AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Twelfth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 50th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 14 September 1979, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Fernando (Sri Lanka)

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ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(A/AC.167/L.18)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Ad Hoc Committee to consider its draft report to the General Assembly (A/AC.167/L.18), which had been prepared by the Working Group and the Rapporteur.

2. Mr. ZELADA (Spain), Rapporteur of the Committee and Chairman of the Working Group, introducing the draft report, said that it reflected the various views of the members of the Committee and the most recent developments relating to the question of convening a world disarmament conference. The draft report consisted of three chapters: chapter I, the introduction; chapter II, which concerned the work of the Committee and included a summary of the positions of the nuclear-weapon States; and chapter III containing the Committee's conclusions and recommendations, which were the result of intensive discussions in the Working Group and reflected a delicate balance. The annex to the report, to be prepared later, would contain excerpts from the statements made by the Chairman and various members of the Committee during the session. It was hoped that, in accordance with past practice, the Committee could adopt the report on the understanding that the annex would be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the delegations concerned.

3. The CHAIRMAN said that, as in the past, he had transmitted the text of the draft report to the five nuclear-weapon States for their consideration; he had so far received no reservations from them concerning the report.

4. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft report.

5. The draft report (A/AC.167/L.18) was adopted.

6. Mr. SHUSTOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), commenting on the Committee's work, said that the statements made in the Committee and the animated discussion in the Working Group among the representatives of various socialist, non-aligned and Western States indicated the serious consideration given to the question of the possibility of and conditions for convening a world disarmament conference. The report, in which reference was also made to international documents adopted in various forums, reflected wide support for the idea of convening the conference. The socialist States were ready to make every effort to ensure that the conference was as productive as possible. The conclusions and recommendations set forth in the report, although not as far-reaching as his delegation would have wished, reflected the important task facing the Chairman and the Committee as a whole. His delegation hoped that the Committee's work would lead to even more significant results in the coming year.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

7. The CHAIRMAN declared the twelfth session of the Committee closed.