

Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States.

Nuclear weapons and South Africa

DISARMAMENT COMMISSION CONSIDERATION. The question of South Africa's capability to produce nuclear weapons and the related issue of nuclear collaboration with South Africa were discussed in the Disarmament Commission at its May/June 1981 session,⁽¹⁾ primarily under an agenda item concerning a letter from the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid transmitting to the Commission the report of the United Nations Seminar on Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, held in London in February 1979.⁽¹¹⁾

The Commission first studied a working paper submitted by Cuba on behalf of the non-aligned countries, asserting that evidence pointed to South Africa's achievement of nuclear capability through the active collaboration and collusion of certain countries. On the basis of that document, an informal working group produced a working paper which stressed, among other things, the need to prevent further acquisition of arms or arms technology by racist régimes, especially through strict adherence by all States to relevant Security Council decisions. No agreement was reached in the Commission, however; the two papers were annexed to the Commission's report to the General Assembly.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. In a report issued on 3 September,⁽²⁾ the Secretary-General stated that he had given maximum publicity, as requested by the General Assembly in December 1980,⁽⁵⁾ to the report he submitted in September 1980 on South Africa's plan and capability in the nuclear field.⁽¹²⁾ He had identified no further information on South Africa's nuclear developments to add to his 1980 report.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION. On 9 December, under its agenda item on the denuclearization of Africa, the General Assembly adopted a resolution on the nuclear capability of South Africa⁽⁶⁾ by a recorded vote of 129 to 4, with 10 abstentions.

Deploring the massive build-up of South Africa's military machine and reaffirming that the régime's nuclear plans and capability gravely endangered peace and security, the Assembly requested the Security Council to intensify its

efforts to prohibit all forms of nuclear cooperation and collaboration with South Africa and to institute effective enforcement action so as to prevent that régime from endangering peace and security through acquisition of nuclear weapons. The Assembly called on States, corporations, institutions and individuals to terminate military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa, including the provision of such materials as computers, electronic equipment and related technology. It demanded that South Africa submit all its nuclear installations to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The text, sponsored by 27 African States and Qatar, was approved by the First Committee on 24 November by a recorded vote of 108 to 4, with 9 abstentions.

In a resolution, also adopted on 9 December,⁽⁷⁾ on implementation of the 1964 OAU Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa, the Assembly condemned nuclear collaboration with South Africa by any State, corporation, institution or individual. This resolution, like the 28-nation text, included provisions reaffirming that South Africa's nuclear programme was a grave danger to peace and security, calling for an end to military and nuclear collaboration, requesting the Security Council to prohibit such collaboration and demanding that South Africa submit to IAEA inspection. Paragraph 4 of the text, containing the call for termination of military and nuclear collaboration, was adopted in Committee by a separate recorded vote, requested by the United States, of 101 to 6, with 16 abstentions.

Under the agenda item on apartheid and South Africa, the Assembly, on 17 December, condemned specified Western States and Israel for nuclear collaboration with South Africa, and urged the Security Council to take mandatory measures to ensure the immediate cessation of any military and nuclear collaboration with that régime.⁽⁹⁾ On the same date, it urged the Security Council to strengthen the arms embargo against South Africa and called on States to ensure the cessation of all military relations with that country.⁽¹⁰⁾

In a resolution of 9 December on strengthening peace and security, the Assembly called on the Security Council to promote the denuclearization of Africa in order to avert the serious danger posed by South Africa's nuclear capability to the African States as well as to international peace and security.⁽⁸⁾

Introducing the resolution on South Africa's nuclear capability, Nigeria felt it unacceptable that the glitter of gold or other geopolitical or geostrategic interests of South Africa's supporters should become a more convincing con-