

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON A NUCLEAR TEST BAN

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 637th plenary meeting on 21 January 1993, the Conference on Disarmament agreed to re-establish an ad hoc committee under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Nuclear Test Ban" (CD/1180), with the mandate resulting from the 1992 consultations conducted by the special coordinator on this item, contained in CD/1179, as follows:

"In the exercise of its responsibilities as the multilateral disarmament negotiating forum in accordance with paragraph 120 of the Final Document, the Conference on Disarmament decides to re-establish an Ad Hoc Committee under item 1 of its agenda entitled 'Nuclear Test Ban'.

The Conference requests the Ad Hoc Committee to continue, as a step towards achieving a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty, substantive work on specific and interrelated test-ban issues, including structure and scope as well as verification and compliance.

Pursuant to its mandate, the Ad Hoc Committee will take into account all existing proposals and future initiatives. In addition, it will draw on the knowledge and experience that have been accumulated over the years in the consideration of a comprehensive test ban in the successive multilateral negotiating bodies and the trilateral negotiations.

The Conference also requests the Ad Hoc Committee to continue the examination of the institutional and administrative arrangements necessary for establishing, testing and operating an international seismic monitoring network as part of an effective verification system of a nuclear test-ban treaty. The Ad Hoc Committee will also take into account the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Cooperative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events.

The Ad Hoc Committee will report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the 1993 session. This report should include, *inter alia*, the Committee's recommendations on how the objectives of the Ad Hoc Committee on agenda item 1, 'Nuclear Test Ban', should be carried forward most effectively in 1994."