

DECEMBER 13, 1950, GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 496 (V)

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE OF TWELVE

(Adopted at 323rd Plenary Meeting by a vote of 47 in favour (including Canada), 5 against, with 3 abstentions)

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the effective regulation and reduction of national armaments would substantially diminish the present danger of war, relieve the heavy economic burden placed upon the peoples of the world in the absence of a system of armaments control, and permit the greater use of man's resources to projects devoted to his betterment,

Recognizing that the regulation and reduction of armaments to be effective must cover weapons of all kinds, must be based on unanimous agreement, and so must include every nation having substantial armaments and armed forces,

Recognizing further that any plan for the regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces must be based upon safeguards that will secure the compliance of all nations,

Recognizing the inability to date to achieve agreement among nations on the elimination of atomic weapons under a system of effective international control of atomic energy and on the regulation and reduction of other armaments and armed forces,

Recalling that a plan has been developed in the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, and approved by the General Assembly, for the international control of atomic energy, which would make effective the prohibition of atomic weapons; and that much useful planning work has been accomplished in the Commission for Conventional Armaments,

Desiring, however, to carry this work forward toward a comprehensive system of armaments control,

Decides to establish a committee of twelve, consisting of representatives of the members of the Security Council as of 1 January 1951, together with Canada, to consider and report to the next regular session of the General Assembly on ways and means whereby the work of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments may be co-ordinated and on the advisability of their functions being merged and placed under a new and consolidated disarmament commission.