

Conference on Disarmament

10 September 2014

English

Final record of the one thousand three hundred and twenty-ninth plenary meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 10 September 2014, at 3.05 p.m.

President: Mr. Mazlan Muhammad.....(Malaysia)

The President: I call to order the 1329th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament.

Distinguished colleagues, as you all know, yesterday morning we convened the third informal plenary meeting of the Conference to consider the amendments to the draft report of the Conference on Disarmament to the General Assembly of the United Nations. After a thorough discussion assisted by a spirit of compromise, we managed to adopt all those amendments, and they have now been incorporated into the main draft and have been circulated by the secretariat in document CD/WP.581/Rev.1. This document has been placed in the pigeonholes of your delegations and is also available on the table. The document is available only in English at the moment and reflects the changes that were agreed upon yesterday morning. It will, of course, be issued as an official document of the Conference.

So what is left for us to do is to formally adopt this report. However, before we do so, would any delegation like to take the floor? I give the floor to Ambassador Maung Wai of Myanmar.

Mr. Wai (Myanmar): Mr. President, I asked for the floor in order to deliver a statement but wish to do so only after the adoption of the report.

The President: I now recognize the representative of Egypt.

Mr. Gamal M.A. Mohamed (Egypt): As this is my first thematic intervention in the Conference on Disarmament, I would like first to thank you, Mr. President, for your efforts and for the distinguished manner in which you have guided our work.

I would like to refer to what the Ambassador of the United Kingdom said yesterday about the position of Egypt vis-à-vis document CD/1299. I believe my country's position is clear, and the Egyptian Ambassador reiterated it yesterday in his statement before the plenary: "We seek that any proposed programme of work would contain a mandate on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other explosive devices and would clearly indicate that it would be dealing with stocks of already existing production of fissile material as well as future production." We were surprised by what was said by the Ambassador of the United Kingdom, as the position of Egypt has frequently and consistently been expressed in Conference on Disarmament records, and a thorough examination of those records will highlight this fact.

The President: I thank you for your statement. I now recognize the representative of the Russian Federation.

Mr. Deyneko (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): Mr. President, allow me to take this opportunity to thank all the delegations for their productive and constructive work on the draft report, which I hope we will adopt today by consensus. I would like to express my special gratitude to you, Mr. President, for your competent and skilful assistance in this process, and I also thank the colleagues from the secretariat and all those who, sacrificing personal time, spared no effort to ensure this success. I hope that this joint achievement will be held up as a good example of how delegations and the Conference on Disarmament as a whole can seek out and jointly find solutions to difficult issues.

The President: I thank you for the kind words addressed to me. Does any other delegation wish to take the floor? I see none.

In that case, I will now proceed with a section-by-section reading of the report for its final adoption.

Section I: Introduction. Is the Conference in a position to adopt this section, that is, page 3?

It was so decided.

The President: Section II: Organization of work of the Conference, pages 3 to 8. Is the Conference in a position to adopt this section?

It was so decided.

The President: Section III: Substantive work of the Conference during its 2014 session, pages 8 to the end. Is the Conference in a position to adopt this section?

It was so decided.

The President: Congratulations, the report of the Conference on Disarmament to the United Nations General Assembly is adopted.

I will now turn to the list of speakers for today. I give the floor to Ambassador Maung Wai of Myanmar.

Mr. Wai (Myanmar): My delegation would like to congratulate you, Mr. President, for your stewardship leading up to the successful adoption of the report of the Conference on Disarmament to the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. My appreciation and admiration also go to your predecessors this year for their active and constructive contribution to the work of the Conference. It has been a great pleasure and honour for my delegation and, I think, for all of us here in the Conference to work with you throughout your presidency.

Nuclear disarmament remains the highest priority on my country's disarmament agenda. The continued presence of nuclear weapons, not to mention their deployment, stands as one of the security challenges posing the greatest threat to the very existence of humankind. They can be triggered at any time, by miscalculation, by mistake or by the wrong hands. This serious threat infringes on the security of all nations at all times. As such, the only absolute guarantee against a nuclear catastrophe is the complete and total elimination of nuclear weapons.

With this in mind, Myanmar will again be tabling a draft resolution on nuclear disarmament in the First Committee at the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly. This is an annual resolution that is co-sponsored by the member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and other like-minded countries. This resolution reflects, among other things, interim measures and steps to be taken by nuclear-weapon States, as well as various multilateral approaches to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. My delegation firmly believes that our resolution will continue to enjoy the support of the States Members of the United Nations.

The President: I thank Ambassador Maung Wai for the kind words addressed to me. I now give the floor to Ambassador Zamir Akram of Pakistan.

Mr. Akram (Pakistan): I simply want to take this opportunity, Mr. President, to express my deep appreciation for the manner in which you and your delegation have conducted your presidency and especially the task of concluding our report for the year. I have been around for quite some time in the Conference on Disarmament, and I can safely say that this has been the smoothest, most effective way of reaching consensus on our report. This has everything to do with you and your ability to build consensus and lead us all to convergence, and I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you and congratulate you on your work.

The President: Thank you, and thank you for the last minute favour you gave me yesterday. Does any other delegation wish to take the floor? It seems not.

This concludes our business for today and the 2014 session of the Conference on Disarmament.

Allow me to take this opportunity to update you on the preparation of the draft General Assembly resolution on the report of the Conference on Disarmament. As you are aware, in my capacity as President of the Conference, I will be presenting the resolution on the report of the Conference at the upcoming session of the First Committee in New York. By next week, we will circulate a first draft of the resolution for your consideration. It is my intention to hold informal sessions to negotiate this draft in the coming weeks, before delegations depart for the First Committee in New York.

It is my sincere hope that the constructive spirit and flexibility that has been shown by delegations during the last few weeks will carry over into the negotiations on the draft resolution. As this is the final plenary session of my presidency, allow me to take this

opportunity to thank all delegations for their assistance and the cooperation extended to my presidency, including during the preparation of the report to the General Assembly of the United Nations. I thank all of you for the constructive spirit and flexibility shown during the consultations. I would also like to thank the other Presidents of the 2014 session for their dedication and collaboration during the entire session. Let me also thank the Acting Secretary-General, the secretariat, all the interpreters and the conference officers for their hard work and dedication throughout my presidency. I wish you all the very best in the work that lies ahead. This meeting is adjourned.

The meeting rose at 3.15 p.m.