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Africa and Nuclear Non-Proliferation: A PPNN Workshop for Senior Government Officials, Batanai Gardens, Harare, Zimbabwe, 2-4 April 1993: General Report

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Summary:

Summarizes the events and issues of the PPNN workshop for Senior Government Officials in the Africa and Nuclear Non-proliferation program.

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AFRICA AND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

A PPNN Workshop for Senior Government Officials Batanai Gardens, Harare, Zimbabwe 2 - 4 April 1993

GENERAL REPORT

Introduction

PPNN held its third regional meeting on nuclear non-proliferation [previous meetings having been in Germany and Japan] at the African Rehabilitation Institute Headquarters, Batanai Gardens, Harare, Zimbabwe from Friday, 2 April to Sunday, 4 April 1993. This took the form of an international workshop on "Africa and Nuclear Non-Proliferation". Participants stayed at the Holiday Inn and the Monomatapa Hotel, Harare. The meeting was jointly organised for PPNN by the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, University of Zimbabwe and the Mountbatten Centre for International Studies, University of Southampton, UK.

<u>Participation</u>

The meeting was attended by the nominees of 23 African states; 10 members of the PPNN Core Group and staff; 1 representative each from the Organisation of Africa Unity [OAU], the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and the United Nations; 4 representatives of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies of the University of Zimbabwe; and 3 additional expert speakers and panelists. Those present included members of the United Nations/OAU Group of Experts to Examine the Modalities and Elements for the Preparation and Implementation of a Convention or Treaty on the Denuclearization of Africa. The meeting was also attended by observers from the University of Zimbabwe, local non-governmental organisations and the diplomatic corps. A list of participants is attached at Annex A. French-English and English-French simultaneous interpretation was provided, and all prepared papers were available in both languages.

The fact that PPNN had risked inviting South African participation in the workshop made it possible for senior South African officials to offer a uniquely detailed explanation of their nuclear policy from 1974 onwards, including the construction of six nuclear devices, to the participants. Following the workshop the UN/OAU Group of Experts met in Harare to draft wording for a Treaty on the Denuclearisation of Africa. Given the presence of South Africans at PPNN's workshop, the UN Expert Group acquiesced in their participation also in its deliberations, and co-opted a South African as a member of the Group. The fact that a group of experts representing all of Africa were thus able to discuss an actual Treaty text is seen as a significant step towards the total denuclearization of the African Continent.

Programme

The participants were welcomed to the workshop on behalf of PPNN by Ben Sanders, Executive Chairman of PPNN - who also chaired the workshop as a whole - and by Hasu Patel, Acting Chairman of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies on behalf of the University of Zimbabwe. The Workshop was officially opened by H.E. Mr. Nicholas Goche, Senior Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of The Hon. Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe. John Simpson, Programme Director of PPNN gave a Vote of Thanks.

The workshop comprised 5 sessions in which short presentations were made, based on papers that had been circulated in advance of the meeting, followed by a discussion period.

Session 1 on *The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime and the Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference in 1995* was chaired by Hasu Patel. Presentations were made by Ben Sanders (*The Nature of the Non-Proliferation Regime - PPNN paper number IW1/1*) and John Simpson (*The 1995 NPT Conference - IW1/2*). The Rapporteur was Jozef Goldblat.

Session 2 on Africa and the New Political/Military Environment was chaired by Olu Adeniji. Presentations were made by Solomon Nkiwane (African Security in the Changed International Situation - IW1/3), and Sola Ogunbanwo (An African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone: Current Proposals - IW1/4). Session 2 also included a panel discussion on "An African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone: Requirements and Prospects". The panel was formed by members of the United Nations Group of Experts to Examine the Modalities and Elements for the Preparation and Implementation of a Convention or Treaty on the Denuclearization of Africa and comprised Olu Adeniji [Nigeria], Fathi Marei [Egypt], Liberata Mulamula [Tanzania], Gift Punungwe [Zimbabwe] and Gustave Zoula [OAU]. The Rapporteur was Lloyd Chingambo.

Session 3 on Africa and the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy was chaired by Professor John Simpson. Presentations were made by Waldo Stumpf [Atomic Energy Corporation of South Africa] (Nuclear Energy in Africa: Issues and Prospects for Nuclear Power and Radioisotopes - IW1/5); Jan Murray (Africa's Role in Meeting World Uranium Demand - IW1/6) and John Tilemann [IAEA] (Regional Nuclear Co-operation Arrangements in Africa -IW1/7). The Rapporteur was Thérèse Delpech.

An announcement had been made by the South Africa Government on 24 March, just prior to the meeting, that it had developed a nuclear device capability in the 1970s and 1980s, but that the six nuclear devices that had been produced, and the facilities to produce them, had been dismantled and destroyed between 1989 and 1991. Because of the interest amongst seminar participants in this issue, the session was extended to allow Dr. Stumpf, as Chief Executive of the Atomic Energy Corporation of South Africa and the person tasked with dismantling the devices and their associated capabilities, to make an oral presentation on this subject. Following the meeting a summary paper on the background to South Africa's nuclear weapons capability and its subsequent dismantlement was made by PPNN staff. This summary is included in the accompanying Substantive Report.

Session 4 on Africa and the Global Non-Proliferation Regime was chaired by Yoshio Okawa. Fathi Marei presented a paper on behalf of Mohamed Shaker (Africa and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty - IW1/8) and further presentations were made by David Fischer (Africa and IAEA Safeguards -IW1/9) and Olu Adeniji (How Can Africa Strengthen the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime - IW1/10). The Rapporteur was Darryl Howlett.

In **Session 5**, chaired by Davidson Hepburn, John Simpson, as workshop rapporteur, presented a short paper entitled *Africa and Nuclear Non-Proliferation: Some Reflections of the Rapporteur*, written overnight with the assistance of the rapporteurs' reports from

individual sessions. This paper was then commented upon by the Rapporteurs and a panel comprising Oleg Grinevsky, James Leonard, Gift Punungwe and Olu Adeniji, before the discussion was opened to all those attending the meeting.

Written Output

Copies of the papers presented at the workshop and other relevant materials will be published shortly by PPNN as a bound volume, and will be supplied to interested parties at that time. In the meantime, copies of individual papers are available on request.

John Simpson

23-04-93

ANNEX A

CHAIRMEN, PARTICIPANTS, SPEAKERS, AND RAPPORTEURS

Mr. Abdou Adamou (Niger)

Department of Legal and Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Niamey

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Senior Fellow, Graduate institute, Geneva and UNIDIR, Geneva

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