

UK EXPLANATION OF VOTE

L10 – The Relationship Between Disarmament and Development

The United Kingdom is pleased to be able to support L10, 'The relationship between disarmament and development'.

We welcome the mainstreaming of disarmament issues in development policy. This is particularly important in the field of conventional weapons, small arms and light weapons (SALW) and disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR).

The UK does not believe, however, that there is an automatic link between disarmament and development. Rather, a complex relationship exists between the two. Unfortunately, resolution L10 does not explain fully the complexity of this relationship. As we have explained previously, the UK considers that the report of the Group of Governmental Experts did not give sufficient credit to unilateral, bilateral and multilateral actions in disarmament and non-proliferation.

Finally, the UK notes that while it would be desirable to share information about resources made available for development through the implementation of disarmament and arms control agreements, in practice it is not possible to identify a direct relationship between different sources of funding. We will, however, continue to make available information on our increasing levels of development assistance through relevant fora.

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