Draft Elements of an UNGA60 First Committee Resolution

"Initiating work on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues"

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of resuming substantive work on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

Concerned with the protracted impasse in the Conference on Disarmament which has prevented it to date from adopting a Programme of Work,

Mindful of the need to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication between the work of the General Assembly and the Conference on Disarmament,

1. Decides, pending agreement on a Conference of Disarmament Programme of Work, to establish open-ended Ad Hoc Committees on the four priority issues as enumerated in paragraphs a-d below.

   a) The first Ad Hoc Committee shall negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. These arrangements could take the form of an internationally binding instrument.

   b) The second Ad Hoc Committee shall deal with nuclear disarmament. The Ad Hoc Committee shall exchange information and views on practical steps for progressive and systematic efforts to attain this objective and, in doing so, shall examine approaches towards potential future work of a multilateral character. In discharging its functions, the Ad Hoc Committee will take into account current efforts and existing proposals and views, as well as proposals that may emerge from the study and discussion.

   c) The third Ad Hoc Committee shall negotiate, on the basis of the report of the CD’s Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

   d) The fourth Ad Hoc Committee shall deal with the prevention of an arms race in outer space. The Ad Hoc Committee shall identify and examine, without limitation, any specific topics or proposals, which could include confidence-building or transparency measures, general principles, treaty commitments and the elaboration of a regime capable of preventing an arms race in outer space, including the possibility of negotiating relevant international legal instruments. In doing so, the Ad Hoc Committee shall take appropriate account of the need to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and the
prevention of an arms race there, while also promoting international stability and respecting the principle of undiminished security for all.

2. Decides that upon adoption of a Programme of Work in the Conference on Disarmament, the work of the relevant Ad Hoc Committees will cease and the results obtained shall be transmitted to the President of the Conference on Disarmament.

3. Decides to appoint ________, as the Chair of the first Ad Hoc Committee; ________, as the Chair of the second Ad Hoc Committee; ________, as the Chair of the third Ad Hoc Committee and ________, as the chair of the fourth Ad Hoc Committee. Each Chair will report to the 61st session of the General Assembly.

4. Decides that the work of the Ad Hoc Committees will take place in Geneva and convene for up to six one-week meetings of five sessions each.

5. Decides that, in 2006, the Ad Hoc Committees shall meet as enumerated in paragraphs a-d below.

a) The Ad Hoc Committee under 1 a) shall meet 23 January - 27 January; 20 February - 24 February; 20 March - 24 March; 29 May - 2 June; 26 June - 30 June; and 21 August - 26 August.

b) The Ad Hoc Committee under 1 b) shall meet 30 January - 3 February; 27 February - 3 March; 21 March - 31 March; 5 June - 9 June; 31 July - 4 August; 28 August - 1 September.

c) The Ad Hoc Committee under 1 c) shall meet 6 February - 10 February; 6 March - 10 March; 15 May - 19 May; 12 June - 16 June; 7 August - 11 August; 4 September - 8 September.

d) The Ad Hoc Committee under 1 d) shall meet 13 February - 17 February; 13 March - 17 March; 22 May - 26 May; 19 June - 23 June; 14 August - 18 August; 11 September - 15 September.

6. Decides that the above schedule could be subject to modification pursuant to agreement by the Chairs concerned.

7. Requests the Secretary-General to provide within existing resources the necessary support to convene the work of the four aforementioned Ad Hoc Committees.

08.10.05