ensure that the fourth Geneva conference will be an outstanding success.

5. The theme of the fourth conference, "Atoms for Development", will give the conference a somewhat different orientation from that of its predecessors. The United States hopes that consideration of such matters as the operational experience of nuclear power plants, new frontiers in nuclear research, the effects of radiation, health and safety, and specialized applications of nuclear techniques to agriculture, industry, and so on, will demonstrate clearly the usefulness of the application of nuclear technology to development. We hope Governments will bear in mind the theme of this conference in determining the make-up of their delegations and will therefore include, in addition to physical scientists and technologists, a number of economic planners and social scientists.

6. With respect to the draft resolution before us, the United States and the other sponsors recommend to the General Assembly that the purposes of the conference and the mandate for its convening be reaffirmed. In the light of the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General, together with a closer examination of the provisional agenda prepared by the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, the co-sponsors of this draft resolution recommend that the General Assembly: first, endorse the proposals made by the Secretary-General in his report, particularly with respect to the provisional agenda and arrangements concerning publications and documentation; second, note with sincere appreciation the contributions and collaboration of the International Atomic Energy Agency; third, commend the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee for its work on the provisional agenda; and finally, approve the Secretary-General's

financial estimates, taking into consideration the ever-present need for budgetary stringency without prejudice to the success of the conference.

7. The PRESIDENT: I should like to draw the attention of representatives to document A/8157/Corr.1, which states that the "Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, Mexico" should be added to the list of organization in annex II as No. 15.

8. Mr. ROSCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): In the General Assembly's discussion on the question of the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which is to be held in 1971 and for which preparations are now in progress, we should like to note, in connexion with the convening of this Conference the considerable and important work that has been done by the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee with the co-operation of the Secretary-General.

9. The Soviet delegation would also like to state that it has taken note of the Secretary-General's report [A/8157 and Corr.1] in which it is stated, *inter alia*, that the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee has this year completed the preparation of the provisional agenda of the Conference. In our view this agenda merits approval by the General Assembly.

10. The Soviet delegation supports the proposal contained in the report that a number of international organizations dealing with problems of the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be invited to participate in the Conference. We note with satisfaction that the Secretary-General's report envisages a reduction of \$204,000 in the original estimates of the cost of the Conference. At the same time, however, the Soviet delegation believes that efforts should be made to achieve further economies in expenditure on the Conference.

11. The Soviet delegation expresses its satisfaction at the fact that in the preparations for the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy the United Nations is co-operating closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is the international organization most competent in the matters scheduled for discussion.

12. In the light of all these considerations, the Soviet delegation will support the draft resolution contained in document A/L.615, which has just been submitted to the General Assembly by the distinguished representative of the United States.

13. The Soviet delegation is convinced that the success of such an important enterprise as the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy would be facilitated by the participation in the Conference of the largest possible number of States. In this connexion, it would be entirely wrong to restrict participation in this forthcoming international meeting to States Members of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International

Atomic Energy Agency. If this were done, the Conference would not be able to profit from the significant advances in the peaceful uses of atomic energy which have been made by a number of States which are not Members of the United Nations, IAEA or the specialized agencies. Such an approach would, moreover, be political discrimination, contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and inadmissible in international intercourse.

14. In this connexion the Soviet delegation would like to lay particular stress on the question of the participation in the Conference of the German Democratic Republic, a sovereign independent State which was one of the first to ratify the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII)*] and which has achieved outstanding success in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. We are convinced that the contribution of this State to the work of the forthcoming Conference would be extremely valuable. An invitation to the German Democratic Republic to participate in the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy would reflect a sound approach to the question and a sober appraisal of the situation in the modern world.

15. As is well known, the Soviet Union attaches great importance to international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, especially in connexion with the conclusion and entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The Soviet Union actively participates in the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency and also co-operates in this field with many States on a bilateral basis and with international research centres. We greatly appreciate the contribution made to international exchanges in this field by the International Conferences on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. The Soviet Union participated actively in the first three conferences on this subject and will take an equally active part in the forthcoming Fourth Conference.

16. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I am informed by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee that should the General Assembly endorse the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in its report [A/8157 and Corr.1], the appropriation requested under Section 2, chapter VIII, of the budget estimates for 1971 would be reduced by \$3,300, that is from \$552,500 to \$549,200. Furthermore, largely as a result of arrangements reached by the Secretary-General with the International Atomic Energy Agency for joint publication of post-session documentation, the total costs of the conference for the three years 1970, 1971 and 1972 would be reduced by \$204,300, from \$932,800 to \$728,500.

17. The General Assembly will now proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution in document A/L.615. As there has been no request for a vote, I shall take it, if there are no objections, that the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 2651 (XXV)).

AGENDA ITEM 64

Question of Southern Rhodesia: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (A/8188)

18. Mr. SEVILLA-BORJA (Ecuador) Rapporteur of the Fourth Committee (*interpretation from Spanish*): I have the honour to present to the General Assembly for its consideration the report of the Fourth Committee on agenda item 64 [A/8188].

19. The Fourth Committee felt that this item was of particular importance. That is why it accorded it priority, jointly with the questions of Namibia and of Territories under Portuguese administration, those three constituting the trilogy of items having to do with the smouldering, explosive situation in the southern part of Africa.

20. During the consideration of the item by the Fourth Committee, the great majority of member States expressed their profound concern at the deterioration of the situation in Southern Rhodesia, which the Security Council has repeatedly qualified as a threat to international peace and security. They also pointed out that, five years after the illegal declaration of independence, and notwithstanding the efforts of the United Nations, the illegal régime of the racist minority remains in power and continues to deny to the Zimbabwe people their legitimate rights, including the inalienable right to self-determination, freedom and independence. Many members said they were concerned at the new measures adopted by the illegal régime, including the supposed proclamation of the status of republic. They felt that these measures were designed to entrench the régime further and to repress the African people. Concern was also voiced at the continued presence in the Territory of South African forces, this representing a serious threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring African States.

21. Many members said that in their opinion the responsibility for the failure to overthrow the illegal régime should be borne by the administering Power and other Governments which have not fulfilled the decisions of the United Nations on this Territory, particularly the Governments of Portugal and South Africa. A number of members said that it was deplorable that the Government of the United Kingdom, in its capacity as the administering Power, had not adopted effective measures to bring down the illegal régime in Southern Rhodesia. They also suggested that the Security Council, as an urgent step, should broaden the scope of sanctions against the white racist minority régime and impose sanctions against South Africa and Portugal, as the most practical and sure way of guaranteeing self-determination and ensuring respect for United Nations resolutions.

22. A number of delegations emphasized the role that could be played by international institutions, par-

ticularly the specialized agencies, in providing moral and material assistance to the liberation movements of Zimbabwe, in co-operation with the Organization of African Unity.

23. All of those considerations and views are reflected in the draft resolution contained in paragraph 10 of the report. That draft resolution, which was submitted by thirty States, was adopted by the Fourth Committee by a roll-call vote of 90 votes to 10, with 11 abstentions. On behalf of the Fourth Committee, I now commend the draft resolution to the General Assembly for its attention.

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, it was decided not to discuss the report of the Fourth Committee.

24. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): I call on the representative of Malawi in explanation of vote before the voting on the draft resolution.

25. Mr. PHAKAMEA (Malawi): The Malawi delegation feels it necessary to explain its vote before the voting on the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee in document A/8188, which has just been presented, mainly because we were not able to participate in the vote on that draft resolution in the Committee.

26. The views of my Government on the question of Rhodesia have already been expressed in the Assembly, and we are convinced that there is no need to repeat those views here. However, my delegation would like to state clearly that had operative paragraphs 4, 6 and 9 of the draft resolution been put to the vote separately, my delegation would have voted against each of them, for the reasons that we have already stated in writing to the Secretary-General.

27. My delegation, therefore, will abstain in the vote on the draft resolution as a whole.

28. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from French*): As no other representative wishes to speak, the General Assembly will now vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee in paragraph 10 of its report [A/8188]. A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, People's Republic of the Congo, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal,

Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Gabon, Ireland, Italy, Malawi, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey.

*The draft resolution was adopted by 79 votes to 10, with 14 abstentions (resolution 2652 (XXV)).*¹

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.

¹ The delegation of Iraq, Jamaica, Mongolia, Sierra Leone and Turkey subsequently informed the Secretariat that they wished to be recorded as having voted in favour of the draft resolution.