

80th UNGA First Committee

Pakistan's explanation of vote, after the vote on Resolution L.58 "Report of the Conference on Disarmament"

Chair,

We have voted against OP3 of L.58 titled, "Report of the Conference on Disarmament", while voting in favour of the resolution as a whole.

OP3 calls upon the CD to adopt a Program of Work bearing in mind the 2009 Program of Work as well as other decisions and proposals.

The 2009 Program of Work focused primarily on negotiations of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices based on the Shannon mandate.

Pakistan has consistently underscored that a treaty which only results in a cut-off in the future production, while failing to dismantle thousands of tons of its stocks, will be a non-starter given that it would perpetuate asymmetries and will not make any contribution to disarmament.

The principal advocates of an FMCT are those few States for whom such a treaty would remain a cost-free endeavour, even as they continue to block progress on other core issues on the CD's agenda — including nuclear disarmament, negative security assurances, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

Chair,

The reference to the 2009 Program of Work in its current formulation was first inserted in the annual CD resolution in 2011. In subsequent years, while voicing our reservations on this reference, Pakistan joined consensus on the resolution in the interest of maintaining unity.

However, experience over the past several years has shown that the Conference has been able to undertake substantive work only when it has adopted a balanced and comprehensive approach. The work undertaken in 2018, 2022 and 2025 bears testimony to this fact.

Indeed, progress in those years was possible precisely because the Conference moved away from the narrow and outdated framework of the 2009 Programme of Work — and rightly so. This evolution reflects a shared understanding among Member States that genuine progress in the CD requires an approach that fully takes into account the legitimate security interests of all States.

Pakistan therefore reiterates that the Shannon Mandate has outlived its utility. The 2009 Programme of Work cannot serve as the basis for any future work of the Conference.

I thank you,