

**Conference on Disarmament
2014 - 2016**

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2014 session

12. At its 1302nd plenary meeting on 21 January 2014, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda presented by the President of the Conference, Mr. Eviatar Manor, Ambassador of Israel was reviewed in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament adopted its agenda for the 2014 session (CD/PV.1302). The agenda (CD/1965) reads as follows:

“Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2014 session:

1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
7. Transparency in armaments.
8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations.”

13. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: “In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration paragraphs 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.”

14. Pursuant to paragraph 59 of the 2013 report of the Conference (CD/1963), and further noting the provisions of CD/1956/Rev.1, the last President of the 2013 session (Ireland) and the first President of the 2014 session (Israel), conducted informal consultations during the inter-sessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2014 session of the Conference.

15. At the 1308th plenary meeting on 3 March 2014, the Conference adopted the draft decision CD/1974 submitted by the President of the Conference, Mr. Vinicio Mati, Ambassador of Italy, to re-establish an Informal Working Group, which reads as follows:

“The Conference on Disarmament,

In pursuance of its Agenda contained in CD/1965,

Stressing the importance of adoption and implementation of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date in its 2014 session,

Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference and the responsibilities entrusted to the President under the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular rule 29 for drawing up the programme of work of the Conference,

decides

1. To re-establish the informal working group (hereinafter referred to as the Group), pursuant to rule 23 of its rules of procedure, with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation.
2. That the President of the Conference on Disarmament shall chair the Group and shall be assisted by a co-chair who shall carry out consultations on his/her behalf. For the 2014 session, the co-chair and vice-co-chair shall be Mr. Luis Gallegos Chiriboga, Ambassador of Ecuador and Mr. Peter Richard Woolcott, Ambassador of Australia, respectively.
3. That the Group shall remain open to all member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those interested non-member States that the Conference has invited to participate, as observers, in its work during the 2014 session, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036).
4. That, in its work, the Group shall continue to use the rules of procedure of the Conference, *mutatis mutandis*. In particular, the Group shall conduct its work and adopt its decisions by consensus, as provided by rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.
5. That the Group shall hold meetings during the 2014 session as per timetable established by its co-chair in consultation with the President. Such meetings shall be open to all members and observers of the Conference, in accordance with paragraph 3 above.
6. That the co-chair shall report to the President of the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of the work of the Group on a regular basis and, at the President's request, to the plenary according to the rules of procedure. The President shall submit the final report on the work of the Group to the Conference as early as possible, but no later than the fourth week of the third part of the 2014 session of the Conference on Disarmament for consideration and adoption in accordance with the Conference's rules of procedure. Taking into account, and pursuant to rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the President will draw up a programme of work of the Conference for consideration and adoption."
16. The Informal Working Group held three meetings, respectively on 19 May, 28 July and 18 August 2014. On 2 September 2014, the President of the Conference, Mr. Mazlan Muhammad, Ambassador of Malaysia, addressed a letter to the Conference submitting the report of the Co-Chair and Vice Co-Chair on the work of the Informal Working Group (CD/2000). The Conference took note that the report of the Co-Chair and Vice Co-Chair was prepared in their personal capacity and without prejudice to the national positions of member States. Member States' views on the Informal Working Group and the report of its Co-Chair and Vice Co-Chair are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference.
17. Throughout the 2014 session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals. Delegations expressed their views on the issue of a programme of work, accounting for relevant proposals and suggestions, which are duly reflected in the plenary records. However, despite these efforts, the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work in 2014.
18. At the 1314th plenary meeting on 26 March 2014, under the Presidency of Mr. Toshio Sano, Ambassador of Japan, the Conference agreed upon a schedule of activities of the 2014 session of the Conference on Disarmament (CD/1978). Pursuant to

CD/1978, a series of informal open-ended meetings on all the items listed in the agenda of the Conference were held. These informal discussions were neither pre-negotiations nor negotiations, and complemented, and in no case replaced, the Conference on Disarmament's on-going activities. The coordinators were required to report, in their personal capacity, on the discussions of the various substantive agenda items to the President who, in conjunction with each of them, would finalize the reports, under his/her own responsibility. The reports would not affect in any way the positions of the members of the Conference on Disarmament.

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

19. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings (CD/PV.1320 and CD/PV.1324). Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records. Suggestions were made for the appointment of a special rapporteur on enlargement.

20. Since 1982, requests for membership have been received from the following 27 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, Philippines, Azerbaijan, Libya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, Serbia, Republic of Moldova and Qatar.

F. Review of the agenda of the Conference

21. The review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference

22. The improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

23. At the 1316th plenary meeting on 20 May 2014, the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Michael Møller suggested options that could be explored by the Conference. He provided four suggestions: to consider negotiations on areas of common ground with a view eventually to produce framework conventions to which substantive protocols may be subsequently negotiated and added; to explore issues for which voluntary, politically binding regimes may be negotiated; to consider the establishment of a subsidiary body to examine and make proposals on the improvement of the working methods of the Conference and the holding of an informal conference on disarmament-civil society forum, hosted by the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament (CD/PV.1316). At the 1319th plenary meeting on 10 June 2014, Mr. Michael Møller further elaborated on his suggestions (CD/PV.1319). Divergent views were expressed by the member States on these suggestions. These views are duly reflected in the plenary records.

24. No documents were submitted to the Conference on this subject.

H. Communications from non-governmental organizations

25. In accordance with rule 42 of the rules of procedure, a list of communications from non-governmental organizations or their representatives was circulated to the Conference (CD/NGC/48).

26. In line with the decision taken at the 1172nd plenary meeting (CD/PV.1172) to mark International Women's Day, a statement of the NGO Women's International League for

and Mr. Marco Kalbusch (as of 1 June), Senior Political Affairs Officer and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament.

B. Participants in the work of the Conference

10. The representatives of the following 65 member States participated in the work of the Conference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

C. Attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference

11. In accordance with the rules of procedure and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 40 States not members of the Conference. Accordingly, the Conference invited the following non-member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.

12. The following document dealing with the issue of attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference was submitted to the Conference:

CD/2012, dated 10 February 2015, entitled "Letter dated 28 January 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the requests for participation in the work of the Conference during 2015 from non-member States".

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2015 session

13. At its 1330th plenary meeting on 20 January 2015, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda presented by the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, was reviewed in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament adopted its agenda for the 2015 session (CD/PV.1330). The agenda (CD/2008) read as follows:

"Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2015 session:

1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
7. Transparency in armaments.
8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations.”

14. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: “In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration rules 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.”

15. Pursuant to paragraph 57 of the 2014 report of the Conference (CD/2004), the last President of the 2014 session (Malaysia) and the first President of the 2015 session (Mexico), conducted informal consultations during the intersessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2015 session of the Conference.

16. Following a discussion at the 1331st plenary meeting on 27 January 2015, at the 1334th plenary meeting on 29 January 2015 the President of the Conference, Mr. Jorge Lomónaco, Ambassador of Mexico, submitted for adoption a draft decision on a programme of work for the 2015 session. The draft decision did not achieve consensus (CD/PV.1334).

17. Throughout the 2015 session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals. Delegations expressed their views on the issue of a programme of work, taking account of relevant proposals and suggestions, which are duly reflected in the plenary records. However, despite these efforts, the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work in 2015.

18. At the 1354th plenary meeting on 5 June 2015, the Conference adopted decision CD/2021, initially prepared under the presidency of Mongolia, submitted by the President of the Conference, Mr. Mohamed Auajjar, Ambassador of Morocco, on a schedule of activities of the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament, which read as follows:

“1. While continuing to seek the path towards renewed negotiations, it is important that the Conference on Disarmament holds structured and substantive discussions on the four core items listed in its agenda contained in document CD/2008.

2. To this end it is the intention of the President of the Conference on Disarmament to hold a series of informal open-ended meetings, where possible with the participation of national experts.

3. The organization of these informal meetings is without prejudice to any future decision the Conference might take on its programme of work.

4. These informal discussions will complement but will not replace the Conference on Disarmament's ongoing activities, in particular the continuing debate towards the early adoption of a program of work.

5. The informal meetings on the substantive agenda items will be coordinated by Representatives to the Conference, reflecting broad geographical balance. As such, meetings on agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on nuclear disarmament will be coordinated by Mr. Amr Ramadan, Ambassador of Egypt, agenda items 1 and 2 with a general focus on the ban of the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices by Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany, agenda item 3 by Mr. Matthew Rowland, Ambassador of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and agenda item 4 by Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

6. Under the authority of the President, the coordinators will organize and chair the debates in a comprehensive manner and without preconditions, taking into account all relevant past, present and future views and proposals. These discussions are neither pre-negotiations nor negotiations.

7. The coordinators are required to report, in their personal capacity, on the discussions of the various substantive agenda items to the President who, in conjunction with each of them, would finalize the reports, under his/her own responsibility. The reports will not affect in any way the positions of the members of the Conference on Disarmament.

8. Following informal consultations with members of the Conference, the President will transmit, through a letter to be addressed to the Conference, the report of the coordinators prepared in their personal capacity."

19. At the 1354th plenary meeting on 5 June 2015, the Conference adopted decision CD/2022, initially prepared under the presidency of Mongolia, submitted by the President of the Conference, Mr. Mohamed Auajjar, Ambassador of Morocco, to re-establish an Informal Working Group, which read as follows:

"The Conference on Disarmament,

In pursuance of its agenda contained in CD/2008,

Stressing the importance of adoption and implementation of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date in its 2015 session,

Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference and the responsibilities entrusted to the President under the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular rule 29 for drawing up the programme of work of the Conference,

decides,

1. To re-establish the informal working group (hereinafter referred to as the Group), pursuant to rule 23 of its rules of procedure, with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation.

2. That the President of the Conference on Disarmament shall chair the Group and shall be assisted by a co-chair who shall carry out consultations on his/her behalf. For the 2015 session, the co-chair shall be Mrs. Päivi Kairamo, Ambassador of Finland.

3. That the Group shall remain open to all member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those interested non-member States that the Conference has invited to participate, as observers, in its work during the 2015 session, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036).

4. That, in its work, the Group shall continue to use the rules of procedure of the Conference, *mutatis mutandis*. In particular, the Group shall conduct its work and adopt its decisions by consensus, as provided by rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.

5. That the Group shall hold meetings during the 2015 session as per the timetable established by its co-chair in consultation with the President. Such meetings shall be open to all members and observers of the Conference, in accordance with paragraph 3 above.

6. That the co-chair shall report to the President of the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of the work of the Group on a regular basis and, at the President's request, to the plenary according to the rules of procedure. The President shall submit the final report on the work of the Group to the Conference as early as possible, but no later than the second week of the third part of the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament for consideration and adoption in accordance with the Conference's rules of procedure. Taking into account, and pursuant to rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the President will draw up a programme of work of the Conference for consideration and adoption."

20. Decisions CD/2021 and CD/2022 were adopted by consensus notwithstanding the wide divergence of views and differing levels of support of delegations regarding the schedule of activities and the Informal Working Group, and their utility, which are reflected in the plenary records of the Conference (CD/PV.1354).

21. The Informal Working Group held two meetings, respectively on 19 June and 3 July 2015. On 7 August 2015, the President of the Conference, Mr. Henk Cor van der Kwast, Ambassador of the Netherlands, addressed a letter to the Conference submitting the report of the co-chair on the work of the Informal Working Group contained in CD/2033. At the 1363rd plenary on Monday 17 August, the Conference adopted the report of the co-chair. The views of delegations on the report contained in CD/2033 are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference (CD/PV.1362, CD/PV.1363 and CD/PV.1369).

22. The following document was submitted to the Conference:

CD/2014 dated 10 February 2015 entitled "Note verbale dated 3 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, requesting that the draft programme of work for the 2015 session submitted by the Mexican Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament should be issued as an official document of the Conference."

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

23. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings (CD/PV.1330, CD/PV.1333, CD/PV.1336, CD/PV.1337, CD/PV.1338, CD/PV.1339, CD/PV.1343, CD/PV.1345 and CD/PV.1364). Their views are duly reflected in the plenary records. Suggestions were made for the appointment of a special rapporteur on enlargement.



Conference on Disarmament

10 February 2015

English

Original: Spanish

Note verbale dated 3 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico addressed to the Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, requesting that the draft programme of work for the 2015 session submitted by the Mexican presidency of the Conference on Disarmament should be issued as an official document of the Conference

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations Office and other international organizations based in Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Office of the Acting Director-General and Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, and has the honour to refer to the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of Mexico, in its capacity as President of the Conference on Disarmament, requests that the document entitled "Draft programme of work for the 2015 session", under the symbol CD/WP.584, should be registered as an official document of the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament.

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Draft Programme of work for the 2015 session

1. *Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,
2. *Recognizing* also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,
3. *Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,
4. *Taking into consideration* the final document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which recognized that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that, consequently, all States have the duty to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament, and that while disarmament is the responsibility of all States, the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament; and that the adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner so as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage,
5. *In pursuance of its agenda*, in accordance with and fully respecting its rules of procedure, and given the mandate conferred to the Conference on Disarmament by the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and the necessity to conserve the nature of this forum,
6. *The Conference decides* to start substantive work under its agenda immediately, and to that end takes the following decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the duration of the 2015 session:
 - (a) Under agenda item 1, entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, to negotiate, with a view to reaching agreement on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
 - (b) Under agenda item 2, entitled “Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective measures related to nuclear disarmament. These measures can include practical steps for progressive and systematic efforts to reduce nuclear weapons with the ultimate goal of their elimination, and could take the form of an international legally binding instrument or convention to prohibit the possession, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and to provide for their destruction;
 - (c) Under agenda item 3, entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on legal arrangements to prevent the deployment of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force against outer space objects. These arrangements could take the form of an international legally binding instrument;

(d) Under agenda item 4, entitled “Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on such effective international arrangements, that could take the form of an international legally binding instrument;

(e) Under agenda item 5, entitled “New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on measures to prevent the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons. These measures could take the form of an international legally binding instrument;

(f) Under agenda item 6, entitled “Comprehensive programme of disarmament”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on the elements of a programme for general and complete disarmament under strict international control. This could take the form of an international legally binding instrument;

(g) Under agenda item 7, entitled “Transparency in armaments”, to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on the elements of multilateral arrangements on this matter, including legally binding agreements.

7. All negotiations shall be carried out under the responsibility of the corresponding President of the Conference on Disarmament at the time of their occurrence, in accordance with the schedule of activities below, and shall take into consideration all relevant views and proposals past, present and future, and shall also address questions related to each agenda item.

8. In accordance with rule 23 of the rules of procedure, if the Conference deems it advisable, the Presidents may establish subsidiary bodies, such as ad hoc subcommittees and working groups, technical groups or groups of governmental experts, open to all member States of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise, to perform the functions assigned under each agenda item.

9. Each of the Conference Presidents shall present a report to the Conference on the progress of the work conducted under these agenda items during his/her Presidency, before the end of the fifth presidency of the current session.

10. In order to carry out the above-mentioned negotiations, and in accordance with rules 20, 28 and 29 of its rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament agrees to hold plenary sessions under the following schedule:

First part

[President: Mexico]

19–30 January	Statements in plenary meetings. Consideration of the agenda and programme of work
2–6 February	Agenda item 2, entitled “Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters”
9–13 February	Agenda item 2, entitled “Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters”

(a) CD/2054, dated 4 February 2016, entitled "Letter dated 26 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the requests for participation in the work of the Conference during the 2016 session from non-member states";

(b) CD/2064, dated 10 June 2016, entitled "Letter dated 1 June 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the position of Cyprus on the issue raised in document CD/2054 dated 4 February 2016";

(c) CD/2065, dated 1 July 2016, entitled "Letter dated 31 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the position of Cyprus on the issue raised in document CD/2012 dated 10 February 2015".

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2016 session

12. At its 1371st plenary meeting on 26 January 2016, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda presented by the President of the Conference, Mr. Peters Emuze, Chargé d'affaires and Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the Conference on Disarmament, was reviewed in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament adopted its agenda for the 2016 session (CD/PV.1371). The agenda (CD/2052) read as follows:

"Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2016 session:

1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
7. Transparency in armaments.
8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

13. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: "In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration rules 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference."

14. Pursuant to paragraph 65 of the 2015 report of the Conference (CD/2046), the last President of the 2015 session (New Zealand) and the first President of the 2016 session (Nigeria), conducted informal consultations during the intersessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2016 session of the Conference.

15. At the 1374th plenary meeting on 16 February 2016, the President of the Conference, Mr. Peters Emuze, Chargé d'affaires and Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the Conference on Disarmament, circulated a draft decision on a programme of work for the 2016 session (CD/WP.594).

16. At the 1376th plenary meeting on 23 February 2016, the United Kingdom presented a proposal for a programme of work for the 2016 session as contained in CD/2055.

17. Following the announcement by Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation at the 1378th plenary meeting on 1 March 2016, the Russian Federation presented a proposal for a programme of work, as contained in CD/2057, at the 1381st plenary meeting, on 8 March 2016, (CD/PV.1378 and CD/PV.1381). At the 1396th plenary meeting on 4 August 2016, the Russian Federation presented a new proposal for a programme of work, as contained in CD/2070 (CD/PV.1396), following on a proposal for a programme of work orally presented by the Russian Federation at the 1386th plenary meeting on 19 May 2016 (CD/PV.1386).

18. Ideas for a proposal for a programme of work and other ideas to the respect were shared at the Conference (CD/PV.1371, CD/PV.1376, CD/PV.1381 and CD/PV.1386).

19. The Conference held four informal plenary meetings on a programme of work: on 4 February 2016 under the presidency of Mr. Peters Emuze, Chargé d'affaires and Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the Conference on Disarmament, on 8 March 2016 under the presidency of Mr. Steffen Kongstad, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, and on 24 and 31 March 2016 under the presidency of Ms. Tehmina Janjua, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.

20. At the 1393rd plenary meeting on 28 June 2016, the President of the Conference, Mr. Piotr Stachanzyck, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, submitted for adoption a draft decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the 2016 session (CD/WP.595). The draft decision did not achieve consensus.

21. Throughout the 2016 session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on a programme of work on the basis of the relevant proposals. Delegations expressed their views on the issue of a programme of work, taking account of relevant proposals and suggestions, which are duly reflected in the plenary records. However, despite these efforts, the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work in 2016.

22. The following documents were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/2051, dated 11 January 2016, entitled "Note verbale dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the joint statement by interested States in support of the Conference delivered at the First Committee of the General Assembly at its seventieth session";

(b) CD/2055, dated 18 February 2016, entitled "Letter dated 19 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting a draft decision for the Conference to establish a formal working group and an associated programme of work for the duration of the 2016 session";

(c) CD/2057, dated 4 March 2016, entitled "Letter dated 3 March 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of

the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a draft proposal for a programme of work of the Conference for the duration of the 2016 session";

(d) CD/2070, dated 3 August 2016, entitled "Letter dated 3 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a draft proposal for a programme of work of the Conference for the 2016 session".

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

23. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings (CD/PV.1371, CD/PV.1372, CD/PV.1374, CD/PV.1378, CD/PV.1379, CD/PV.1380, CD/PV.1386, CD/PV.1394 and CD/PV.1400). Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

24. Since 1982, requests for membership have been received from the following 27 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, Philippines, Azerbaijan, Libya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, Serbia, Republic of Moldova and Qatar.

F. Review of the agenda of the Conference

25. The review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference

26. The improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

H. Communications from non-governmental organizations

27. During the general debate, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the Conference's interaction with civil society. Their views are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference.

28. On 22 June 2016, in response to the feedback from delegations on the first informal Conference on Disarmament-Civil Society Forum (CD/PV.1379 and CD/PV.1380), the second informal Conference on Disarmament-Civil Society Forum was held under the authority of the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Michael Møller. The Forum consisted of two panel discussions on the following topics: "New Weapon Technologies" and "The role and possible contribution of the CD for strengthening the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals." Member States expressed appreciation to the Secretary-General of the Conference for the organization of the Forum (CD/PV.1394).

Conference on Disarmament

19 February 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 19 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting a draft decision for the Conference to establish a formal working group and an associated programme of work for the duration of the 2016 session

I hereby have the honour to transmit a draft decision for the Conference on Disarmament to establish a formal working group and an associated programme of work for the duration of the 2016 session.

I will introduce this draft at the next formal plenary session but in the meantime I would be grateful if you could issue and circulate this draft decision to all members of the Conference as an official document of the Conference in the hope that the incoming President of the Conference will take forward consultations on this draft and be in a position to submit it for action in the very near future.

(Signed) Matthew Rowland
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
to the Conference on Disarmament



Draft Proposal for a programme of work for 2016

The Conference on Disarmament,

Convinced that, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, it has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues to reinforce the international security environment and architecture,

Taking into consideration the final document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which recognised that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that, consequently, all States have the duty to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament, and that while disarmament is the responsibility of all States, the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament; and that the adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner, taking into account all factors that could affect global strategic stability, so as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues on its agenda¹ for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Cognisant that the examination of items on the Conference's agenda can be considered in the absence of a decision on substance as provided in the rules of procedure and highlighted in CD/2033² adopted by consensus,

Determined to pursue all items on its agenda in a balanced and comprehensive manner, without prejudice to any, in accordance with and fully respecting its rules of procedure, and given the mandate conferred to the Conference on Disarmament by the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, decides:

1. *To establish* a working group and associated programme of work for the duration of the 2016 session to identify, elaborate and recommend effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons; the legal provisions could be established through various approaches, including a stand-alone instrument or a framework agreement.
2. *The working group shall be chaired* by Mr. Matthew Rowland, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Conference on Disarmament [and co-chaired by....]
3. *The Working Group shall remain open* to all member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those interested non-member States that the Conference has invited to participate in its work during the 2016 session, in accordance with the rules of procedure of

¹ CD/2052 adopted at the 1371st plenary meeting on 26 January 2016.

² Final report of the work of the Informal Working Group re-established pursuant to rule 23 of its rules of procedures, with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation, adopted at the 1363rd plenary meeting on 17 August 2015.

the Conference and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036).

4. *The Working Group shall continue* to use the rules of procedure of the Conference, *mutatis mutandis*.
5. *The Working Group shall present* a report to the Conference on its progress before the end of the fifth presidency of the current session.
6. *In accordance with the rules of procedure*, the Working Group will hold plenary sessions under the following indicative schedule cognisant of the need for general plenary meetings and meetings of regional groups:

First part

[President: Norway]

23 February	General plenary.
29 February – 4 March	High level segment.
8 March	General plenary.
9 March pm – 11 March	Identification of effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.
15 March	General plenary.
16 March pm – 18 March	Identification of effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.

[President: Pakistan]

22 March	General plenary.
23 March pm – 25 March	Identification of effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.
29 March	General plenary.
30 March pm - 31 March	Identification of effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons identified for possible elaboration.
1 April	Civil society addresses and debate.

Conference on Disarmament

4 March 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 3 March 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a draft proposal for a programme of work of the Conference for the duration of the 2016 session

I have the honour to transmit herewith a draft proposal for a programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament for the duration of the 2016 session.

This draft will be introduced at the next formal plenary session but in the meantime I would be grateful if you could issue and circulate this draft decision to all members of the Conference as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament in the hope that the President of the Conference will take forward consultations on this draft and be in a position to submit it for action in the very near future.

(Signed) Alexey Borodavkin
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

GE.16-03506(E)

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Draft proposal for programme of work for the 2016 session

The Conference on Disarmament,

Mindful that the Conference on Disarmament is the single multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament as recognized by special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD I),

Deeply concerned about the worldwide escalation of acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Taking into consideration the growing threat of the use of chemical weapons and materials by illegal non-State militarized groups, which has been showcased recently by multiple episodes of the use of chemical materials by terrorists in Iraq and Syria, as well as the possibility of hijacking of the facilities and infrastructure for the production of chemical weapons and materials by such groups,

Conscious of the work undertaken by the Conference on Disarmament on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction and recognizing the need for a follow-up to this work due to remaining loopholes in the international legal framework,

Taking note of the conclusion and successful implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism of 2005 as an important milestone in addressing the issue of terrorism,

Recalling the agenda for the 2016 session of the Conference adopted as CD/2052, as well as its rules of procedure which, inter alia, provide for the possibility of reviewing the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament,

decides:

1. To establish a working group under the agenda item 6 “comprehensive programme of disarmament” and associated schedule of work for the duration of the 2016 session to conduct negotiations with a view to elaborating basic elements of an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical terrorism.
2. The working group shall be chaired by [...]

[Presidents: Norway, Pakistan]

4 March – 1 April Identification of the key elements of a future Convention

[Presidents: Pakistan, Peru, Poland]

16 May – 1 July Consideration of the proposals by the member States on the elaboration of the key elements of a future Convention

[President: Poland]

2 – 19 August Preparation of a report of the working group with recommendations on further work under the agenda item

Furthermore, *conscious of the need* to establish a balanced and comprehensive programme of work for the Conference,

Taking in account all the discussions held on the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament and suggestions made to this end,

Without prescribing or precluding any outcome(s) for discussions under a new paragraph, as well as paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 below, with a view to enabling future compromise(s) and including the possibility of future negotiations under any agenda item, thus upholding the nature of the forum,

Also decides:

1. *To establish* a working group under agenda item 1 entitled “cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament” and agenda item 2 entitled “prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters”, to carry out discussions with a view to identifying, elaborating and recommending effective measures on nuclear disarmament.
2. *To establish* an working group under agenda item 1 entitled “cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament” and agenda item 2 entitled “prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters” to carry out discussions with a view to identifying, elaborating and recommending effective measures to ban the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995 and the mandate contained therein.
3. *To establish* a working group under agenda item 3 entitled “prevention of an arms race in outer space” to carry out discussions with a view to identifying, elaborating and recommending effective measures on prevention of an arms race in outer space.
4. *To establish* a working group under agenda item 4 entitled “effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons” to carry out discussions with a view to identifying, elaborating and recommending effective measures to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

The Conference shall appoint coordinators for the working groups. Each working group shall present to the Conference the report on the outcome of its work before the end of the fifth Presidency of the current session. The working groups shall take into consideration all relevant views, proposals and decisions past, present and future.

The schedules of working groups’ activities are subject to consultations with the member States of the Conference on Disarmament, which will take into account the experience of the arrangements of such discussions in the previous sessions.

Conference on Disarmament

4 August 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 3 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a draft proposal for a programme of work of the Conference for the 2016 session

I have the honour to transmit herewith draft proposal of the Russian Federation for a programme of work of the 2016 session.

I would be grateful if you could issue and circulate it to all members of the Conference as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed) Alexey Borodavkin
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

GE.16-13505(E)



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Draft proposal for a programme of work of the 2016 session

The Conference on Disarmament,

Convinced that, as the single multilateral negotiating forum of the international community, it has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues to reinforce the international security environment and architecture,

Taking into consideration the final document of the first special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which recognized that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that, consequently, all States have the duty to contribute to efforts in the field of disarmament, and that while disarmament is the responsibility of all States, the nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament; and that the adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner so as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage,

Deeply concerned about the worldwide escalation of acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Taking into consideration the growing threat of the use of chemical weapons and materials by illegal non-State militarized groups, which has been showcased recently by multiple episodes of the use of chemical materials by terrorists, as well as the possibility of hijacking of the facilities and infrastructure for the production of chemical weapons and materials by such groups,

Mindful also that the similar threat is posed by a possible use of biological and toxin materials for terrorist purposes,

Taking note of the conclusion and successful implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism of 2005 as an important milestone in addressing the issue of terrorism,

Conscious of the work done by the Conference on Disarmament on the issues of chemical and biological weapons,

Recalling, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues on its agenda¹ for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Cognizant that the examination of items on the Conference's agenda can be considered in the absence of a decision on substance as provided in the rules of procedure and highlighted in CD/2033² adopted by consensus,

Determined to pursue all items on its agenda in a balanced and comprehensive manner, without prejudice to any, in accordance with and fully respecting its rules of

¹ CD/2052 adopted at the 1371st plenary meeting on 26 January 2016.

² Final report of the work of the Informal Working Group re-established pursuant to rule 23 of its Rules of Procedure, with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation, adopted at the 1363rd plenary meeting on 17 August 2015.

procedure, and given the mandate conferred to the Conference on Disarmament by the first special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament, decides

1. To establish a working group under agenda item 6 entitled “Comprehensive programme of disarmament” to elaborate key elements of an international convention for the suppression of acts of chemical and biological terrorism.
2. To establish a working group, for the duration of the 2016 session, to identify, elaborate and recommend effective measures on nuclear disarmament, including legal provisions and other arrangements, as well as factors, that contribute to and are required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons; the legal provisions could be established through various approaches, including a stand-alone instrument or a framework agreement.
3. The working groups shall continue to use the rules of procedure of the Conference, *mutatis mutandis*.
4. The working groups will remain open to all member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those interested non-member States that the Conference has invited to participate, as observers, in its work during the 2016 session, in accordance with rules of procedure of the Conference and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036).

The Conference shall appoint coordinators for the Working Groups. Each Working Group shall present to the Conference the report on the outcome of its work before the end of the fifth Presidency of the current session. The Working Groups shall take into consideration all relevant views, proposals and decisions past, present and future.

In accordance with the rules of procedure, the Working Groups will hold plenary sessions under the schedule that is subject to consultations with the member States of the Conference on Disarmament.
