

Statement on Disarmament Machinery

First Committee of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Mr. Chair,

In addition to the statement by the EU, I will make the following remarks in my national capacity.

The UN disarmament machinery is an important pillar of rules-based global governance, contributing to our collective security. It is our common responsibility to ensure it remains relevant and delivers results. Finland remains committed to defending the multilateralism at all times.

We stress the importance of the First Committee, which addresses challenges to international peace and security, by advancing disarmament and non-proliferation. In line with the UN80 initiative, we see ways to improve the Committee's efficiency. We believe that incremental, yet realistic improvements should be considered.

Finland supports the non-paper submitted by France and Germany, which outlines ideas to develop the work of the Committee. The time allocated to statements could be permanently reduced, which would result in less meetings for general and cluster debates. We also support the idea of submitting only resolutions that include new mandates or important updates, as well as introducing omnibus resolutions. Merging clusters six and seven would come at no prejudice to discussions on the substantive issues. With these measures the time allocated to the work of the Committee each year could be shortened.

The Pact for the Future and the GA revitalization resolution provide a framework to reinvigorate multilateralism. We support participation of stakeholders, such as regional and intergovernmental organizations, academia, civil society, affected communities and industry in disarmament deliberations. We underline full, active and meaningful participation of youth and women.

Mr. Chair,

We regret that the Conference on Disarmament – despite some positive developments - continues to be deadlocked. We support the enlargement of the CD, which currently comprises of only 65 members. Regrettably 16 States were blocked from participating in the 2025 session as observers.

Finally, adequate financing is essential for the functioning of the UN disarmament machinery. We are deeply concerned by the financial situation across the UN system. We urge all States to pay their contributions in full, on time and without conditions, to enable the functioning of multilateral institutions and instruments.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.