Cluster 7: Disarmament Machinery

EoV on Resolution L.35 on behalf of Denmark, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Germany

As we have done in 2007 we have once again voted in favour of the resolution entitled Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament. Our decision to do so is based on the conviction that the UN disarmament machinery urgently needs political impulses towards its revitalization to allow it resume its main task: that of negotiating multilateral instruments in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

As co-sponsors of draft resolution L.34 on the Follow up to the High-level Meeting held on 24 September 2010: Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, we warmly welcome the momentum created by the High Level Meeting convened by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

In our view there exists an intrinsic relationship between the considerations on the objectives of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the suggestions made by Member States and the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the High Level Meeting as regards revitalizing the multilateral disarmament machinery. In our understanding, follow-up measures to the High-level Meeting will have to be taken into account by the open-ended working group to be established in accordance with Resolution L.35. In our view SSOD-IV and the follow-up of the HLM are not contradictory, but rather complementary efforts aimed at the same goal. We would like to stress however that a SSOD-IV cannot be an alternative, nor a reason, to postpone the work that needs to be done now, especially getting the CD back to work and the implementation of the NPT Action Plan.

Finally, we would like to emphasize that we deem the financial resources referred to in op3 to be subject to the regular budgetary procedures and scrutiny of the Advisory Committee on Administrative & Budgetary Questions and the 5th Committee and that the questions of scope and financing of this open-ended working group would need to be addressed and resolved in that context. Furthermore, we expect the UNODA Secretariat that no budget implication (PBI) for the budget 2010-11 will be brought forward in that context. In other words, that the OEWG will be financed within existing resources. Should the working group convene only in 2012, the same applies to the budget negotiations for the Biennium 2012-13 or the following.