

Chairman's Non-paper

Elements of the Declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade

Introduction

- Taking note of the positive developments as well as enduring challenges in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, Member States underscore that disarmament remains a central goal of the United Nations.
- Recently, there seems to be a change in perceptions concerning the urgency for multilateral progress in nuclear disarmament – signs of a revival, with nuclear-weapon States renewing their commitment to the elimination of such weapons.
- Conventional weapons, especially small arms and light weapons (SALW), as well as landmines and cluster munitions, continue to receive increased attention in view of the havoc that these weapons are inflicting on peoples' daily lives particularly in conflict ridden regions.
- Need to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of disarmament and non-proliferation.
- Need to respond to the growing demands from within the international community and civil society in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons.
- Need to reaffirm and strengthen efforts to advance the goal of general and complete disarmament, with parallel efforts to eliminate weapons of mass destruction and to limit or reduce conventional armaments and military expenditures worldwide.
- Member States resolve to exert concerted efforts to make progress toward the following shared goals:

In the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons

- To reaffirm and mobilize efforts to translate the vision of a world free of nuclear weapons and other WMD into reality.
- Re-energize simultaneous action on both disarmament and non-proliferation – the two objectives are inextricably linked and mutually reinforcing.
- To strengthen and consolidate multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects.
- Need for a renewed commitment of all nuclear-weapon States to the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

- The verification of nuclear disarmament, transparency and irreversibility – steps towards the final goal of the elimination of all nuclear weapons.
- To strengthen the existing nuclear non-proliferation regime by universalizing the Non-Proliferation Treaty and reinforcing the IAEA safeguards system through the universal implementation of its Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement and Additional Protocol.
- To promote and enhance international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, matched with appropriate safeguards.
- To consider the negotiation of a Nuclear Weapons Convention leading to the verifiable elimination of nuclear weapons.
- To ensure the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) as soon as possible.
- To complete negotiations on a verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.
- To reinforce a global norm against the use of nuclear weapons by adopting effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
- To strengthen existing nuclear-weapon-free zones and effectively promote the establishment of new such zones, including in the Middle East.
- To establish an effective international regime to prevent and combat nuclear and other WMD terrorism by universalizing the existing legal instruments and adopting multilaterally negotiated new preventive measures.
- To ensure the full and effective implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004).
- To examine the existing legal regime governing outer space and adopt effective international arrangements.
- To continue international efforts within the UN to deal with the increasingly complex issue of missiles.
- To promote full and effective implementation of, as well as universal adherence to the Biological Weapons Convention.
- To continue to advance the fundamental goals of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

- To encourage dialogue on other issues that have a direct bearing on international peace and security such as emerging technologies with military applications.

In the conventional field,

- To engage in strong and sustained efforts to address the challenges posed by the destabilizing accumulation of arms, including illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW).
- To strengthen the implementation of the UN Programme of Action on the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects, including through international assistance and cooperation.
- To strengthen the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (International Tracing Instrument) through continued cooperation on capacity-building and other measures.
- To enhance the effectiveness of the UN Firearms Protocol.
- To seek enhanced levels of transparency in armaments and military expenditures. (Promotion of transparency, based on the principle of undiminished security for all, regional cooperation remains crucial in that regard)
- To pursue significant progress on practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons.
- To promote the implementation of the Mine Ban Convention, including actively supporting activities relating to mine action such as mine clearance and victim assistance.
- To continue to address the negative humanitarian impact of cluster munitions.
- To strengthen norms for the effective regulation of the international arms trade.

Other issues

- The United Nations has a central role and primary responsibility in the sphere of disarmament and non-proliferation and must continue to foster multilateral co-operation for disarmament, wherein bilateral and regional efforts can be complementary and mutually supportive, in attaining the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.
- To reinforce the role played by the multilateral disarmament machinery in meeting the above-mentioned objectives.

- To promote cooperation, assistance and capacity building to Member States and regions/sub-regions in order to contribute to the above-mentioned objectives.
- To address the ends/means gap between rising disarmament and non-proliferation demands and adequacy of resources allocated to implement mandates at a multilateral level.
- To stress the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and strive to ensure the least diversion of the world's human and economic resources for armaments as envisaged in the UN Charter; promote the unimpeded development of societies, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- To promote regional approaches to disarmament, in cooperation with regional organizations and civil society, including through the UN Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament by building upon United Nations' achievements in this field.
- To re-affirm the positive role that an informed public can play in the process of disarmament by promoting a constructive and realistic dialogue on issues related to disarmament (development and promotion of disarmament education programmes).