

Argentina
November 1st, 2005

Proposal for the rationalization of First Committee Agenda
on the basis of the letter by the Chairman of the First Committee
of the 59th UNGA, dated November 5th, 2004.

1) The First Committee agrees to inscribe as items in the UNGA's Agenda, the seven clusters or broad topic areas identified in the letter by the Chairman of the First Committee of the 59th UNGA, dated November 5th, 2004 (Nuclear Disarmament; Other Weapons of Mass Destruction; Outer Space (disarmament aspects); Conventional Weapons; Regional disarmament and Security; Other disarmament measures and international security; Disarmament Machinery)

2) All the current items become sub-items and the current sub-items remain as such and are organized tentatively –unless the main sponsor requests otherwise- as appear in the above mentioned letter.

3) Currently, there are four items that provide the possibility for presenting resolutions without necessarily inscribe the issue in the agenda. These are the following: "General and Complete Disarmament", "Review and Implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly"; "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its Tenth Special Session"; and "Reduction of Military Budgets".

In practice, only "General and Complete Disarmament" has been used for that purpose. Inscribing the clusters or broad topic areas as items in the agenda will not only ensure this possibility but also have a more rationalized agenda.

4) With a view not to loose "General and Complete Disarmament", this current item may become, with the consent of the original main sponsor, a sub-item under "Other disarmament measures and international security".

5) Regarding the items "Review and Implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly" and "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its Tenth Special Session", the current sub-items under them may include a foot-note with reference to the original items, since both refer to G.A. Sessions – (1) and (2) respectively-.

Finally, "Reduction of Military Budgets" is already also a sub-item, so in order to avoid duplication, with the consent of the main sponsor, there is no need to have it twice.

In accordance with these suggestions, the First Committee's Agenda might look as follows:

Nuclear Weapons

- a) Nuclear disarmament
- b) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: a new agenda
- c) Reducing nuclear danger
- d) United Nations Conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament
- e) Convention on the Prohibition of Use of Nuclear Weapons
- f) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*
- g) Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework
- h) Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
- i) Notification of Nuclear Tests
- j) Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons
- k) Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons
- l) The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East
- m) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East
- n) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia
- o) African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty
- p) Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
- q) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas
- r) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status
- s) Hague Code of Conduct against ballistic missile proliferation
- t) Missiles

Other Weapons of Mass Destruction

- a) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol
- b) Implementation of the Convention on the prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical weapons and on their Destruction
- c) Convention of the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on their Destruction
- d) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction
- e) 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

Outer space (disarmament aspects)

- a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Conventional weapons

- a) Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus
- b) 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
- c) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects
- d) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them
- e) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction
- f) Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defense systems

Regional disarmament and security

- a) Regional disarmament
- b) Conventional arms control at the regional and sub-regional levels
- c) Confidence-building measures in the regional and sub-regional context
- d) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa(1)
- e) Maintenance of international security –good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe
- f) Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region
- g) Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

Other disarmament measures and international security

- a) Relationship between disarmament and development
- b) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation
- c) Disarmament and non-proliferation education
- d) Reduction of military budgets
- e) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures
- f) Transparency in armaments
- g) Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification
- h) Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements
- i) Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security
- j) Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament
- k) 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
- l) National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology
- m) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

- n) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures
- o) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (1)
- p) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes (1)
- q) Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security
- r) Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms
- s) Question of Antarctica
- t) General and Complete Disarmament

Disarmament machinery

- a) Improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee
- b) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services(1)
- c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (1)
- d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa(1)
- e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (1)
- f) United Nations regional centers for peace and disarmament (1)
- g) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (2)
- h) United Nations Institute for Disarmament and Research (2)
- i) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament
- j) Report of the Conference on Disarmament (2)
- k) Report of the Disarmament Commission (2)