PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONFERENCE OF
NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 2 February 1967, at 4.20 p.m.

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PRESENT:

Acting Chairman:
Mr. NESTERENKO

later, Chairman:
Mr. AZNAR

Mr. ILLANES
Mr. PIÑERA CARVALLO

Members:
Mr. ZOLLNER
Mr. FAKIH
Mr. AL-RASHID
Mr. AZNAM
Mr. LAI
Mr. PARDO
Mr. IYALA
Mr. ALI
Mr. MACHEHENIE
Mr. TEMBOURY
Mr. MALCELA
Mr. FREY

Under-Secretary for Political and Security Council Affairs (Spain)
Chile
Dahomey
Kenya
Kuwait
Malaysia
Malta
Nigeria
Pakistan
Peru
Spain
United Republic of Tanzania
Secretary of the Committee
OPENING OF THE SESSION

The ACTING CHAIRMAN declared the session open.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (A/CONF.35/P1/L.1)

The agenda was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. ALI (Pakistan) nominated Mr. Nabwera (Kenya) for the post of Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. MALECELA (United Republic of Tanzania) seconded the nomination.

Mr. Nabwera was unanimously elected Chairman.

Mr. FAKTH (Kenya) said that Mr. Nabwera, who was absent, would be in New York shortly.

Mr. MACKHENIE (Peru) nominated Mr. Aznar (Spain) for the post of Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. PARDO (Malta) and Mr. MALECELA (United Republic of Tanzania) seconded the nomination.

Mr. Aznar was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Aznar took the Chair.

Mr. IVALLA (Nigeria) nominated Mr. Lei (Malaysia) for the post of Rapporteur of the Committee.

Mr. MACKHENIE (Peru) seconded the nomination.

Mr. Lei was unanimously elected Rapporteur.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN said that no problem in international affairs aroused such anxiety today as the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Until the invention of the atom bomb, war had been more or less confined to the battlefield. Now no one was safe. The spread of nuclear weapons therefore gave cause for general alarm, and if present trends continued unchecked, such weapons would soon be in the hands of a large number of States. Over the centuries, men had constantly sought to lay
down rules by which they could live together in peace. Such efforts were still continuing, based on the profound conviction that war must be eliminated as a means of settling disputes. But that goal still lay far ahead and success could not be expected in the near future. In the meantime, therefore, the world must try to make the rules of war more humane and ban the use of weapons which caused vast and indiscriminate destruction. It could not content itself with the present balance of nuclear power, because that balance was unstable and might be upset at any time by the entry of new States into the nuclear field. At the twenty-first session, therefore, the General Assembly had felt the need for effective action to free man from the threat of a holocaust and had adopted resolution 2153 B (XXI), in which it had decided to convene a conference of non-nuclear-weapon States and to set up the present Committee to prepare for the Conference. The Committee's terms of reference were contained in that resolution. It would meet again to consider the organization of its work when Mr. Nabwera was present to take the Chair.

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PAKISTAN

Mr. Ali (Pakistan) said that any effort which might bring the world closer to lasting peace was worth making. To stop the spread of nuclear weapons would be a step in that direction. It was with that idea in mind that his delegation had originally submitted to the First Committee the draft resolution which had subsequently become resolution 2153 B (XXI). He personally would not be able to take further part in the Committee's work since he was returning to Pakistan, but he wished it every success. He paid a tribute to Mr. Pinto (Dahomey), who was also returning to his country and was thus unable to give the Committee his valuable assistance.

The CHAIRMAN expressed appreciation of the work done by Mr. Ali and Mr. Pinto.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.