



Statement by H.E. Elisabet Borsuin Bonnier
Ambassador of Sweden
in her capacity of
President of the Conference on Disarmament
14 June, 2007

We have now been spending some time in informal open-ended presidential consultations to explore whether we will be able to find a way to move forward towards a programme of work for the remaining part of this session on the basis of the Presidential Draft Decision contained in document CD/2007/L.1 – or not.

As a result of these consultations I am now submitting to you a Complementary Presidential Statement, document CD/2007/CRP.5, entitled Complementary Presidential Statement reflecting an understanding of the Conference on the implementation of CD/2007/L.1. It serves to add clarity to questions raised by delegations as regards L.1.

To my mind, each of the two documents is very clear in its respective message. Nevertheless, some of you have repeatedly stressed that you wish to establish even further clarity by an explicit expression of the relationship between the two documents. For others it is equally important that this be done without modification of the documents themselves. To square this circle I am today suggesting a very short third document. It brings the two documents together in a very simple draft decision by the Conference. If accepted, it would mark the end of a decade long stalemate and the beginning of the kind of work this Conference was established to pursue.

I do not expect your immediate reactions today. But I do ask you to seriously consider what you now have before you. We all know that it does not fully meet all the wishes of any delegation. But it does represent where we stand after a long process of collective efforts and compromises. The remaining part of the current session is getting shorter by the day. But we still have a chance to begin our work. I for my part can now only hope that you are ready to do what is do-able at this point in time: To begin with no doors to the future closed.