

A/PV.1122-1142

*Prefatory fascicle No. 1*



OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SEVENTEENTH SESSION

# PLENARY MEETINGS

Volume I

---

VERBATIM RECORDS OF MEETINGS  
18 SEPTEMBER — 4 OCTOBER 1962

UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1964

militarist revanchist circles in the Federal Republic of Germany and constitute the main threat to European peace and security.

86. The representatives of the West maintain that their position is dictated by concern for the freedom of the West Berlin population. But what a strange notion of freedom it is which leads to the rejection of proposals for the creation of a system of international guarantees, and to the endorsement of the occupation régime in West Berlin! It is this same notion of "freedom under the protection of foreign arms" which the Western Powers are trying to apply elsewhere in the world. But this notion in fact constitutes a denial of freedom and an infringement of the rules of international law; indeed, it has nothing to do with the interests of world peace and security.

87. A workable peaceful settlement of the German problems must have a starting point, the acceptance of the real situation, which is that the German Democratic Republic exists, that it is steadily developing and growing stronger, and that it represents an active factor in the struggle for peace and national security and independence. The recognition of the existence of two sovereign German States and their admission to the United Nations would be an important step towards the lessening of tensions in Europe and throughout the world.

88. The Romanian Government is convinced that a peaceful settlement of the German and West Berlin issues based on an agreement among all participants in the anti-Hitler coalition is entirely possible, and it for one will make its full contribution to that end. If, however, the efforts of the socialist countries to settle this problem continue to meet with opposition from the Western Powers, the Romanian People's Republic, along with the other socialist countries and other States ready to do so, will sign a peace treaty with the German Democratic Republic, whatever the consequences.

89. In examining the main sources of tension in the world, we cannot overlook the situation prevailing in Asia and the Far East.

90. In South Viet-Nam, the United States has engaged in direct military intervention in order to crush the people's resistance to a corrupt régime which remains in power thanks only to United States military support. Actions of this kind imperil the peace and security of the peoples of South-East Asia. The Romanian Government fully supports the request of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam addressed to the President and Members of the General Assembly that they should use their authority to induce the United States Government to honour its international commitments under the Geneva agreements on Viet-Nam.<sup>11/</sup>

91. The interests of peace and security in the Far East further require the ending of the military occupation of South Korea so that conditions for Korean unification on a peaceful and democratic basis may be established.

92. Another factor heightening the danger of war is the propaganda for preventive nuclear war being carried on in some NATO countries and the statements of some very high officials in those countries calling for the delivery of the first nuclear strike.

93. In our opinion the General Assembly can and must make an immediate contribution towards reducing the

danger of war and lessening world tensions by condemning propaganda favouring preventive nuclear war. The draft resolution submitted to the Assembly by the USSR delegation [A/5232] offers a suitable basis for the adoption of effective measures in that sphere.

94. Relations of peaceful coexistence among States having different social systems are not only an objective necessity but an indisputable reality of our time. The general debate at this session further confirms the viability of peaceful coexistence while clearly demonstrating the isolation of those who, blinded by passions and anti-communist prejudices, still refuse to accept this fact. The delegation of the Romanian People's Republic considers it essential that, through the resolutions it will adopt and the spirit of its deliberations, the General Assembly should vigorously promote the principles of peaceful coexistence, ward off the serious dangers which threaten the world and defend the rights of peoples to full freedom and independence.

95. Without doubt the main issue before the General Assembly remains general and complete disarmament—the sole means of averting the danger of war and of satisfying the peoples' desire for peace.

96. At its sixteenth session, the General Assembly helped to pave the way for fruitful negotiations on this subject. As a result of the proposals put forward by the socialist countries at the fifteenth session, the principles of general and complete disarmament were adopted and a new negotiating body, the Eighteen-Nation Committee, for the first time including neutral States, was established [see General Assembly resolution 1722 (XVI)]. The General Assembly asked this Committee to prepare a treaty on general and complete disarmament.

97. The fact that after five months of negotiations the Eighteen-Nation Committee is not in a position to report any concrete results to the General Assembly is due to the negative position taken by the Western Powers. This is clearly demonstrated by their attitude towards nuclear disarmament.

98. As a member of the Eighteen-Nation Committee, Romania takes the view, along with the other socialist countries, that to ban and destroy nuclear weapons, to take drastic measures to eliminate at the very first stage the possibility of nuclear war, is the first, the most urgent and the most important objective to be attained in the process of general and complete disarmament. It is, we believe, the prime criterion by which to judge the efficacy of any plan for general and complete disarmament. The essential feature of the USSR draft treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict international control<sup>12/</sup> is its complete consistency with this criterion.

99. Unlike the USSR proposals, the outline presented by the United States and supported by the other Western delegations does not solve the problem of removing the danger of nuclear war. There is no more eloquent proof of this than the refusal to agree even to the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. This position is part of a general policy of speeding up the arms race, proclaiming the attainment and maintenance of military superiority as a prime objective and advocating a preemptive nuclear strike. In this light the requests of the Western Powers regarding arms control cannot be viewed as anything more than a part of NATO's strategic plans.

<sup>11/</sup> Agreements on the Cessation of Hostilities in Indo-China, signed at Geneva on 20 July 1954.

<sup>12/</sup> Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for January 1961 to December 1962, document DC/203, annex 1, section C.

Romanian - Mirella Melitescu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Vice-Chairman  
at the USSR Delegation