

The Irish Resolution, from 1958 to 1961

I. 1958

Text of draft resolution submitted by Ireland on the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly on 17 October 1958.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Recognizing that the aim of the United Nations in the field of disarmament is an effective general agreement on the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction which will provide for the cessation of the production of such weapons, the destruction of existing stocks and the progressive limitation of conventional armaments.

2. Recognizing further that the danger now exists that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons may occur, aggravating international tension and the difficulty of maintaining world peace and thus rendering more difficult the attainment of the general disarmament agreement envisaged in paragraph 1.

3. Decides to establish an *ad hoc* Committee to study the dangers inherent in the further dissemination of nuclear weapons and recommend to the fourteenth session of the General Assembly appropriate measures for averting these dangers.

(The General Assembly's First Committee passed a resolution based on paragraph 2 by a vote of 37-0, with 44 countries abstaining. On 4 November, Aiken withdrew the resolution in its entirety)

II. 1959

Text of resolution submitted by Ireland on 'Prevention of wider dissemination of nuclear weapons'

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Recognizing that the danger now exists that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons may occur, aggravating international tension and the difficulty of maintaining world peace, and thus rendering more difficult the attainment of general disarmament agreement.

Convinced therefore that consideration of this danger is appropriate within the framework of deliberations on disarmament.

Noting the resolution of the United Nations Disarmament Commission on 10th September, 1959.

Desiring to bring to the attention of the ten-nation disarmament committee its conviction that consideration should be given to this problem.

1. Suggests that the ten-nation disarmament committee, in the course of its

deliberations, should consider appropriate means whereby this danger may be averted, including the feasibility of an international agreement, subject to inspection and control, whereby the Powers producing nuclear weapons would refrain from handing over the control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and whereby the Powers not possessing such weapons would refrain from manufacturing them;

2. *Invites* the committee to include the results of its deliberations on these matters in its report to the Disarmament Commission.

(Approved on 20 November 1959 by a vote of 68-0, with 12 countries abstaining)

III. 1960

Text of resolution on 'Prevention of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons', submitted by Ireland and co-sponsored by Ghana, Japan, Mexico and Morocco.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Recalling its resolution 1380 (xiv) of 20 November, 1959,

Recognizing the urgent danger that now exists that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons may occur, aggravating international tension and the difficulty of maintaining world peace, and thus rendering more difficult the attainment of general disarmament agreement, *Believing* in the necessity of an international agreement, subject to inspection and control, whereby the Powers producing nuclear weapons would refrain from relinquishing control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and whereby Powers not possessing such weapons would refrain from manufacturing them,

Believing further that, pending the conclusion of such an international agreement, it is desirable that temporary and voluntary measures be taken to avoid the aggravation of this danger,

1. *Calls upon* all Governments to make every effort to achieve permanent agreement on the prevention of the dissemination of such weapons;

2. *Calls upon* Powers producing such weapons, as a temporary and voluntary measure pending the negotiation of such a permanent agreement, to refrain from relinquishing control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and from transmitting to it the information necessary for their manufacture;

3. *Calls upon* Powers not possessing such weapons, on a similar temporary and voluntary basis, to refrain from manufacturing these weapons and from otherwise attempting to acquire them.

(Adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 1960 by a vote of 68-0, with 26 countries abstaining)

IV. 1961

Text of resolution submitted by Ireland on 'Prevention of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons'

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Recalling its resolutions 1380 (xiv) of 20th November 1959 and 1576 (xv) of 20th December 1960,

Convinced that an increase in the number of States possessing nuclear weapons is growing more imminent and threatens to extend and intensify the arms race and to increase the difficulties of avoiding war and of establishing international peace and security based on the rule of law,

Believing in the necessity of an international agreement, subject to inspection and control, whereby the Powers producing nuclear weapons would refrain from relinquishing control of such weapons to any nation not possessing them and whereby Powers not possessing such weapons refrain from manufacturing them,

1. *Calls upon* all States, and in particular upon the States at present possessing nuclear weapons, to use their best endeavors to secure the conclusion of an international agreement containing provisions under which the nuclear States would undertake to refrain from relinquishing control of nuclear weapons and from transmitting the information necessary for their manufacture to States not possessing them and States not possessing nuclear weapons would undertake not to manufacture or otherwise acquire control of such weapons;

2. *Urges* all States to cooperate to those ends.

(Adopted on 4 December 1961 by a unanimous vote of the General Assembly)

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