

(Mr. Francese, Italy)

delegation hopes the draft convention should be commended by the General Assembly and subsequently opened for signature at an early date. And I understand it is the feeling largely shared by most delegations here. This has nothing to do with consensus on the transfer to the General Assembly of this text. It is just about describing correctly and appropriately the situation prevailing here. This is why we strongly hope that Sir Michael Weston's views as presented earlier will find an appropriate place in the solution which will eventually prevail.

Mr. TOTH (Hungary): My delegation would have no difficulty if there is a solution along the lines of the Peruvian proposal or the United Kingdom proposal found in any corners of this room. I think that the Pakistani/American proposal found no difficulty on the part of Pakistan and the United States though there were some difficulties raised in connection with that by other delegations. I would like to raise the possibility that in the recess, if consideration is given to other proposals as well, the following formulation might be considered if it is of any help, and this is based on the American/Pakistani proposal. The formulation is very simple: "While there was no full consensus, hope was widely expressed that the draft convention would be commended by the General Assembly and opened for signature at an early date".

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I thank Ambassador Tóth. This will certainly be taken into consideration by the delegations. Before suspending the meeting I give the floor to one last speaker who is the representative of the Russian Federation.

Mr. BATSANOV (Russian Federation): This won't take long. I think it's really time to suspend the meeting.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): The meeting is suspended for 10 minutes.

The meeting was suspended at 7.40 p.m. and resumed at 8.05 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): As my colleagues will have realized, minutes in Belgium last longer than anywhere else. The 10 minutes were stretched out somewhat, but I think it was in the interest of all the delegations present here to let matters take their course, because the thorny question of the drafting of paragraph 74 has apparently been resolved, thanks to an understanding attitude on all sides. I am told it is Ambassador Semichi who will submit to the wisdom and, I hope, the approval of the Conference the compromise on which the delegations concerned have reached agreement. I therefore give the floor to Mr. Semichi.

Mr. SEMICHI (Algeria) (translated from French): The short suspension of the meeting was used by a group of delegations to attempt to present to all the members of the Conference a consensus text based on all the proposals which had been made at the present meeting before its suspension. This group of delegations agreed on the following drafting for paragraph 74. I will read out the English text as negotiated by several delegations.