

(7) urges the immediate release of all political detainees and the restoration of full civilian and political rights, including freedom of association, expression, and assembly;

(8) urges the Maoists to lay down their arms and to pursue their goals through participation in a peaceful political process; and

(9) calls on the Government of the United States to work closely with other governments, including the governments of India, China, the United Kingdom, and the European Union, and with the United Nations to ensure a common and coherent international approach that helps to bring about an immediate peaceful transition to democracy and to end the violent insurgency in Nepal.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, as Members are aware, Nepal has been gripped by demonstrations in support of democracy for the past 20 days. At least 14 Nepali citizens have been killed in these protests and hundreds more injured. The demonstrations follow 14 months of direct rule by King Gyanendra and February 8, 2006, municipal elections that the State Department characterized as a "hollow attempt by the King to legitimize his power."

I am submitting today a resolution expressing the Senate's support for the reconvening of the Nepali parliament and for an immediate, peaceful transition to a democratic political process in the country. This resolution urges the King, political parties, and Maoists to support a process that returns the country to multi-party democracy and creates the conditions for peace and stability in the country.

SENATE RESOLUTION 442—EXPRESSING THE DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO THE ELECTION OF IRAN TO A LEADERSHIP POSITION IN THE UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION AND REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO WITHHOLD FUNDING TO THE UNITED NATIONS UNLESS CREDIBLE REFORMS ARE MADE

Mr. COLEMAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 442

Whereas the United Nations has continuously failed to meet minimal reform expectations, including those outlined in the September Summit Outcome Document;

Whereas the United Nations has allowed member states acting in defiance of their obligations to the United Nations to enjoy full participatory rights and leadership positions in all bodies of the United Nations;

Whereas the mandate of the charter of the United Nations that protects international peace and security is significantly hindered by the placement of pariah states in leadership positions within various commissions;

Whereas the credibility of the United Nations has been further crippled by the fact that Iran was elected to serve as the vice chair of the Asia regional group of the United Nations Disarmament Commission;

Whereas Iran has committed many acts of malfeasance with respect to its nuclear program that makes it an unacceptable candidate for the United Nations Disarmament Commission, including—

(1) developing a clandestine nuclear program for 18 years prior to 2003;

(2) repeatedly deceiving the International Atomic Energy Agency about a variety of nuclear-related activities;

(3) failing to provide inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency with access to various nuclear sites;

(4) refusing to answer questions related to its nuclear program;

(5) reneging on its commitments under the Paris Accords of November 2004, which included the suspension of uranium enrichment activities; and

(6) announcing its success in achieving uranium enrichment capabilities, which represented a brazen affront to the international community;

Whereas other actions and rhetoric by Iran have perpetuated its record of terror and tyranny, and warranted its isolation from the international community at the United Nations, including—

(1) continuing its calls for the annihilation of Israel, which is a member state of the United Nations;

(2) actively sponsoring terrorism through groups including Hezbollah, Hamas, and Islamic Jihad, which prompted the Department of State to classify Iran as the "most active state sponsor of terrorism in 2004"; and

(3) continuing its efforts to destabilize neighboring countries by meddling in the affairs of those countries, including Iraq, Israel, and Lebanon; and

Whereas, while Iran continues to enjoy full participatory rights and privileges as a member state of the United Nations, the overall conduct of Iran is a direct threat to world security and violates numerous fundamental principles on which the United Nations is based: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its deep disappointment with respect to the failure of the Asia group members of the United Nations Disarmament Commission to stop the election of Iran as the vice chair of that body;

(2) asserts that the United Nations Disarmament Commission has no credibility on disarmament issues due to the participation of Iran, particularly in light of the defiance of Iran in disregarding resolutions passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Security Council Presidential Statement relating to its nuclear program;

(3) calls on the United States to reject all resolutions passed by the discredited United Nations Disarmament Commission;

(4) condemns the continued intransigence of Iran with respect to its—

(A) nuclear program;

(B) treatment of Israel; and

(C) sponsorship of terror;

(5) shall work to ensure that funding from the United States is withheld from—

(A) the regular budget of the United Nations in the amount that is directed towards the activities of the United Nations Disarmament Commission; and

(B) any commission of the United Nations in which the worst violators of the principles it claims to promote are included in its membership, including the new Human Rights Council;

(6) calls on the United Nations to deny Iran from participating in any commission of the United Nations until it—

(A) complies with its obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and International Atomic Energy Agency resolutions;

(B) halts—

(i) all uranium enrichment activities; and

(ii) all calls for the destruction of Israel; and

(C) withdraws support from terrorist groups; and

(7) calls on the President to—

(A) closely monitor the progress of the United Nations on reform; and

(B) exercise the option of the President to withhold funding unless credible reforms are made prior to discussions on the biannual budget.

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I rise to submit a sense-of-the Senate resolution expressing the deepest disappointment of the Senate with respect to the election of Iran to a leadership position on the United Nations Disarmament Commission and request the President to withhold funding to the United Nations unless credible reforms are made.

A couple of observations, Mr. President. In light of the Oil-For-Food scandal, it was my great hope that we would see a movement toward reform in the United Nations. The Secretary General had put forth some proposed reforms. There was some discussion about whether the U.N. Commission on Human Rights was going to be reformed. Unfortunately, the energy was there, the hope was there, and we seemed to be moving in the wrong direction.

On May 9, for the new Human Rights Council, elections will be held. It appears that Cuba may be appointed to the new Human Rights Council.

The recommendations from the Secretary General for minimum reform are now coming under attack by something called the G-77, the underlying nations, which may dismantle those. A little tremor occurred just about a week ago, and to some people it may be a little thing, but it is not. It is symbolic of some of the things we face with the United Nations.

Just recently, Iran was elected to the U.N. Disarmament Commission. Some may say that this is a very minor commission; it is an inactive forum; it only meets 3 weeks a year, the U.N. Commission on Disarmament. We have Iran out there thumbing its nose at the international community hell-bent on getting a nuclear weapon. And by the way, they said what they are going to do with it. They said they want to destroy Israel. That is what they said they are going to do. Hitler told us what he wanted to do and the world didn't listen. God forbid there is an explosion of an atomic weapon in Tel Aviv or Haifa. They have already said where it is going to come from, this is what we are going to do.

So Iran gets elected to the U.N. Commission on Disarmament. In some ways it doesn't make sense. In some ways it is absurd, but it does require comment. It does require a response. It does require folks to say: I don't care whether it meets 3 weeks a year or 1 week a year or 50 weeks a year. This is something that highlights the absurdity of what is happening today in this international body.

It is interesting that, as expected, Iran is already making efforts to convert the Disarmament Commission into yet another forum for anti-semitism. Last week, at a working group meeting, Iran's representative to

the Disarmament Commission stated that the suggestion that Iran had a nuclear weapons program was Jewish propaganda fabricated by the Jewish lobby in the United States. These brazenly antisemitic comments were objected to by our American representative, but other members, including the chair of the working group, remained silent.

I am disturbed by the moral indifference that the U.N. has reached where you have a member state seeking nuclear weapons with the expressed intention of destroying another member state, and that member state, Iran, is allowed to serve as the Vice Chair of the Disarmament Commission. That is completely unacceptable, to say the least. I am disappointed that the Asian member states did not step up to contest the candidacy of Iran.

This is what is happening: You have regional groupings, so each state, regional groupings, pick their members. The United States doesn't get involved in this. It is up to the member states, the Asian members. But somebody has to be thinking this doesn't make sense. This is going to cast a negative pall over the international community's reflection about what the United Nations community is all about. It is another step back at a time when we need to be moving forward.

It is the responsibility of member states at the U.N. to step up and prevent the system from being manipulated by pariah states such as Iran that are looking to pursue their destructive agendas. Iran is probably the major state sponsor of terrorism in the world today. Iran says they want to destroy Israel. Iran supports terrorism and Iran is intent on getting a nuclear weapon.

We do not control what other member states do, but we should make the position of the United States clear. The United States should not be funding institutions that not only undermine the very principles they claim to promote but directly harm U.S. interests. A disarmament commission with Iran in a leadership position should be condemned by the United States and we should make a statement. I have been very hesitant to talk about holding back funding, but we are going in the wrong direction. I will be back on the floor if Cuba gets appointed, gets elected to this new human rights council. I will be back on the floor. At a certain point in time you have to expect something. Much is given, much is received. We have given the U.N. a lot of money. We have given a lot of support. There are expectations then and they are not being met.

Lest someone has failed to be aware of Iran's deeds, let me review some of the credentials for being excluded from the commission. Iran has repeatedly deceived the IAEA about a variety of nuclear-related activities, failed to provide IAEA inspectors access to various nuclear sites, and refused to answer outstanding questions that led to its nuclear program. It reneged on its

commitments under the Paris Accord of 2004, which included the suspension of uranium enrichment activities.

Again, I talked about the actions and rhetoric of the Iranian regime to perpetuate a record of terror and tyranny which also warrants isolation from the international community at the U.N., including calls for the annihilation of Israel, active sponsorship of terrorism through groups including Hezbollah, Hamas, and Islamic Jihad, meddling in the affairs of neighboring countries such as Iraq and Israel and Lebanon.

The overall conduct of Iran is a direct threat to world security. It violates numerous fundamental principles on which the United Nations is based. Yet it continues to enjoy full participatory rights and privileges as a member state of the U.N. In fact, it gets rewarded by a leadership position on the disarmament commission. Such a situation is beyond comprehension.

The resolution I plan to submit does the following. It expresses deep disappointment in the failure of the Asian group members of the disarmament commission to stop Iran's election as the vice chair of the body. It asserts the disarmament commission has no credibility on disarmament issues due to Iran's participation, particularly in the light of Iran's defiance of the IAEA resolutions and the Security Council presidential statement regarding its nuclear program. It calls on the U.S. to reject all resolutions passed by the discredited disarmament commission, condemns Iran's continued intransigence with regard to the treatment of Israel and sponsorship of terror and, finally, works to ensure that U.S. funding is withheld from the U.N. in the amount that is directed toward the disarmament commission's activities from its regular budget.

We are not talking about a lot of money here. What we are talking about is making a statement—making a statement. We call upon the President to closely monitor U.N. progress on reform and to exercise his option to withhold funding unless credible reforms are made prior to the discussions of the biannual budget in June.

What do you do? In the U.S. we ask the question, What shall we do when those who enforce the law break the law? In the international context we are asking, What do we do when a key voice in disarmament is given to one of the world's most willful sponsors of terrorism at a time when they are ignoring the international community in their quest for nuclear weapons?

The response is just to say no. Civilized nations must speak with one voice. That statement should begin right here with the passage of my resolution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this resolution. The error of the United Nations is serious. To be silent in the face of it would be far worse.

SENATE RESOLUTION 443—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF FRANCIS R. VALEO, FORMER SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 443

Whereas Francis R. (Frank) Valeo served with distinction as chief of the Foreign Affairs Division of the Legislative Reference Service and specialist in the Far East, before beginning his service to the United States Senate in 1952 on the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations;

Whereas Frank Valeo in 1958 became foreign policy advisor and assistant to the Majority Whip, Senator Mike Mansfield, and then served as Majority Secretary from 1963 to 1966;

Whereas Frank Valeo served as Secretary of the Senate from 1966 to 1977;

Whereas Frank Valeo accompanied many United States Senators on missions to all parts of the globe, assisted the Majority Leader in regularly reporting on conditions in Southeast Asia, and was part of the first congressional delegation to visit the People's Republic of China in 1972;

Whereas Frank Valeo represented the United States Senate on the Federal Election Commission from 1974 to 1977, and in that role participated in the 1976 landmark Supreme Court decision of *Buckley v. Valeo*;

Whereas Frank Valeo helped to modernize and set professional standards for service in the diverse offices that report to the Secretary of the Senate, and served as a member of the Commission on the Operation of the Senate, from 1975 to 1976, where he helped craft its proposals for structural and technological reforms in Senate operations;

Whereas Frank Valeo faithfully discharged the difficult duties and responsibilities of a wide variety of important and demanding positions in public life with honesty, integrity, loyalty, and humanity; and

Whereas Frank Valeo's clear understanding and appreciation of the challenges facing the Nation have left his mark on those many areas of public life: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That (a) the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of Frank Valeo.

(b) The Secretary of the Senate shall communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

(c) When the Senate adjourns today, it shall stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of Frank Valeo.

SENATE RESOLUTION 444—COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 444

Whereas the American Jewish Committee, after its founding in 1906, rapidly emerged as a pioneering human relations agency, dedicated to combating all forms of bigotry and championing a sense of shared civic responsibility;

Whereas the American Jewish Committee, through a range of innovative projects and programs, seeks to build a more hopeful world by expanding freedom, enhancing mutual respect, monitoring hate groups, and