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Programme planning**Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007****Part two: biennial programme plan****Programme 3****Disarmament****Contents**

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* A/59/50 and Corr.1.

Overall orientation

3.1 General and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control remains the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament. The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States. The United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in this area.

3.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). The programme is also guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/5) and relevant resolutions of the Security Council addressing disarmament issues. Weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be of primary concern to the Organization. Conventional disarmament, especially with regard to major weapons systems, small arms and light weapons and landmines, has received growing attention from the international community over the last few years. This momentum is likely to expand in the forthcoming biennium.

3.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Department for Disarmament Affairs. The Department's strategy for implementing the programme is based on its role and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, disarmament measures at all levels. The Department will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament. Support will be given to efforts of Member States in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism. The Department will enhance its efforts aimed at promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, as well as practical disarmament measures. It will promote transparency, based on the principle of undiminished security for all, and confidence-building measures in the field of disarmament. It will continue to be a source of impartial and factual information on disarmament and security-related matters for Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations and will expand its educational outreach programmes. Through its regional centres for peace and disarmament, the Department will assist Member States in promoting regional approaches to disarmament and security. It will also continue to contribute to efforts to enhance disarmament expertise in Member States, particularly in developing countries.

3.4 The Department will seek to achieve the objectives of the programme by facilitating the process of multilateral deliberation and negotiation. This will include providing substantive organizational support to the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament and its subsidiary bodies, review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral disarmament agreements, as well as to expert groups mandated by the General Assembly. This will also include monitoring and assessing current and future trends in the field of disarmament and international security.

3.5 Training and advisory services will continue to be provided, through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to Member States, in particular developing countries, to enable them to enhance their expertise in disarmament, so that they may participate more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums.

3.6 Gender mainstreaming will continue to be built into the activities of the programme through the implementation of a gender plan of action aimed at raising awareness, commitment and capacity for gender mainstreaming in disarmament affairs.

Subprogramme 1

Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Objective of the Organization: To foster multilateral negotiations and deliberations on arms limitation and disarmament agreements as well as the compliance with, and universality of, the existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced quality of organizational and substantive services provided to the Conference on Disarmament and to the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements	(a) A record of appreciation for the organizational and substantive services provided
(b) Enhanced assistance in the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements	(b) A record of appreciation for the assistance in the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conference and meetings of States parties
(c) (i) Increased support for the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme (ii) Improved gender balance in applications for the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme	(c) (i) Increase in the percentage of States sponsoring the relevant draft resolution (ii) Increase in the percentage of female participants in the programme

Strategy

3.7 The subprogramme is implemented by the Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support Branch at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued through:

(a) Providing organizational and substantive support as well as sound advice on procedures and practices to the Conference on Disarmament and to conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements;

(b) Assisting Member States in consensus-building by providing timely and comprehensive political analyses and policy options;

(c) Supporting the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements;

(d) Assisting the Secretary-General of the Conference and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as presidents and officers of the conferences and meetings in the performance of their functions;

(e) Providing specialized training in the field of arms limitation and disarmament to Member States, in particular developing countries, through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme; and promoting the gender-balanced participation in the programme.

Subprogramme 2

Weapons of mass destruction

Objective of the Organization: To promote and support disarmament efforts in the area of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as their delivery systems and to contribute to the strengthening and consolidation of existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced process of deliberations, negotiations and consensus-building on disarmament issues relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as their delivery systems, by Member States and States parties and other interested States, at their request	(a) A record of appreciation for the substantive and organizational support provided in the conduct of meetings of Member States, and of States parties and other interested States, at their request
(b) Enhanced use by Member States of information on issues relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, including new trends and developments, as well as on the potential threat of use of weapons of mass destruction and related materials in terrorist acts	(b) (i) An increase in the number of requests to the Branch for background information, policy and analytical advice (ii) An increase in the number of visits (page views) to the Branch's web page
(c) Greater awareness by Member States of the need for gender mainstreaming in the substance and activities of the subprogramme	(c) Increase in the percentage of female representation in governmental expert panels/groups mandated by the General Assembly and in events organized by the Branch

Strategy

3.8 The subprogramme is implemented by the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued through:

(a) Assisting and supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the area of weapons of mass destruction and on their delivery systems, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their endeavours in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, including global efforts against terrorism;

(b) Assisting and supporting States parties and other interested States, at their request, in their efforts to achieve the full implementation and universalization of multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons;

(c) Enhancing cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, as well as expanding interaction with civil society, in particular research and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations working in the area of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems;

(d) Monitoring and assessing current and future trends in the area of weapons of mass destruction with a view to achieving an improved capacity to provide timely and accurate information and analyses;

(e) Promoting the inclusion of a gender perspective in the substance and activities of the subprogramme, as appropriate.

Subprogramme 3

Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Objective of the Organization: To enhance mutual confidence among States in the field of conventional armaments and to reduce the threat to international peace and security posed by the excessive accumulations and misuse of such armaments, including small arms and light weapons.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased international action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons	(a) An increase in the number of initiatives undertaken at the global, regional and national levels to implement the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons
(b) High-level of participation by Member States in United Nations instruments on confidence-building measures in military and security matters and further development of the scope of such instruments	(b) (i) Maintenance of the percentage of participation by States in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms; and expansion of the scope of the Register (ii) Maintenance of the percentage of participation by States in the United Nations standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures
(c) Enhanced international dialogue, common understanding and consensus-building on conventional disarmament issues	(c) New recommendations by and additional agreements among Member States on matters related to conventional disarmament
(d) Greater awareness by Member States of the need for gender mainstreaming in the substance and activities of the subprogramme	(d) An increase in the percentage of female representation in governmental expert panels/groups mandated by the General Assembly and in events organized by the Branch

Strategy

3.9 The subprogramme is implemented by the Conventional Arms Branch (including practical disarmament measures). The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued through:

- (a) Supporting the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;
- (b) Ensuring comprehensive, coordinated and coherent efforts of the United Nations system to address the challenges posed by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons by maximizing the effectiveness of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism;
- (c) Facilitating the processes of deliberation, negotiation and consensus-building in the field of conventional arms;
- (d) Supporting the adoption and implementation of confidence-building measures among interested Member States;

(e) Monitoring trends in military expenditures and encouraging Member States to report annually to the United Nations standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures;

(f) Supporting the continued operation and further development of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and facilitating progress towards universal participation;

(g) Identifying emerging issues and challenges in the field of conventional arms control and analysing their impact on international peace and security;

(h) Promoting the inclusion of a gender perspective into the substance and activities of the subprogramme, as appropriate.

Subprogramme 4

Monitoring, database and information

Objective of the Organization: To increase understanding, awareness and knowledge of disarmament issues and activities, including deliberations and negotiations in the field of disarmament.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased utilization of information materials of the Department	(a) (i) A record of opinions expressed by end-users on informational materials and/or publications that they considered useful in carrying out their work (ii) Number of requests for briefings (iii) Number of visits (page views) to the Department's web site
(b) Implementation of the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education	(b) Number of activities at the national/regional level implementing the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education
(c) Incorporation of gender perspectives in multilateral disarmament issues	(c) Increase in the percentage of female members on the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

Strategy

3.10 The subprogramme is implemented by the Monitoring, Database and Information Branch. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued through:

(a) Continuing to undertake outreach activities covering all aspects of disarmament;

(b) Enhancing the work of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(c) Continuing to carry out information and education activities in cooperation with other relevant departments within the United Nations Secretariat,

notably the Department of Public Information, as well as with civil society organizations, especially non-governmental and academic organizations;

(d) Increasing collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(e) Devoting special focus to the promotion and implementation of the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;

(f) Increasingly exploiting the electronic medium for dissemination and exchange of information, in particular by developing specialized web pages for end-users, including: delegations; representatives of intergovernmental organizations and institutions; specialized agencies of the United Nations system; researchers and educators; civil society, especially representatives of non-governmental organizations; the media; and the general public;

(g) Promoting the inclusion of gender perspective into the substance and activities of the subprogramme, as appropriate.

Subprogramme 5

Regional disarmament

Objective of the Organization: To foster initiatives and efforts in support of regional and subregional disarmament.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased opportunities for regional cooperation among States and regional and subregional organizations in matters related to disarmament and international security issues	(a) Number of activities undertaken at the national, subregional and regional levels.
(b) Greater cooperation among national, regional and subregional entities within each region and subregion in the areas of disarmament and international security	(b) (i) Number of national, regional and subregional entities participating in events organized by the Regional Branch and the regional centres; (ii) Number of requests for collaboration in organizing events at the regional and subregional levels
(c) Increased coordination and collaboration on landmines issues at the regional and subregional levels;	(c) (i) Number of activities concerning landmines issues organized at the regional and subregional levels; (ii) Increase in the number of requests for participation by the Regional Branch and the Regional Centres concerning landmines issues
(d) Greater awareness of the need to mainstream a gender perspective into disarmament-related undertakings at the regional and subregional levels	(d) Number of regional and subregional projects mainstreaming a gender perspective

Strategy

3.11 The subprogramme is implemented by the Regional Branch and the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued through:

- (a) Promoting regional cooperation among States and regional and subregional organizations in matters related to disarmament and international security issues;
- (b) Promoting understanding of regional and subregional disarmament;
- (c) Providing advice, information and assistance to Member States, at their request, as well as to regional organizations and arrangements and non-governmental organizations;
- (d) Supporting national, regional and subregional implementation of existing multilateral disarmament instruments;
- (e) Promoting advocacy and supporting capacity-building in all areas of disarmament at the regional and subregional levels;
- (f) Raising awareness and supporting capacity-building for gender mainstreaming in disarmament and international security.

Legislative mandates

Programme 3 Disarmament

General Assembly resolutions

- S-10/2 Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (first special session on disarmament 1978)
- 38/183 O Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies
- 42/38 C Notification of nuclear tests
- 44/116 O Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof
- 45/62 G Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
- 47/54 G Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session
- 56/15 Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification
- 56/24 O General and complete disarmament: 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee

- 57/50 Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons
- 57/60 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education
- 57/62 Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol
- 57/65 Relationship between disarmament and development
- 57/67 Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status
- 57/69 Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia
- 57/81 Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures
- 57/90 United Nations Disarmament Information Programme
- 58/28 Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures
- 58/29 Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace
- 58/30 African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty)
- 58/31 Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
- 58/32 Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security
- 58/34 Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East
- 58/35 Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons
- 58/36 Prevention of an arms race in outer space
- 58/37 Missiles
- 58/38 Regional disarmament
- 58/39 Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels
- 58/40 Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes
- 58/42 National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology
- 58/43 Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context
- 58/44 Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation
- 58/45 Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control
- 58/46 Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*
- 58/47 Reducing nuclear danger

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- 58/48 Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction
 - 58/49 Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas
 - 58/50 Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons
 - 58/51 Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda
 - 58/52 Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction
 - 58/53 Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction
 - 58/54 Transparency in armaments
 - 58/55 Promotion at the regional level in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe of the United Nations programme of action on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects
 - 58/56 Nuclear disarmament
 - 58/57 The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (paras. 1 and 2)
 - 58/58 Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them
 - 58/59 A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons
 - 58/60 United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
 - 58/61 United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa
 - 58/62 United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific
 - 58/63 United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament
 - 58/64 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons
 - 58/65 Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa
 - 58/66 Report of the Conference on Disarmament
 - 58/67 Report of the Disarmament Commission
 - 58/68 The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East
 - 58/69 Convention on the Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

- 58/70 Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region
- 58/71 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
- 58/72 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction
- 58/241 The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

General Assembly decisions

- 58/517 United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear danger in the context of nuclear disarmament
-