

vote on before December 20. Second, we must determine what should be done with the other substantive resolutions on which we are now not prepared to come to a vote. Third, we owe it to ourselves and to the people we represent, to provide a means for this organization to continue to focus attention on the issue of disarmament.

With regard to the first decision I do not think there is any dispute that we are all prepared and indeed anxious to vote on three resolutions. These are the three-Power draft on the suspension of nuclear tests, Document 256, the twenty-six-Power draft on the same subject, Document 258 Rev. 1, and the five-Power draft against the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons contained in Document 253 Rev. 1. We believe that the content of these three resolutions would commend itself to the large majority of the delegations here and that the Committee would wish to vote on them without further discussion.

The remaining resolutions contain substantive proposals covering a wide range of subjects. There are varying degrees of merit in these suggestions and many have a rightful place in the framework of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, which the General Assembly voted for unanimously last year. However, many delegations doubt that most of the proposals contained in these resolutions would be feasible and useful if they were considered outside of that context. Obviously much detailed study and careful examination in the light of all relevant implications will be required before useful decisions can be reached in regard to these proposals. Between now and December 20 it will not be possible to accord them that measure of thoughtful attention^{which} they deserve. In this situation I suggest we must take a decision that will leave the way open to dealing effectively with these resolutions at a later and more propitious time, either in the Disarmament Commission, in the General Assembly, or in both.

Without wishing in any way to detract from any of these resolutions, I do believe that the three texts dealing with the central question of principles, and in particular the suggested compromise text in Document 259, deserve special mention. We owe the warmest tribute to the distinguished Minister from