

**NAM's view on the improving of
the methods of work of the UNDC**

1. The NAM is of the view that multilateral disarmament machinery needs to be strengthened and revitalized. Multilateral forums, such as the UNDC, need to be improved and utilized more effectively to implement the Programme of Action contained in the Final Document of the SSOD-I and to strengthen the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. The NAM has been contributing positively to advance this objective within the UN General Assembly framework and in particular within the context of the First Committee.
2. The NAM emphasizes that improving the methods of work of the UNDC should be undertaken within the overall process of the revitalization of the General Assembly in accordance with, particularly, resolutions 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 28 June 2004, and 59/313 of 12 September 2005.
3. The NAM reaffirms the importance of the UNDC as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and as a deliberative body to consider and make recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament to the General Assembly. The NAM would like to further reaffirm that the General Assembly has been and should continue to remain the principal organ of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and in the implementation of disarmament measures.
4. The NAM believes that provisions contained in Decision 52/492, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 1998 to enhance the efficient functioning of the UNDC, remain relevant. We are of the view, among others, that (i) the substantive agenda of the Commission should comprise two agenda items per year from the whole range of disarmament issues, including one on nuclear disarmament; (ii) the annual substantive sessions of the Commission should last for three weeks and (iii) the substantive agenda items should be considered for three years.
5. The NAM underscores the importance of the Commission functioning under the rules of procedure of the General Assembly with such modifications as the Commission may deem necessary, and make every effort to ensure that, in so far as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus.
6. The NAM believes that the main difficulties confronting the UNDC are not attributable primarily to the ineffectiveness of its methods of work, but to the stalemate in various disarmament forums resulting from the lack of political will of some Member States to move forward on matters related to nuclear disarmament. How to mobilize the political will is and should be a more urgent challenge as well as priority for us all.
7. Finally, The NAM remains open to any proposal to revitalize, rationalize or streamline the work of the UNDC as an initial step in the direction of reviewing the overall disarmament machinery for the achievement of the principles and priorities contained in the Final Document of SSOD I.