

**NON-PAPER****How can we collectively make the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) more efficient?**

We, France and Germany, believe in the importance of the work of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. In the spirit of the work initiated by H.E. Antonio Guterres, UNSG, and in support of the UN80 initiative, we want to contribute to the collective efforts aimed at improving the efficiency of the Committee's work. After consulting with some States and receiving constructive feedback, we believe that incremental yet realistic improvements can be considered.

**1/ Statements: The time dedicated for general statements could be reduced, as for statements in the different segments.** We support the decision made by the Presidency to reduce the time for national statements to 3 minutes for each cluster. We suggest to also reduce national statements to 5 minutes for general statements. In addition, we think that statements on behalf of a group of countries should not exceed 8 minutes. We encourage States to only add comments that were not already included in groups' statements. We also suggest reducing the time for the right of reply to 3 minutes for the first instance and 2 minutes for the second.

**2/ Draft resolutions: Only the submission of draft resolutions providing for new mandates or substantial updates should be encouraged.** Each year, States present around 60 to 75 resolutions, and yet more than half offer only technical updates. Whenever States foresee only technical updates, we encourage them to present their resolutions once every two or three years, which would make room for new contributions and provide time to work on substantive changes. In addition, Member States should strive whenever possible to reach consensus on their draft resolutions. In this regard, we would like to explore other options such as compiling resolutions with only technical updates and are adopted annually without a vote into a single "omnibus" resolution or voting on all of such resolutions at once.

**3/ Streamlining the number of segments.** Merging cluster 6 and 7 into one would come at no prejudice to discussions on the substantive issues covered by these two clusters, would not impact resolutions submitted but would help reduce the number of statements delivered, avoid redundancies and focus on the most important developments, therefore reinforcing the added value of the discussions.

**4/ Overall duration of the First Committee.** We support the idea of reducing the duration of the First Committee to 4 or 3 weeks, which would be enabled by implementing the steps outlined above. In that regard, we welcome the reduction of formal sessions this year and support the full implementation of this measure for the upcoming years.

The suggestions above aim at optimizing the resources of the first committee, as well as **better addressing collective understanding of disarmament topics from national constituencies**. We remain at the disposal of all delegations to further explore these ideas and their concrete implementation and recommend these actions have a trial-run as of 2026./.