

## **DRAFT LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE 59<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Excellency,

I have the honor to forward herewith a report on action taken by the First Committee pursuant to Annex C, paragraph 3 of Resolution 53/316, on "Further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly".

### **Biennialization**

I wish to report that the Committee currently considers the following agenda items or sub-items on a biennial basis:

- African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)
- Consolidation of the regime established established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
- Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons
- Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace
- Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures
- Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes
- Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security
- United Nations disarmament fellowship, training, and advisory services
- Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures
- Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol
- Disarmament and non-proliferation education
- United Nations Disarmament Information Programme
- Transparency in armaments
- Maintenance of international security -- good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

### **Triennialization**

The Committee also considers the following agenda items or sub-items on a triennial basis:

- Question of Antarctica
- Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament

## Clustering

The Committee gave special attention to the rationalization of its agenda and decided to recommend the ordering of the items and sub-items allocated to it in seven clusters or broad topic areas, which include the sub-items of the following items: (65) General and Complete Disarmament (\*), (66) Review and Implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (\*\*), (67) Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its Tenth Special Session (\*\*\*), and (57) Reduction of Military Budgets (\*\*\*\*).

### I. Nuclear weapons

- Nuclear disarmament\*
- Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: a new agenda\*
- Reducing nuclear danger\*
- United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament\*
- Convention on the Prohibition of Use of Nuclear Weapons\*
- Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*\*
- Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework\*
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (71)
- Notification of Nuclear Tests\*
- Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (63)
- Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons\*
- The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (68)
- Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free-zone in the region of the Middle East (62)
- Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free-zone in Central Asia\*
- African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty
- Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
- Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas\*
- Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status\*
- Hague Code of Conduct against ballistic missile proliferation\*
- Missiles\*

### II. Other Weapons of Mass Destruction

- Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol\*

- Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical weapons and on their Destruction\*
- Convention of the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on their Destruction (72)
- Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction\*
- Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament

### **III. Outer space (disarmament aspects)**

- Prevention of an arms race in outer space (64)

### **IV. Conventional weapons**

- Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus \*
- Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms\*  
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (69)
- The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects\*
- Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them\*
- Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction\*
- Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defense systems\*

### **V. Regional disarmament and security**

- Regional disarmament\*
- Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels\*
- Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context\*
- Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa \*\*
- Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe (58)
- Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (70)
- Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace
- Question of Antarctica

### **VI. Other disarmament measures and international security**

- Relationship between disarmament and development\*

- Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation\*
- Disarmament and non-proliferation education\*
- Reduction of military budgets\*\*\*\*
- Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures\*\*\*\*
- Transparency in armaments\*
- Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification (59)
- Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements\*
- Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (60)
- Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (61)
- Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof \*
- National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology\*
- Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control\*
- Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures\*
- United Nations Disarmament Information Programme\*\*
- Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes\*\*
- Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

### Disarmament machinery

- Improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee\*
- United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services\*\*
- United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean\*\*
- United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa\*\*
- United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific\*\*
- United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament\*\*
- Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters\*\*\*
- United Nations Institute for Disarmament and Research\*\*\*
- Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament\*
- Report of the Conference on Disarmament\*\*\*
- Report of the Disarmament Commission\*\*\*