



General Assembly

Sixty-fourth session

First Committee

20th meeting

Wednesday, 28 October 2009, 3 p.m.
New York

Official Records

Chairperson: Mr. José Luis Cancela (Uruguay)

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

Agenda items 86 to 103 (continued)

Action on all draft resolutions submitted under disarmament and international security agenda items

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): In accordance with its programme of work, the Committee will continue the third stage of its work.

I now give the floor to representatives who have asked to speak in explanation of vote on the draft resolutions adopted yesterday under cluster 1, "Nuclear weapons".

Ms. Liufalani (New Zealand): New Zealand voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.4, entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East". Consistent with our belief in the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world, New Zealand is a strong and long-standing supporter of the universalization of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and is committed to the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, as mandated by the States parties to the NPT in 1995. We also consider that the International Atomic Energy Agency will have a crucial role to play in verifying such a zone and therefore urge all States that have not done so to sign, ratify and implement an additional protocol to allow the Agency to undertake its important work.

New Zealand wishes, however, to place on record our concern regarding the absence in the draft

resolution of any reference to other States in the Middle East that present significant nuclear proliferation concerns. We would hope that this lack of balance will be able to be addressed in future years.

Mr. Streuli (Switzerland) (*spoke in French*): I have requested the floor in order to explain our vote on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.4, entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

Switzerland voted again this year in favour of the draft resolution, which promotes the universalization of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in the Middle East region. Switzerland fully supports that objective. However, Switzerland notes that the draft resolution mentions only part of the risk of nuclear proliferation. In voting in favour, Switzerland demonstrated the importance it attaches to the full implementation of the obligations arising from the NPT by all of the States of the region.

In this context, the full cooperation of those States with relevant international organizations, in particular the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Security Council, is essential, as is the full implementation of decisions and resolutions adopted by those bodies. In order to implement this draft resolution and attain the goal of preventing the risk of nuclear proliferation in the broadest manner possible, it is essential that States bear in mind the current context and all developments that affect the countries of the region.

Mr. Hallak (Syrian Arab Republic) (*spoke in Arabic*): My country voted in favour of the draft

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resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East", contained in document A/C.1/64/L.4. Syria believes in the utmost importance of the issue and its implications for peace and security in our region, and fully recognizes the need to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. As we noted in our statement yesterday and would remind those of short memory, upon its accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1969, Syria was among the first countries that called for ridding the Middle East of all weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear weapons.

It is well known to all that my country has contributed to many of the initiatives aimed at achieving this lofty objective, the most recent of which was the draft Security Council resolution put forward by Syria on behalf of the Group of Arab States on 29 December 2003 (A/58/667, annex), which sought to rid the Middle East of all weapons of mass destruction, foremost among them nuclear weapons, under joint control of the international community and the United Nations and in a manner that strengthens the multilateral conventions on disarmament.

Histrionically, in a theatrical intervention reminiscent of the theatre of the absurd, the representative of Israel has tried desperately to mislead this Committee by making false and unfounded claims in order to divert attention from the risks posed by Israel's nuclear weapons, its non-compliance with the relevant international resolutions on nuclear non-proliferation, its non-accession to the NPT, and its failure to place its nuclear installations under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

It is no secret that Israel continues to pursue a policy of aggressive nuclear armament, based on a huge nuclear arsenal and means of delivery that surpass the British and French arsenals. Israel and its allies cover up the risks resulting from its possession of nuclear weapons and its threat to use them against the States of the region through what is known as a policy of nuclear ambiguity. It is ironic that the Israeli representative would put forward unfounded claims at a time when Israel still refuses to comply with resolutions of international legitimacy and to submit its nuclear installations to IAEA control and safeguards.

In that regard, we call on the international community to pressure Israel to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear State party and to eliminate its nuclear

arsenal and its means of delivery so as to contribute to stability and security in the region.

On a different note, the statement made yesterday by the representative of Canada again amplified our serious concerns about this theatre, where false witnesses play the role of devil's advocate. I would ask my colleague the representative of Canada to read the IAEA reports on its positive cooperation with Syria. I hope that he will learn from the lesson. Otherwise, he runs the risk of giving the impression that his country supports Israel's violation of the sovereignty of a Member State, the United Nations Charter, all United Nations resolutions and international law.

Ms. Dezoeten (Australia): Australia would like to register an explanation of vote on two of the draft resolutions on which we voted yesterday under cluster 1.

On draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.4, entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East", Australia is committed to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and to the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world. As a strong supporter of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), we will continue to promote those objectives in the current NPT review cycle and in all other relevant international forums. Our strong advocacy for a universal NPT and the universal application of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, including the additional protocol, is a matter of record.

Australia has long been a supporter of effectively verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zones freely arrived at by Member States. We have been consistent in our support of the General Assembly resolution that calls for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. However, a draft resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" that singles out Israel and makes no reference to States in the Middle East currently under investigation by the International Atomic Energy Agency is in our view unbalanced, and we therefore, regretfully, had to abstain.

I would like to register an explanation of vote on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.20. Australia does not support the draft resolution, entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons". However, that neither diminishes in any way the strong commitment that Australia has made to the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, nor does it indicate that

we will cease our genuine endeavours to achieve that goal.

A world free of nuclear weapons is a long-term ambition. In the meantime, Australia will continue to undertake practical initiatives to achieve that ambition. Australia's commitment is reflected in our joint establishment last year with Japan of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, which seeks to charter a path to the eventual abolition of nuclear weapons. The Commission is expected to issue its report before the end of 2009 in the lead-up to the Review Conference of the Parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

We note that the draft resolution calls on the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a convention on the prevention of the use of nuclear weapons. Like all Member States, Australia is dedicated to returning the Conference on Disarmament to work and, like the majority of Conference members, we see negotiation of a verifiable fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) as the pre-eminent and urgent priority for negotiation in the Conference. We will work with Conference members to ensure that the Conference commences negotiations on an FMCT in 2010 and undertakes substantive discussion on other important topics, including nuclear disarmament.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15, entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction", was introduced by the representative of Hungary at the 12th meeting, on 16 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft resolution is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.15.

I wish to place on record the following oral statement of financial implications on behalf of the Secretary-General in connection with draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15.

Under the terms of operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be

required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts.

The costs related to the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts, would be borne by the States parties and States not parties to the Convention participating in those meetings, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessments, adjusted appropriately. Furthermore, according to the decisions and recommendation of the Sixth Review Conference, the Implementation Support Unit of the Office for Disarmament Affairs is to be funded by the States parties for the period 2007-2011.

It is recalled that all activities related to international conventions or treaties that, under their respective legal arrangements, are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations, may be undertaken by the Secretariat only when sufficient funding is received, in advance, from States parties and States not parties to the Convention participating in the meetings.

Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15 would not give rise to any financial implications under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft resolution has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.15 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.19. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.19, entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction", was introduced by the representative of India at the 11th meeting, on 15 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.19 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. In addition,

Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro and the United States of America have become sponsors.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.19 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.35. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.35, entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction", was introduced by the representative of Poland at the 12th meeting, on 16 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft resolution is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.35.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft resolution has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.35 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position on the resolutions just adopted.

Mr. Tarar (Pakistan): I have taken the floor to explain our vote on the draft resolution entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction", contained in document A/C.1/64/L.19.

We support the objective of the draft resolution, although we continue to believe that its language could have been improved to convey a more objective reflection of reality. The fear that terrorists and non-State actors may acquire or use weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) is a recent phenomenon. However, that danger must be viewed in perspective. Terrorist organizations or non-State actors are more likely to acquire and use chemical and biological weapon capabilities. The acquisition and use of nuclear weapons by terrorists and non-State actors is much less likely. That concern should not become an excuse for

discrimination against selected countries. The international community must not, however, lower its guard in order to prevent the possible development and use of dirty bombs. Increased international cooperation, including the initiation of negotiations on a radiological weapons convention should be given serious consideration.

As regards the denial to terrorists of the means to acquire, possess and use WMDs, it is necessary for all States to enact and enforce national physical protection and export control measures to prevent WMD technology from falling into the hands of terrorists. International assistance and capacity-building are areas requiring urgent attention. In order to lend greater legitimacy to international efforts in that area, interim measures, such as the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), are now being looked upon with great hope, and it is hoped that they will continue to serve the purpose for which they were put in place.

The faithful implementation of existing treaty regimes, such as that of the Chemical Weapons Convention, can effectively address most of those threats. The early dismantlement of chemical stocks would enhance the level of confidence against the likelihood of their acquisition and use by terrorists. However, as long as the process of chemical-weapons disarmament proceeds at a slow pace and huge quantities of chemical weapons exist, the possibility of their falling into terrorists' hands will remain as well.

The control of biological weapons should be of more concern, particularly to the industrially advanced States, owing to their extensive use of biological agents. The Biological Weapons Convention should therefore be strengthened, in particular by reviving the biological weapons verification protocol, which was negotiated over eight years ago. We are convinced that the revival of that process would fully serve the goal of promoting international peace and security, as well as address the concerns expressed, for example, in this draft resolution.

We are convinced that a comprehensive strategy must be developed to prevent the possibility of terrorists gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. Such a strategy must include depriving terrorist organizations of their operational and organizational capabilities; strengthening the relevant existing multilateral regimes; negotiating a universal

treaty to fill the gaps in current international instruments; augmenting the capacity of States to implement global treaty obligations; and addressing the root causes of terrorism. A distinction must be made between counter-terrorism and non-proliferation.

This draft resolution quite appropriately mentions the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement as having expressed itself on the issue of weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. We would like to recall that, in the context of the issue of terrorism, the same document also stresses the need to address the causes that sometimes lead to terrorism — causes that lie in suppression, injustice and deprivation.

Mr. Asayesh Talab Tousi (Islamic Republic of Iran): My country joined the consensus adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.35, entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction”. However, my delegation would like to place on record that all State parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention should fully comply with all their obligations in order to uphold the Convention’s integrity and credibility.

We are concerned over the delay indicated by a major possessor State party — that it would not comply with its obligation to complete destruction activities by the final extended deadline, adopted by decision of the Conference. We call upon that major possessor State party to make every effort necessary to meet its final extended deadline for destruction.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on the draft resolutions listed in informal working paper 1 under cluster 3.

The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.25. A recorded vote has been requested. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.25, entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”, was introduced by the representative of Sri Lanka at the 13th meeting, on 19 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.25 and

A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.1. In addition, Tajikistan has become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, 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, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, 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, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United

Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Israel, United States of America.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.25 was adopted by 176 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee has thus concluded action on cluster 3.

We will now move on to cluster 4, “Conventional weapons”.

I give the floor to the representative of Mali to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.5.

Mr. Daou (Mali) (*spoke in French*): I take the floor on behalf of the States members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.5, entitled “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them”. This document reflects the political resolve of the ECOWAS member States to create conditions for genuine security within the ECOWAS space so that they can dedicate themselves to the challenge of development. Beyond the West African subregion, the draft resolution reflects the determination of many countries in Africa and throughout the world to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and to collect them.

We need hardly recall that the draft resolution before us has always been adopted without a vote, thanks to the support of this Committee. In that respect, the States members of ECOWAS hope that this draft can be adopted by consensus once again this year.

The draft resolution urges the international community, inter alia, to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations, in collaboration with national commissions, to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and collect them. The draft resolution also encourages the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials.

ECOWAS extends its sincere thanks to the First Committee for its support for this draft resolution for the last several years. This year, we have once again registered a higher number of sponsors, which amply testifies to the interest in the issue of small arms and light weapons by the entire international community. The world needs security and peace, and we believe that the adoption of this draft resolution will be an important step in seeking this security.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on the draft resolutions under cluster 4.

The Committee will now proceed to take action on the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.5. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.5, entitled “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them”, was introduced by the representative of Mali on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States at the 20th meeting of the Committee, on 28 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.5 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.1. In addition, Belize and Guyana have become sponsors.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.5 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”, was introduced by the representative of Ireland, also on behalf of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, at the 14th meeting, on 19 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.16.

With the permission of the Chairperson, I shall now read out for the record the oral statement by the

Secretary-General regarding the financial implications that accompany draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”.

By operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11.2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention following its entry into force.

In accordance with article 14.1 of the Convention, the costs of the Meeting of the States Parties will be borne by the States parties and States not parties to the Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment, adjusted appropriately. Following the established practice, the Secretariat will prepare respective cost estimates for the approval of the States parties following planning missions to assess the requirements for conference facilities and services.

In accordance with article 14.2 of the Convention, the costs incurred by the Secretary-General under articles 7 and 8 of the Convention would be borne by the States parties to the Convention, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment, adjusted appropriately. The Secretariat will prepare respective cost estimates for the approval of the States parties.

It is recalled that all activities related to the international conventions or treaties, under their respective legal arrangements, are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations. These activities would be undertaken by the Secretariat only after sufficient funding is received, in advance, from States parties and States not parties to the Convention participating in the meetings.

Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16 would not give rise to any financial implications under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.44. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.44, entitled “Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus”, was introduced by the representative of Germany at the 15th meeting, on 20 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.44 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.44 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I now give the floor to those delegations that wish to explain their position on the draft resolutions just adopted.

Mr. Aly (Egypt): The delegation of Egypt joined the consensus on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”, while noting that the process leading to the conclusion of the Convention represented another example of efforts to bypass the United Nations multilateral framework in order to develop legal instruments that neither address the concerns of all States nor command universality even in the longer term.

While understanding the humanitarian considerations and serious humanitarian problems existing in a number of countries in relation to cluster munitions, and understanding the positive motivations that perhaps have driven or contributed to the existence of the Convention, Egypt believes that precedents created by the Ottawa Convention and by the Convention on Cluster Munitions should be neither encouraged nor promoted in the context of the United Nations.

Last year, Egypt joined the consensus on a similar resolution on cluster munitions due to its purely procedural nature. That procedural nature has been overshadowed this year in A/C.1/64/L.16 by the political references embodied in the draft resolution. Egypt continues to view A/C.1/64/L.16 as a procedural

draft resolution and has joined consensus on it only based on that interpretation.

Mrs. Ancidey (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*spoke in Spanish*): The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela joined the consensus on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.44, entitled “Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus”. Nevertheless, we wish to stress that it is up to each State to determine when the accumulation of stockpiles is in surplus.

Further, Venezuela believes that the matter of the illicit traffic in ammunition is closely tied to the illicit traffic in weapons and is an integral part of the problem. For that reason, the marking of ammunition is an important factor that would help to prevent diversion, criminal activity and the illicit market.

In that respect, Venezuela believes that the Governments of countries in which the primary armament industries operate have a primary responsibility to adopt regulations to ensure the marking of ammunition before export in order to ensure and facilitate their due tracing. Such information would be in the language of the importing country, and should be clear and concise enough so that it can be handled by the technical staff of the importing country.

Mr. Rao (India): I have asked for the floor to explain India’s position on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”. India is not a signatory to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Therefore, the consideration of the draft resolution by this Committee cannot be construed as an endorsement of the outcome of the Dublin Conference held on 30 May 2008. Further, the draft resolution cannot serve as a precedent for General Assembly endorsement of decisions of treaty bodies that were concluded and remain outside the United Nations framework. At the same time, we cannot but have deepest admiration for the efforts of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to address the menace of the irresponsible use of cluster munitions, of which it has been tragically the world’s foremost victim nation.

Mr. Vasiliev (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The Russian delegation supported draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”, recognizing the legitimate interests of States in undertaking legal obligations with respect

to the Convention on Cluster Munitions and to carrying out related activities.

However, our support does not mean that we agree with a number of the approaches contained in the Convention. Moreover, we oppose the creation of processes that are parallel to existing disarmament forums. We are convinced that the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the negotiating work undertaken in its framework are a good platform for the comprehensive consideration of issues, including those related to cluster munitions. We also question the practice of using financing from the regular budget of the United Nations for activities that are parallel to recognized disarmament forums.

Mr. Itzhaki (Israel): I wish to speak in explanation of position on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled “Convention on Cluster Munitions”.

This year has seen significant developments with respect to the creation of a norm on the use of cluster munitions. The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW) remains the most relevant and appropriate forum for addressing such weapons. As an important instrument of international humanitarian law, it continues to strike the necessary balance between military and humanitarian considerations. Since its inception, it has encompassed major users and producers of conventional weapons, including cluster munitions.

In the past year, the CCW conducted serious, in-depth negotiations in order to conclude a new protocol on cluster munitions. Following this year’s negotiation sessions, it is clear that more work needs to be done to finalize a serious, balanced and effective protocol that would address the humanitarian problems associated with the irresponsible use of cluster munitions.

But that will not be enough. All Member States must show the necessary political will to enable the CCW Group of Governmental Experts on cluster munitions to reach a successful outcome. Israel trusts and hopes that those CCW member States that were also involved in the negotiations on the Convention on Cluster Munitions will continue to make their best efforts to achieve an agreement within the framework of the CCW. We expect that the same attitude of consensus and support demonstrated today regarding

this draft resolution will also be reflected by those CCW members that participated in the negotiations towards concluding protocol VI of the CCW.

We also wish to stress that the fact that Israel joined consensus on the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.16 should not be construed as an expression of support for the Convention on Cluster Munitions or as an endorsement of its provisions.

Mr. Poo (Singapore): I am taking the floor to explain my delegation's decision to join the consensus on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled "Convention on Cluster Munitions".

Since November 2008, Singapore has imposed an indefinite moratorium on the export of cluster munitions. This reflects Singapore's consistent support for initiatives against the indiscriminate use of cluster munitions, especially when they are directed at innocent and defenceless civilians. That said, Singapore believes that these humanitarian considerations must be balanced with every State's legitimate security concerns and the right to self-defence as enshrined in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

In addition, Singapore would like to underscore the centrality of the United Nations as a universal and multilateral negotiating forum for all Member States. In this regard, we regret continued efforts to undermine this centrality, including the introduction of Conventions negotiated outside of the United Nations framework into the United Nations system.

Mr. Youn Jong-kwon (Republic of Korea): My delegation would like to speak on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.16, entitled "Convention on Cluster Munitions".

The Republic of Korea fully recognizes the need to reduce the humanitarian suffering caused by cluster munitions, and supports international efforts to address the problems associated with the use of cluster munitions. We therefore joined in the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus. However, due to the unique security situation on the Korean peninsula, my Government is unable to take an active stand on the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which bans the use of all cluster munitions.

Meanwhile, the Republic of Korea will continue to participate actively in consultations on cluster munitions within the framework of the Convention on

Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW), with an aim to concluding a CCW protocol on cluster munitions that strikes an appropriate balance between humanitarian concerns and military needs.

My delegation would also like to mention that, in August 2008, the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Korea adopted a new directive on cluster munitions. According to that directive, only cluster munitions that are equipped with self-deactivation devices and that would not suffer from a more than 1 per cent failure rate can be included in future acquisition plans. The new directive also recommends the development of alternative weapons systems that could potentially replace cluster munitions in the long run.

The Republic of Korea is fully committed to joining the international efforts to reduce the humanitarian concerns raised by cluster munitions, and will continue to participate constructively in future discussions if the continuation of protocol discussions within the CCW framework is agreed upon at the Meeting of States Parties in November.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee has thus concluded action on draft resolutions under cluster 4.

We shall now move on to cluster 5, "Regional disarmament and security".

I call on the representative of Pakistan to introduce draft resolutions A/C.1/64/L.28, A/C.1/64/L.29 and A/C.1/64/L.30.

Mr. Tarar (Pakistan): We are taking the floor to introduce three draft resolutions on regional disarmament, conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels, and confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the regional and subregional context, contained in documents A/C.1/64/L.28, A/C.1/64/L.29 and A/C.1/64/L.30, respectively.

I shall first introduce the draft resolution on regional disarmament on behalf of the delegations of Bangladesh, the Comoros, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan and Turkey, and on behalf of my own delegation.

While there is no denying the importance of international disarmament measures, the regional dimension is unquestionably significant as well. The promotion of security and disarmament at the regional level can redound to the benefit of these objectives at the global level. In this regard, the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission in 1993 can show us the way.

Keeping in view the promise of the regional approach to resolving conflicts in different regions, the draft resolution takes note of proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels, and recognizes the linkage between regional disarmament and enhanced security, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments. Stressing the need for sustained efforts to achieve these objectives, the draft resolution also affirms that regional approaches to disarmament complement each other; calls on States to conclude agreements, wherever possible; welcomes the initiatives towards disarmament, non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels; and supports and encourages confidence-building measures.

The sponsors and my delegation hope that, as it was at the sixty-third session, the text will be adopted unanimously.

Allow me now to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.29, entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels", on behalf of the delegations Bangladesh, Belarus, the Comoros, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Italy, Malaysia, Nepal, Peru, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine, and my own delegation.

The draft resolution aims at promoting conventional disarmament at the regional and subregional levels. Despite its significance, this issue has not received due attention or support. The international community needs to be sharply focused on conventional balance and arms control.

The preambular part of the draft resolution highlights several important concepts and principles, such as the crucial role of arms control in peace and security, threats to peace in the post-cold war era

arising mainly among States located in the same region or subregion, the lowest level of armaments as a contributing factor to peace and stability, the objective of agreements to strengthen peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces, the special responsibility of the militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities in promoting such agreements for regional peace and security, and the objective of preventing the possibility of surprise military attacks and of avoiding aggression.

The preamble of the draft resolution also notes with particular interest the initiatives taken in various regions, including a number of Latin American countries, and the proposals for conventional arms control in South Asia. It also recognizes the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which is described as a cornerstone of European security.

The operative part of the draft resolution, while deciding to give urgent consideration to the issue of conventional disarmament at the regional and subregional levels, requests the Conference on Disarmament to consider formulating principles that can serve as the framework for regional agreements.

The sponsors look forward to the Committee's strong support of this draft resolution.

Now, I would like to introduce the draft resolution entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context", contained in document A/C.1/64/L.30, on behalf of the delegations of Bangladesh, the Comoros, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine, as well as my own delegation.

In large measure, global peace and security depend on stability at the regional and subregional levels. The absence of the latter prerequisite spawns arms races, undermines arms control and disarmament, and obstructs and complicates the peaceful settlement of disputes. Such instability also breeds poverty, despair and anger.

Our submission of this draft resolution is driven by the internationally recognized value of regional and subregional confidence-building measures (CBMs). Pakistan is convinced that such measures have yielded and will continue to yield peace and conflict resolution dividends, which in turn will allow States to concentrate on socio-economic development. CBMs

can also create an enabling ambience for arms control and disarmament.

The preambular paragraphs of the draft resolution reiterate the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, as well as General Assembly resolution 57/337, entitled "Prevention of armed conflict". The text recognizes the need for dialogue to avert conflicts, and welcomes the peace processes already initiated in various regions to resolve disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation by third parties.

The draft resolution also recognizes that regions that have already developed CBMs at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, have greatly improved the climate of peace and security in their regions and contributed to the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of their people.

The operative paragraphs of the draft resolution call upon Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force and to reaffirm their commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter. The draft resolution recalls the CBM-related ways and means elaborated in the 1993 report of the United Nations Disarmament Commission, and urges Member States to pursue those ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue.

The draft resolution also urges States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party; underlines that CBMs should contribute to the objectives of strategic stability; emphasizes that the objective of CBMs should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and that such measures should be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments; encourages the promotion of bilateral and regional CBMs to avoid conflict and to prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities; and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly based on the views of Member States on CBMs in the regional and subregional context.

My delegation hopes that, like last year, the draft resolution will be unanimously adopted by this Committee.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I call on the representative of Indonesia to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.8.

Mr. Simanjuntak (Indonesia): Under this cluster, allow me to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to introduce the draft resolution contained in A/C.1/64/L.8, under agenda item 87, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

NAM stresses the need to foster consensual approaches that are conducive to the pursuit of peace in the region. The participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean is important, and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region.

We hope that the Committee will support the draft resolution that we have just introduced.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on the draft resolutions contained in cluster 5.

I call on the representative of Iran, who wishes to speak in explanation of position before action is taken on the draft resolution.

Mr. Asayesh Talab Tousi (Islamic Republic of Iran): I have taken the floor to explain the position of my delegation on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.49, entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

Given the gravity of the situation in the occupied territory of Palestine, especially in Gaza, as a result of the imposition of the very severe blockade by the Zionist regime, including from the Mediterranean side, on the people of Gaza, and the recent United Nations report (A/HRC/12/48) on war crimes committed by the occupying military, the current draft resolution artificially draws a rosy picture of the so-called peace negotiations.

In our view, the draft resolution should be more realistic and reflect the factual situation in the region. Therefore, my delegation will not participate in the voting on this draft resolution.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now take action on draft resolution

A/C.1/64/L.8. A recorded vote has been requested. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.8, entitled “Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace”, was introduced by the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, at the 20th meeting, on 28 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft resolution is named in document A/C.1/64/L.8.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.8 was adopted by 128 votes to 3, with 44 abstentions.

[Subsequently, the delegation of Afghanistan advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.28. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.28, entitled “Regional disarmament”, was introduced by the representative of Pakistan at the 17th meeting, on 22 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.28 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.28 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.29. A recorded vote has been requested. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.29, entitled “Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels”, was introduced by the representative of Pakistan at the 17th meeting, on 22 October 2009. The sponsors of the

draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.29 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

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

Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Russian Federation.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.29 was adopted by 173 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.30. I give the floor to the Secretary.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.30, entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context", was introduced by the representative of Pakistan at the 17th meeting, on 22 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.30 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.30 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.49. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.49, entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region", was introduced by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic at the 17th meeting, on 22 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.49 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Norway and Timor-Leste have become sponsors.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.49 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I now give the floor to representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position or vote on the draft resolutions just adopted.

Mr. Rao (India): I have asked for the floor to explain India's vote on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.29, entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels". India voted against the draft resolution.

The draft resolution asks the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control. The Conference, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the vocation of negotiating disarmament instruments of global application. In 1993, the United Nations Disarmament Commission adopted guidelines and recommendations for regional disarmament by consensus. There is no need, therefore, for the Conference on Disarmament to engage in formulating principles on the same subject at a time when it has several other priority issues on its agenda.

We further believe that the security concerns of the States extend beyond narrowly defined regions. Consequently, the notion of preserving a balance in defence capabilities in the regional or subregional context is both unrealistic and unacceptable to our delegation.

Mr. Vasiliev (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The Russian delegation abstained in the voting on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.29, entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels". In this regard, we wish to say that we believe that regional control measures must assure the main principle of equal security for all participants, and such measures should be appropriate to the situation prevailing in each individual region.

The sixth preambular paragraph of A/C.1/64/L.29 notes the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE). In the thematic discussion on the issue of regional disarmament, the Russian delegation stressed that the CFE Treaty is hopelessly out of date and does not reflect the real state of affairs in Europe. Unfortunately, the draft resolution says nothing about the need for States on the European continent to sign or ratify the adapted CFE treaty or to draw up another agreement

that would adequately reflect the military and political situation in Europe.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee has thus concluded action on cluster 5.

We shall now move on to cluster 6, "Other disarmament measures and international security".

Before the Committee takes action on the draft resolutions and decisions listed in informal working paper 1 under cluster 6, I shall call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position or vote on the draft resolutions or decisions in cluster 6 or to introduce draft resolutions or decisions.

Mrs. Sánchez Quintero (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): Allow me to state that Cuba associates itself with the statement made by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

On this cluster of items, we wish to underscore that, as in past years, the 118 members of the Non-Aligned Movement have introduced three draft resolutions that address various important topics of great relevance not only to the countries members of the Movement but also to the international community as a whole: A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development"; A/C.1/64/L.12, entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control"; and A/C.1/64/L.13, entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

Disarmament and development are two of the main challenges facing humankind, especially given the severe economic, social, food, energy and environmental crisis affecting us. In that regard, Cuba affirms its proposal that a fund be established and managed by the United Nations, to which at least half of the current military expenditures would be allocated with the aim of meeting the economic and social development requirements of countries in need. Likewise, Cuba believes that environmental norms relevant to negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation, as set out in draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12, should be fully taken into account in international disarmament forums.

The complex international situation and the need to jointly address the pressing problems affecting humankind confirm the importance of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.13 on multilateralism in the area of

disarmament and non-proliferation. We believe that this text is an important contribution to the debates and to seeking effective lasting multilateral solutions in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Cuba urges all delegations to support the draft resolutions submitted annually under this cluster, and we trust that the vast majority of delegations will vote in favour of them, as they have done in past years.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I give the floor to the representative of Indonesia to introduce draft resolutions A/C.1/64/L.13, A/C.1/64/L.10 and A/C.1/64/L.12 and draft decision A/C.1/64/L.7.

Mr. Simanjuntak (Indonesia): Under this cluster, I take the floor again to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to introduce three draft resolutions and one draft decision.

The first is the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.13, entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation" under agenda item 96 (m). NAM underscores that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues. It is crucial that the General Assembly adopt a resolution that underlines the principle of multilateralism, and the emphasis on international cooperation and the peaceful settlement of disputes will affirm the absolute validity of multilateralism and stress our belief regarding the role of the United Nations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Secondly, with respect to the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development", under agenda item 96 (o), we draw the Committee's attention to a small technical revision to operative paragraph 4. Taking into account that the review of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will take place in 2010, we request that the word "2009" in the fourth line be deleted and replaced by "2010".

NAM is concerned over the increasing global military expenditure, a substantial part of which could otherwise be spent on promoting development and eliminating poverty and disease, particularly in the developing countries. We underline the importance of exercising restraint in military expenditures, and

reiterate the significance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. The group reiterates its invitation to Member States to provide information to the Secretary-General regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries. The resources saved could be used to attain the MDGs.

Thirdly, regarding the draft resolution contained in A/C.1/64/L.12 concerning the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control, under agenda item 96 (n), the continued sustainability of the global environment is of critical importance to present and future generations. NAM emphasizes that international disarmament forums should fully take into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation, and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with environmental norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties.

We call upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment and with a view to achieving sustainable development.

In addition, under agenda item 90, I would also like to introduce draft decision A/C.1/64/L.7, entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

The Movement requests the full support of the Committee for the draft resolutions and decisions.

Mr. Larson (United States of America): I wish to inform the Committee that the United States will not be participating in the action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

Mr. Danon (France) (*spoke in French*): I wish to note that France, too, will not participate in the action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft decision A/C.1/64/L.2. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.2, entitled “Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification”, was submitted by the representative of Canada in October 2009. The sponsor of the draft decision is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.2.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft decision has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.2 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft decision A/C.1/64/L.7. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.7, entitled “Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security”, was introduced by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement at the Committee’s 20th meeting, on 28 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft decision is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.7.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft decision has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.7 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, as orally revised. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”, was introduced by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) at the Committee’s 20th meeting, on 28 October. The sponsors of the draft decision are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.10 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. On behalf of NAM, the representative of Indonesia introduced an oral revision by which “2009” would be replaced by “2010” in paragraph 4.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, as orally revised, was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12, entitled “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control”, was submitted by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement at the Committee’s 20th meeting, on 28 October. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.12 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. Fiji has also become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.13. A recorded vote has been requested. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.13, entitled “Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation”, was submitted by the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, on 15 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.13 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. In addition, Fiji has become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.13 was adopted by 126 votes to 5, with 49 abstentions.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft decision A/C.1/64/L.21. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.21, entitled “Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament”, was introduced by the representative of India at the 16th meeting, on 21 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft decision is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.21.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft decision has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.21 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.26. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.26*, entitled “National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology”, was introduced by the representative of the Netherlands at the Committee’s

16th meeting, on 21 October 2009. The sponsor of the draft resolution is listed in document A/C.1/64/L.26*.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsor of the draft resolution has expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to proceed accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.26 was adopted.*

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.43. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.43, entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures", was introduced by the representative of the Germany at the 15th meeting, on 20 October. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.43 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev. 2. In addition, Timor-Leste has become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

With the permission of the Chairperson, I shall now read out for the record the oral statement of the Secretary-General with regard to financial implications that accompany draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.43, entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

By operative sub-paragraphs 5 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, respectively, request the Secretary-General, within available resources, to continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures; to circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States, taking into account, in his 2010 report, the information received from Member States in accordance with paragraph 6 (b); to transmit the report of the group of governmental experts to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session; to continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the

present instrument, with a view to encouraging wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system; to encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarities among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations; to encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system; to promote international and regional/subregional symposiums and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions; and to report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars.

The implementation of the requests contained in those operative sub-paragraphs would be carried out within the resources provided under section 2 (General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs and Conference Management), section 4 (Disarmament) and section 22D (Office of Central Support Services), as presented in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

Therefore, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.43 would not give rise to any financial implications under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of resolution 45/248 B, of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with the responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters and also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. Unless I hear any objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.43 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now give the floor to speakers who wish to speak in explanation of position or vote on the draft resolutions or decisions just adopted.

Mr. Duncan (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom is pleased to be able to support draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10, entitled “Relationship between disarmament and development”. We welcome the mainstreaming of disarmament issues in development policy. That is particularly important in the fields of conventional weapons, small arms and light weapons, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

However, the United Kingdom does not believe that there is an automatic link between disarmament and development. Rather, a complex relationship exists between the two. Unfortunately, draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10 does not explain fully the complexity of that relationship. As we have explained previously, the United Kingdom considers that the report of the Group of Governmental Experts (see A/59/119) did not give sufficient credit to unilateral, bilateral and multilateral actions in disarmament and non-proliferation.

Finally, the United Kingdom notes that, while it would be desirable to share information about resources made available for development through the implementation of disarmament and arms control agreements, in practice it is not possible to identify a direct relationship between different sources of funding. We will, however, continue to make available information, through relevant forums, on our increasing levels of development assistance.

Mr. Larson (United States of America): I am delivering the following explanation of vote on behalf of France, the United Kingdom and the United States, which joined the consensus on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12, entitled “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control”.

However, we wish to make it clear that France, the United Kingdom and the United States operate under stringent domestic environmental-impact regulations for many activities, including the implementation of arms control and disarmament agreements. We see no direct connection, as stated in the draft resolution, between general environmental standards and multilateral arms control.

Mr. Danon (France) (*spoke in French*): I should first like to speak about draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.10.

For many years, the international community has noted the important relationship between disarmament and development issues. My delegation believes in it as well, in so far as disarmament in regions of armed conflict is conducive to a stable and secure environment — which is in and of itself a condition crucial to the success of any reconstruction and development policy. We are also conscious of the problem posed by financing development, as witnessed by our initiatives to that end in recent years.

Nevertheless, we continue not to support the draft resolution on the relationship between disarmament of development because of certain aspects that have not been modified, despite our proposals. For instance, we question the idea of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development, which is referred to in the seventh preambular paragraph. Disarmament has an impact on the conditions for development, but the converse is less certain. In that regard, the concept alluded to in that same paragraph, according to which the resources devoted to military spending would be diverted to financing development needs, seems to us a bit reductive.

Indeed, disarmament includes a cost that must not be overlooked. Moreover, if focused on the acquisition of ways of strengthening stability and improving the capacity of States to contribute to peacekeeping operations or to respond to natural disasters — with maritime and air resources, for instance — defence spending could also equally contribute to a country’s development.

In the light of those considerations, in so far as the draft resolution has been adopted by consensus, I should like to confirm to the Secretariat my request to ensure that the relevant documents indicate that France did not participate in the action on the draft resolution.

I would similarly like to inform the Secretariat that France also did not participate on the action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.12, on environmental norms, for the reasons expressed by the representative of the United States on behalf of his country, the United Kingdom and France.

Ms. Dezoeten (Australia): I take the floor on behalf of Australia, Canada and New Zealand to explain our abstention in the voting on draft resolution

A/C.1/64/L.13, entitled “Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation”.

We are disappointed that we were unable to support that draft resolution once again. Our strong commitment to multilateral principles and approaches in the field of non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament is indisputable. We have consistently advocated the benefit of multilateral processes in achieving progress on international security issues. However, we cannot agree that multilateralism constitutes the sole principle in negotiations on disarmament and non-proliferation, as is implied in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution.

In our view, effective progress on global non-proliferation and disarmament objectives requires a combination of multilateral, plurilateral, regional, bilateral and unilateral measures that work to reinforce each other in order to achieve concrete results. The eighth preambular paragraph specifically recognizes the complementarity of such measures. We hope that, in the future, the operative paragraphs of the draft resolution will reflect that understanding.

In our view, the assertion that multilateralism provides the only sustainable method of addressing non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament issues disregards the potential of alternative measures, such as bilateral and regional measures, to address global security issues. The matters at stake are simply too vital. We cannot afford not to make use of all measures available to us to improve the international security environment, and these are the reasons why we were unable to support this draft resolution and instead abstained.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee has thus concluded action on cluster 6.

We shall now proceed to consider cluster 7.

I call on the representative of Austria to introduce an oral revision.

Mr. Strohal (Austria): I have asked to briefly take the floor with regard to the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.41 on the report of the Conference on Disarmament in order to introduce a small oral revision. We submitted the draft resolution and introduced it last week. Since that time, contacts with certain interested delegations have continued, and it is as a consequence of these contacts that I would like to make the oral revision.

I would propose the deletion of two words in the seventh preambular paragraph. We would delete the words “with appreciation”, so that the paragraph would therefore begin “Acknowledging the support of the United Nations Security Council ...”. The rest of the text in document A/C.1/64/L.41 remains unchanged.

The sponsors have all agreed to this revision in order to secure consensus, and it is thus our expectation that the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/64/L.41 can now be adopted without a vote.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I call on the representative of Indonesia to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11.

Mr. Rachmianto (Indonesia): I am taking the floor again to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) under this cluster to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11, entitled “United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament”, under agenda item 97 (c), and draft decision A/C.1/64/L.9.

We firmly believe that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to furthering understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development. The Movement reiterates the importance of the United Nations at the regional level to advancement in disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament.

We are also presenting a draft decision as contained in A/C.1/64/L.9 on the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament under agenda item 96 (a). We would like to ask for the support of the Committee for the draft resolution and decision that we have just submitted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I call on the representative of Cuba to make a general statement.

Mrs. Sánchez Quintero (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): In the context of this cluster, as in previous years, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has presented a draft decision entitled “Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament”, contained in document A/C.1/64/L.9, which Cuba fully supports and sponsors. This

convening is of particular significance, especially given the need for the General Assembly to continue its substantive review of this matter in order to reach consensus on the objectives, programme of work and establishment of a preparatory commission for the fourth special session and to once again convene the open-ended working group to this end. We hope that the draft decision will be adopted by consensus.

As at previous sessions, Cuba supports draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.52, "Report of the Commission on Disarmament". Cuba reaffirms the importance of the Commission as the only specialized deliberative body within the multilateral disarmament mechanism of the United Nations. We welcome the fact that paragraph 7 of the draft resolution highlights the need to continue the consideration of the recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and on the elements of a draft declaration of 2010 as the fourth disarmament decade. Members will recall that both of these issues were presented by NAM as concrete proposals for the working agenda for the Commission on Disarmament.

Allow me to also express my delegation's support for draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.41, entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament". We welcome the adoption of a programme of work for the Conference after more than a decade of standstill. We insist on the need for the current international atmosphere to lead to concrete action that would give renewed momentum to multilateral negotiations on disarmament. As NAM has indicated on repeated occasions, these actions should include the establishment of an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament, as soon as possible and as a matter of highest priority, and the start of negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a set timetable, including a convention on nuclear weapons.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will proceed to take action on the draft resolutions under cluster 7.

I call on the representative of the United States of America for an explanation of position.

Mr. Larson (United States of America): I wish to inform the Committee that the United States will not be participating in action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.52, "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will proceed to take action on draft decision A/C.1/64/L.9. I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.9, entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament", was introduced by the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, at the 20th meeting, on 28 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft decision are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.9.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft decision have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft decision A/C.1/64/L.9 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.11. I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11, entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament", was introduced by the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement, at the 20th meeting, on 28 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.11.

With the permission of the Chairman, I shall now read out for the record the oral statement by the Secretary-General regarding the financial implications that accompany draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11, entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Under the terms of operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities.

The implementation of the request would be carried out within the resources provided under section 4 (Disarmament) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. The provision

contained therein covers the three P-5 posts of directors of these regional centres for peace and disarmament, three P-3 posts of political affairs officer and four general service/local level posts of administrative assistants of these regional centres, and also includes general operating expenses of the three regional centres. The programmes of activities of the three regional centres would continue to be financed from extrabudgetary resources.

Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.11, no additional requirements would arise under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The attention of the Committee is also drawn to paragraph 67 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/54/7), which indicates that the use of the phrase “within existing resources” or similar language in resolutions has a negative impact on the implementation of activities, and therefore efforts should be made to avoid the use of this phrase in resolutions and decisions.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.11 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.22. I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.22, entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”, was introduced by the representative of Peru, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and

Caribbean States, at the 18th meeting, on 23 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/64/L.22.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.22 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I would like to inform the Committee that, unfortunately, as the Secretary has just informed me, the Budget Office has not provided an oral statement for document A/C.1/64/L.41. Regrettably, the Department was not able to finalize that document on time for this meeting. As a result, under these unfortunate circumstances and with the consent of the Committee, I will propose to the Secretariat that action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.41 be deferred until tomorrow. I shall also request that the draft resolution be included in informal working paper 2, which will be republished as revision 1 of informal working paper 2.

If members agree, I will proceed to instruct the Secretariat to act accordingly. May I take it that the Committee agrees to this?

It was so decided.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.45*. I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.45*, entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific”, was submitted by the representative of Nepal on behalf of the sponsors at the 17th meeting, on 22 October 2009. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.45* and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. Kyrgyzstan, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste have also become sponsors.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.45 was adopted.*

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.52. I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.52, entitled “Report of the Disarmament Commission”, was submitted by the representative of Poland on 19 October. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in documents A/C.1/64/L.52 and A/C.1/64/CRP.4/Rev.2. Colombia is also sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that it be adopted without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.52 was adopted.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to make an announcement.

Mr. Alasaniya (Secretary of the Committee): In accordance with the instructions of the Chairperson of about five minutes ago, the Secretariat is going to reissue informal paper 2 as revision 2 of informal paper 2, which will contain draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.41. I would also like to inform members that this same document will be posted, as of tomorrow morning, on the QuickFirst website, so it can be viewed there.

The Chairperson (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like to inform members that, at our next meeting, the Committee will take action on the draft resolutions contained in informal working paper 2 and its revision. Once we have done so, we will proceed to take action on the draft resolutions contained in informal working paper 3, which is being distributed to all delegations.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.