AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Seventh session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 34th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 13 July 1976, at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. HOVEYDA (Iran)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.25 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The CHAIRMAN declared open the seventh session of the Ad Hoc Committee on the World Disarmament Conference.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

2. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that, since the previous session, the Working Group had produced a draft report which had now been circulated as document A/AC.167/L.9 and Add.1. The draft report was well balanced and contained positive recommendations. It was clear from informal consultations carried out with the representatives of the various regional groups and of the nuclear-weapon States that there was a consensus with regard to the draft report.

3. The Bureau accordingly suggested that the Committee might be able to conclude its work and adopt the draft report by the end of the following day. The report could thus be made available at an early date to the various forums outside the United Nations concerned with disarmament. Furthermore, by completing its work before the due date, the Committee would be demonstrating its diligence with regard to the problem of disarmament and would be setting an example to other committees.

4. He also informed the Committee that the Secretariat had received two communications: one from the Permanent Mission of Czechoslovakia designating Mr. Otto Jachek as the representative of Czechoslovakia at the current session; and another from the Permanent Mission of Austria designating Mr. Hellmuth Strasser as the representative of Austria at the current session.

5. Mr. ELIAS (Spain), Rapporteur, introducing the draft report (A/AC.167/L.9 and Add.1), informed the Committee that the Working Group had held 29 meetings during the months of March, May, June and July, and had also held consultations with the representatives of the various regional groups.

6. He pointed out that document A/AC.167/L.9/Add.1, containing the views expressed by various States Members of the United Nations since the Committee's previous report, would form an annex to the final report.

7. Outlining the five sections of the draft report, he said that the Working Group had sought to arrive at a balanced text reflecting the existing situation, for which purpose it had found particularly useful the intensive and prolonged consultations held with the representatives of those countries that were not members of the Working Group.

8. In conclusion, he paid a tribute to the spirit of co-operation and understanding shown by all members of the Working Group.
9. Mr. BRANKOVIĆ (Yugoslavia) said that, although he hoped that it would be possible to adopt the draft report by the end of the following day, he must await the instructions of his Government. He therefore reserved the right to insist on the convening of the eighth session later in the year as planned, should that prove necessary.

10. Mr. STRASSER (Austria) agreed with the Chairman that the report in its final form would be of more use to the various forums concerned with the question of disarmament than a mere draft report. He therefore agreed that it would be better to adopt the report at the current session, rather than defer its adoption until the following session.

11. Mr. BAYANDOR (Iran) supported the representative of Austria. In view of the consensus already achieved with regard to the text of the draft report, he hoped that the Committee would be able to adopt it by the end of the following day.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.