The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States will be held at Headquarters on Thursday, 2 February, at 3:00 p.m.

The General Assembly, on 17 November 1966, decided in resolution 2153 (XXI) B, to convene a Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States "to meet not later than July 1968 to consider the following and other related questions:

"(a) How can the security of the non-nuclear States best be assured?

"(b) How many non-nuclear Powers co-operate among themselves in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons?

"(c) How can nuclear devices be used for exclusively peaceful purposes?"

In taking the decision, the Assembly, in the preamble to the resolution, expressed its conviction that the further spread of nuclear weapons would endanger the peace and security of all States and that "the emergence of additional nuclear-weapon Powers would provoke an uncontrollable nuclear arms race".

Under the resolution, the President of the Assembly was asked to set up a preparatory committee, widely representative of the non-nuclear-weapon States, "to make appropriate arrangements for convening the Conference and to consider the question of the association of nuclear States with the work of the Conference and report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session [1967]."

On 20 December, the President of the Assembly, Abdul Rahman Pazhwak (Afghanistan), named the following eleven States as members of the Preparatory Committee: Chile, Dahomey, Konya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Spain and the United Republic of Tanzania.