STATEMENT BY HUNGARY

TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE THEMATIC DEBATE
UNDER

“Cluster 7: Disarmament Machinery”

Mr. Chairman

Hungary firmly believes in multilateral approach to security, disarmament and non-proliferation. Multilateralism, we believe, is the best tool of maintaining international peace and security.

At the same time, however, we see a need to overcome the crisis we have been experiencing in multilateral disarmament efforts over many years in particular as a result of the ongoing stalemate in the CD and the lack of tangible results in the UNDC. This is all the more important as we need to address major proliferation challenges. Non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control, together with confidence, transparency and reciprocity are vital aspects of collective security.

The Conference on Disarmament, in accordance with its mandate, is the body that has a crucial role to negotiate multilateral treaties. After over a decade of dead-lock its revitalization is more urgent than ever. The consensus rule in the CD must not be subject to abuse. The world cannot afford to stand still on the crucial issues of disarmament and non-proliferation, and to allow procedural issues to stymie real political progress.

Mr. Chairman,

Hungary was among the firsts to co-sponsor the resolution on the High-level Meeting on Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations called by His Excellency the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon during the 65th Session of the General Assembly. Hungary was also one of the signatories of the letter, sent by Austria that was submitted on April 18, 2011 to the UN Secretary General and the President of the General Assembly on behalf of 49 states asking to convene a General Assembly plenary debate on the revitalization of the CD. Hungary also fully subscribes to the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union on the issue of revitalization at the General Assembly debate held from 27 to 29 July, 2011.
The long-term deadlock of core disarmament fora such as the CD poses a serious problem. Therefore, we think that UN Member States should consider options to overcome the dead-lock in the CD. In this context Hungary notes with appreciation the growing number of initiatives and proposals which aim at finding way out from the dead-lock of the work of the disarmament machinery. Our conviction is that the CD needs to resume its work without delay. We urgently need multilateral progress on the crucial issues that have been on our agenda for such a long time.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

New York, October 25\textsuperscript{th}, 2011.