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Item 8 of the Conference's provisional agenda
(GC(XXXIII)/871)

ISRAELI NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES AND THREAT

Report by the Director General

In resolution GC(XXXII)/RES/487, the General Conference last year requested me, inter alia, to report on the implementation of that resolution. The report in the Appendix to this document has been prepared in response to that request.

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ISRAELI NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES AND THREAT

Report on the implementation of resolution GC(XXXII)/RES/487

1. The Secretariat has implemented those provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 41/12, 41/93 and 42/44 which are relevant to the Agency, and is ready to negotiate an agreement to place all of Israel's nuclear facilities under safeguards if so requested by the Government of Israel. The texts of General Conference resolution GC(XXXII)/RES/487 and General Assembly resolutions 41/12, 41/93 and 42/44 are attached as Annexes 1-4 to this report.
2. The Director General circulated a report entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities and Threat" as Appendix 1 to document GC(XXXII)/849 in September 1988. Attachment 2 to Annex 1 to that report contained the text of a letter dated 25 July 1988 to the Director General from the Resident Representative of Israel. In reply to a further enquiry from the Director General, the Resident Representative of Israel wrote to him on 15 August 1989. The text of that letter is attached as Annex 5 to this report.
3. Paragraph 9 of the report in Appendix 1 to document GC(XXXII)/849 contained information on discussions between the Governments of Norway and Israel about the application of safeguards to heavy water supplied to Israel by Norway in 1959. In response to inquiries by the Director General, the Permanent Missions of Norway and Israel have informed him that discussions are continuing between officials from the two countries. The Secretariat has no other factual information to add to the contents of document GC(XXXII)/849.
4. In June 1989 the Director General circulated, as document GOV/INF/568, a study of different modalities of the application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East. The study was discussed in the Board of Governors during its June 1989 session. Some changes have been made to the study in the light of comments made and a revised version is being circulated in document GC(XXXIII)/887. The study analyses the current status of peaceful nuclear activities and safeguards in the Middle East, describes the Agency's experience in applying safeguards under different types of safeguards agreements and regional treaties, and lists certain possible actions for consideration by the Governments in the region.

GC(XXXII)/RESOLUTIONS (1988)

RESOLUTIONS

GC(XXXII)/RES/487

ISRAELI NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES AND THREAT

The General Conference,

- (a) Having considered the agenda item "Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat",
- (b) Having also considered the Annual Report of the Agency for 1987, and in particular paragraphs 37 and 40,
- (c) Recalling its resolution GC(XXXI)/RES/470 of 25 September 1987, which demanded that Israel comply with Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards,
- (d) Taking note of United Nations General Assembly resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is resolution 42/44, in which, inter alia, the General Assembly requested the IAEA to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of any steps Israel may undertake to place its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards,
- (e) Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on the co-operation between South Africa and Israel, particularly in the nuclear field,
- (f) Taking note of the report of the Director General contained in document GC(XXXII)/849,
- (g) Deeply alarmed by recent information regarding the possession of nuclear weapons by Israel and the subsequent Israeli actions in this connection, which have substantiated the revealed information,
- (h) Conscious of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's growing nuclear capabilities and threat,
- (i) Gravely concerned about Israel's policy of aggression and expansion in the region and its acts of oppression against the Arab people in the Occupied Territories, which grossly violate international law and the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,
- (j) Noting with deep regret that Israel has persistently refused to implement the above resolutions and to renounce the possession of nuclear weapons,
1. Strongly condemns the continued refusal by Israel to renounce the possession of nuclear weapons and to submit all its nuclear facilities to the Agency's safeguards in compliance with Security Council resolution 487 (1981);

GC(XXXII)/RESOLUTIONS (1988)

2. Expresses its deep concern that the growing military nuclear capabilities of Israel greatly endanger peace and security in the region and threaten the non-proliferation regime observed by other States in the region;
3. Requests the Director General once again to consider the implementation by the IAEA of the provisions of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 41/12, 41/93 and 42/44 which are relevant to the Agency;
4. Requests the Director General to respond to the request of the General Assembly contained in paragraph 6 of its resolution 42/44;
5. Also requests the Director General to continue to report, as appropriate, to the Board of Governors and General Conference on the Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat and on the implementation of this resolution;
6. Also requests the Director General, pending the acceptance by Israel to place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards, to prepare a technical study on different modalities of application of IAEA safeguards in the region, taking into account the Agency's experience in applying its safeguards;
7. Further requests the Director General to transmit this resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations; and
8. Decides to include in the agenda for the thirty-third regular session of the General Conference an item entitled "Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat".

23 September 1988

Agenda item 7

GC(XXXII)/OR.312, para. 44

Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

41/12. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security

Date: 29 October 1986
Vote: 86-5-55 (recorded)

Meeting: 51
Draft: A/41/L.14 and Add.1

The General Assembly.

Having considered the item entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security",

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Viewing with deep concern Israel's refusal to comply with Security Council resolution 487 (1981) of 19 June 1981,

Concerned that armed attacks on nuclear facilities raise fears about the safety of present and future nuclear installations,

Aware that all States developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes need assurances against armed attacks on nuclear facilities,

1. Calls upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in accordance with resolution 487 (1981) adopted unanimously by the Security Council;
2. Considers that Israel has not yet committed itself not to attack or threaten to attack nuclear facilities in Iraq or elsewhere, including facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;
3. Reaffirms that Iraq is entitled to compensation for the damage it has suffered as a result of the Israeli armed attack on 7 June 1981;
4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to continue negotiations with a view to reaching an immediate conclusion of the agreement on the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities as a contribution to promoting and ensuring the safe development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;
5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 41/12:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: El Salvador, Honduras, Israel, St. Christopher and Nevis, United States.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire.

Absent: Belize, Benin, Burma, Cape Verde, Dominica, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, Suriname, Vanuatu.

Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

41/93. Israeli nuclear armament

Date: 4 December 1986
Vote: 95-2-56 (recorded)

Meeting: 56
Report: A/41/848

The General Assembly.

Bearing in mind its previous resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is 40/93 of 12 December 1985,

Recalling resolution 40/82 of 12 December 1985, in which, inter alia, it called upon all countries of the region that had not done so, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 487 (1981) of 19 June 1981 in which, inter alia, the Council called upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting with grave concern Israel's persistent refusal to commit itself not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons, despite repeated calls by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to place its nuclear facilities under Agency safeguards,

Aware of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and Israel's collaboration with South Africa to develop nuclear weapons and their delivery systems,

Deeply concerned over the continuing development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel,

1. Reiterates its condemnation of Israel's refusal to renounce any possession of nuclear weapons;
2. Requests once more the Security Council to take urgent and effective measures to ensure that Israel complies with Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and places all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;
3. Reiterates its request to the Security Council to investigate Israel's nuclear activities and the collaboration of other States, parties and institutions in the nuclear field;
4. Reiterates its request to the International Atomic Energy Agency to suspend any scientific co-operation with Israel which could contribute to its nuclear capabilities;
5. Calls upon all States and organizations that have not yet done so to discontinue co-operating with and giving assistance to Israel in the nuclear field;
6. Reaffirms its condemnation of the continuing nuclear collaboration between Israel and South Africa;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to closely follow up Israeli nuclear activities in the light of the latest available information, to update the study on Israeli nuclear armament 224/ and to submit it to the General Assembly at its forty-second session;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Israeli nuclear armament".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 41/93:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Burma, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho,* Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Spain, St. Christopher and Nevis, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Zaïre.

Absent: .Dominica, El Salvador, Gambia, Singapore, Vanuatu.

Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

42/44. Israeli nuclear armament

Date: 30 November 1987 Meeting: 85
Vote: 97-2-52 (recorded) Report: A/42/756

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its previous resolutions on Israeli nuclear armament, the latest of which is 41/93 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling resolution 41/48 of 3 December 1986, in which, inter alia, it called for placing all nuclear facilities in the region under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Recalling further Security Council resolution 487 (1981) of 19 June 1981 in which, inter alia, the Council called upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that only Israel has been specifically called upon by the Security Council to place its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on Israeli nuclear armament, 202/

Noting with grave concern Israel's persistent refusal to commit itself not to manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons, despite repeated calls by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Taking into consideration resolution GC(XXXI)/RES/470 adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which it called upon Israel to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Deeply alarmed by recent information in regard to the continuing production, development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by Israel,

Aware of the grave consequences that endanger international peace and security as a result of Israel's development and acquisition of nuclear weapons and Israel's collaboration with South Africa to develop nuclear weapons and their delivery systems,

Deeply concerned that the declared Israeli policy of attacking and destroying nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes is a part of its nuclear armament policy,

1. Reiterates its condemnation of Israel's refusal to renounce any possession of nuclear weapons;
2. Reiterates also its condemnation of the co-operation between Israel and South Africa;
3. Requests once more the Security Council to take urgent and effective measures to ensure that Israel complies with Security Council resolution 487 (1981);
4. Calls upon all States and organizations that have not yet done so to discontinue co-operating with and giving assistance to Israel in the nuclear field;

5. Reiterates its request to the International Atomic Energy Agency to suspend any scientific co-operation with Israel which could contribute to its nuclear capabilities;
6. Requests also the International Atomic Energy Agency to inform the Secretary-General of any steps Israel may undertake to place its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to follow closely Israeli nuclear activities and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "Israeli nuclear armament".

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 47/44:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Spain, St. Kitts and Nevis, Swaziland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Zaire.

Absent: Austria*, Burma, Dominica, Haiti, Philippines**, Saint Lucia*, Saint Vincent*.

* Later advised the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain:

** Later advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL

15 August 1989

Dear Dr. Blix,

In reply to your letter of 21 July 1989, I have been instructed to reconfirm Israel's position as stated in the letter of the Resident Representative of Israel of 25 July 1988 - namely, that Israel supports the principle of non-proliferation and affirms the necessity of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone along the lines laid down by the Tlatelolco and Rarotonga Treaties covering Latin America and the South Pacific respectively.

These instruments incorporate the following principles:

1. an initiative emanating from the States in the zone in question;
2. free and direct negotiations between them; and
3. mutual and binding reassurances between those States as part of a treaty establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

This position was laid out in detail during the 32nd regular session of the Agency's General Conference (see document GC(XXXII)/OR.311 of 10 November 1988). It was also recently spelled out in a letter dated 19 May 1989 of the Acting Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations sent in reply to a note of the Secretary-General.

To Israel, the above three principles are not a formality, but constitute the essence of a credible commitment to a nuclear-weapon-free zone. Adherence to these principles is recognized as a necessary confidence-building measure.

With reference to your question about developments in the discussions between the Governments of Norway and Israel, I would like to inform you that since your report (GC(XXXII)/849) to the 32nd regular session of the General Conference on the contents of the agreement reached and initialled by Norwegian and Israeli officials, discussions have been continuing in order to complete the negotiations.

Sincerely yours

(signed) R. Marom
Resident Representative

