

Robles, presented a report which showed some modest achievement. The Working Group held 25 formal meetings, and many informal discussions. A draft text was published which illustrated points of agreement and disagreement, and the suggestion of the Western countries for a first stage comprising the current negotiations was accepted. The Western countries were against the idea of time periods for each stage of disarmament, on the grounds that this was an unrealistic and artificial requirement. However, many other delegations wanted to call for universal efforts, following the guidelines of the CPD, to achieve general and complete disarmament by the year 2000.⁹ The report concluded by urging that the Committee be re-established in 1986, with "the firm intention" of discharging its mandate.

On 14 November 1985, the UNGA's First Committee agreed to urge the CD to complete work on the CPD by the next session of the UN General Assembly, in the fall of 1986. Draft resolution A/C.1/39/L.19 passed without a vote and without comment.

In February 1986, the Ad Hoc Committee on the CPD was re-established with Mexican Ambassador Alfonso Garcia Robles again as chairman. Progress continued very slowly. Although all members remain eager to submit a draft to the General Assembly in the fall, some text may remain in brackets.

Current Canadian Position

The Canadian delegation generally supports the common positions of the Western countries. For example, the Canadian Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament, Alan Beesley, addressed the Canadian Consultative Group on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs in the fall of 1985. He described Canada's role and participation in the multilateral forums. After

⁹ op. cit. (Note 5), p. 301.B.13.