



Report of the Conference on Disarmament

2010 session

General Assembly
Official Records
Sixty-fifth Session
Supplement No. 27

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Chapter I

Introduction

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session the annual report on its 2010 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

Chapter II

Organization of the work of the Conference

A. 2010 session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 18 January to 26 March, 31 May to 16 July and 9 August to 24 September 2010. During this period, the Conference held 35 formal plenary meetings, at which member States as well as non-member States invited to participate in the discussions outlined their views and recommendations on the various questions before the Conference.

3. The Conference also held 34 informal plenary meetings on its agenda items, programme of work, organization and procedures, as well as on other matters.

4. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the following member States successively assumed the Presidency of the Conference: Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria and Cameroon.

5. At the inaugural meeting of the 2010 session, on 19 January, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, delivered a statement through a video, in which he urged the Conference to recognize the importance of achieving progress in disarmament and non-proliferation in 2010 and expressed the hope that it would agree on a programme of work as soon as possible, hopefully during the first part of its session (CD/PV.1163).

6. In addition, upon the joint invitation of the President of the Conference, Ambassador Mohammed Abdul Hannan (Bangladesh) and the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze, the following dignitaries addressed the Conference on Disarmament: Ms. Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh (CD/PV.1164), Mr. Vincenzo Scotti, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy (CD/PV.1167), Mr. Igor Petrishenko, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus (CD/PV.1169), Mr. Cho Hyun, Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea (CD/PV.1172), Mr. Micheál Martin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland (CD/PV.1173), Mr. Bogdan Aurescu, State Secretary for Strategic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania (CD/PV.1174), Ms. Chinami Nishimura, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan (CD/PV.1175), Mr. Kanat Saudabayev, Secretary of State-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan (CD/PV.1176), Ms. Rose Gottemoeller, Head of delegation of the United States of America and Mr. Anatoly Antonov, Head of delegation of the Russian Federation on strategic arms reductions negotiations (CD/PV.1181), Mr. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (CD/PV.1184), Mr. Celso Amorim, Minister of External Relations of Brazil (CD/PV.1185), Mr. Nickolay Mladenov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria (CD/PV.1190), Mr. Henry Eyebe Ayissi, Minister of External Relations of Cameroon (CD/PV.1195) and Mr. Rezlan Ishar Jenie, Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia (CD/PV.1195).

7. In their addresses, these dignitaries, recognizing the importance of the Conference as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, addressed a wide range of issues in the area of disarmament and international security. They

welcomed the adoption by consensus of the programme of work for the 2009 session, but expressed concerns about the continuing stalemate in the Conference, despite the current favourable international environment for multilateral disarmament. They also welcomed the concerted efforts by the Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament and expressed their support for further efforts by the Conference to reach consensus on starting multilateral negotiations. The Conference welcomed their addresses as expressions of support for its endeavours as the single multilateral negotiation forum in the field of disarmament.

8. Members of the Conference on Disarmament expressed their views on invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the States Members of the United Nations to the High-level Meeting on Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations, to take place on 24 September 2010 in New York. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

9. The following documents dealing with the issue of the High-level Meeting on 24 September 2010 were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1894, entitled “Islamic Republic of Iran. Working paper. The position paper of the G-21 on the High-level Meeting on ‘Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations’”;

(b) CD/1897, entitled “Italy. Working paper. Revitalizing the Conference on Disarmament”;

(c) CD/1898, entitled “United States of America. Working paper. The views of the United States of America on the Secretary-General’s High-level Meeting on ‘Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations’ to be held on 24 September 2010”.

10. The substantive secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament was composed as follows: Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; Mr. Jarmo Sareva, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Director of the Geneva Branch, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs; and Mr. Valère Mantels, Senior Political Affairs Officer and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament.

B. Participants in the work of the Conference

11. The representatives of the following 65 member States participated in the work of the Conference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

C. Attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference

12. In accordance with the rules of procedure and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 39 States not members of the Conference. Accordingly, the Conference invited the following non-member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Holy See, Iceland, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Nepal, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay.

13. The following documents dealing with the issue of attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1882, entitled "Letter dated 20 January 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the requests for participation in the work of the Conference during 2010 from non-member States";

(b) CD/1885, entitled "Letter dated 25 January 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the position of Cyprus on the issue raised in document CD/1882 dated 21 January 2010".

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2010 session

14. At its 1164th plenary meeting, on 26 January 2010, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda submitted by the President of the Conference, Ambassador Mohammed Abdul Hannan of Bangladesh, in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure was reviewed, the Conference on Disarmament, after considering different proposals, adopted its agenda for the 2010 session (CD/PV.1164). The agenda (CD/1884) reads as follows:

"Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2010 session:

1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
7. Transparency in armaments.
8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations.”

15. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: “In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration paragraphs 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference.”

16. Pursuant to paragraph 55 of the 2009 report of the Conference (CD/1879), the last President of the 2009 session (Austria) and the first President of the 2010 session (Bangladesh) conducted informal consultations during the intersessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2010 session of the Conference. These consultations were conducted in cooperation with the five incoming Presidents of the 2010 session (Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria and Cameroon).

17. At the 1177th plenary meeting, on 9 March 2010, the President, Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus, circulated a working paper entitled “Draft decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the 2010 session” (CD/WP.559).

18. At the 1183rd plenary meeting, on 7 June 2010, under the Presidency of Ambassador Alex Van Meeuwen of Belgium, the Conference agreed upon a schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560). The schedule was subsequently updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1). Pursuant to CD/WP.560, these informal discussions were neither pre-negotiations nor negotiations, and complemented and in no case replaced the ongoing activities of the Conference on Disarmament. The chairs/coordinators were required to report orally, in their personal capacity, on the discussions of the various substantive agenda items to the President, who, in conjunction with each of them, finalized the reports, under his/her own responsibility. The reports would not prejudice in any way the positions of the members of the Conference on Disarmament.

19. At the 1189th plenary meeting, on 8 July 2010, the President, Ambassador Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares of Brazil, circulated a draft decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the 2010 session contained in CD/1889.

20. No consensus was reached on either of the proposals for a programme of work referred to in paragraphs 17 and 19 above.

21. The following documents and proposals dealing with the issues of the agenda and programme of work were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1887 dated 7 June 2010 and entitled “Note verbale dated 7 June 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations and Regional Coordinator of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the letter dated 7 June 2010 addressed to the President of the Conference with the proposals of the Group of 21 presented at the 1182nd plenary meeting, on 7 June 2010”;

(b) CD/1889 dated 6 July 2010 and entitled “Draft decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the 2010 session”;

(c) CD/WP.559 dated 9 March 2010 and entitled “Draft decision for the establishment of a programme of work for the 2010 session”.

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

22. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

23. Since 1982, requests for membership have been received from the following 25 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, Philippines, Azerbaijan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan, Estonia, Latvia, Malta and Serbia.

24. The following document dealing with the issue of the membership of the Conference was submitted:

CD/1886 dated 7 April 2010 and entitled “Letter dated 26 March 2010 from the Chargé d’affaires of the Permanent Mission of Thailand addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting, on behalf of 21 observer States to the Conference, a letter dated 22 March 2010”.

F. Review of the agenda of the Conference

25. The review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference

26. The improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

H. Communications from non-governmental organizations

27. In accordance with rule 42 of the rules of procedure, a list of communications from non-governmental organizations or their representatives was circulated to the Conference (CD/NGC/44).

28. In line with the decision taken at the 1172nd plenary meeting (CD/PV.1172), to mark the International Women's Day, a statement of the NGO Working Group on Peace of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women related to peace, security and disarmament issues was read out by Ms. Beatrice Fihn on behalf of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at the 1177th plenary meeting, on 9 March 2010 (CD/PV.1177).

Chapter III

Substantive work of the Conference during its 2010 session

29. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session approved on 7 June 2010 (CD/WP.560), informal meetings on agenda items 1 to 7 were chaired and coordinated by Sweden, Algeria, Brazil, Bangladesh, Belarus, Indonesia and Finland under the authority of the incumbent President of the Conference.

30. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations affirmed or further elaborated their respective position on the agenda items. These positions are duly recorded in the related official documents, as well as the plenary records of the session.

31. On 14 September 2010, the President of the Conference, Ambassador Anatole Fabien Marie Nkou of Cameroon, addressed a letter to the Conference transmitting the oral reports of the seven coordinators prepared in their personal capacity and finalized by the President under his own responsibility on the work done by these coordinators during the 2010 session (CD/1899).

32. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are contained in appendix I to this report. An index of the verbatim records, by country and by subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 2010, and the verbatim records of the formal plenary meetings of the Conference are contained in appendix II to the report.*

33. The Conference had before it a letter dated 15 January 2010 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (CD/1880) transmitting the resolutions and decisions on disarmament and international security matters adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, in 2009, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament. The latter are listed below:

- 64/27 Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (paragraphs 2, 4 and 5);
- 64/28 Prevention of an arms race in outer space (paragraphs 5, 6 and 8);
- 64/29 Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (paragraph 1);
- 64/42 Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels (paragraph 2);
- 64/45 Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes (paragraphs 1, 4 and 5);
- 64/47 Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons (paragraphs 11 and 12);
- 64/53 Nuclear disarmament (paragraphs 14, 15, 19 and 20);
- 64/54 Transparency in armaments (paragraphs 6 (d) and 8);

* To be issued subsequently.

- 64/57 Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments (paragraph 9);
- 64/59 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons (paragraphs 1 and 2);
- 64/64 Report of the Conference on Disarmament (paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7);
- 64/65 Report of the Disarmament Commission (paragraphs 5 and 9).

A. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament

34. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

35. The following documents dealing with this agenda item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1881, entitled "Letter dated 12 January 2010 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia and Japan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the synopsis of the report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament entitled 'Eliminating nuclear threats: a practical agenda for global policymakers'";

(b) CD/1888, dated 14 June 2010, entitled "Brazil. Working paper. Proposal on the structure of a treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices";

(c) CD/1891, entitled "Islamic Republic of Iran. Working paper. The position paper of the G-21 on nuclear disarmament";

(d) CD/1895, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Suggestions for the substance of the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty";

(e) CD/1896, entitled "Australia. Working paper. Outline of possible verification provisions of the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty".

36. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda items 1 entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", and 2 entitled "Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters", were held under the chairmanship of Mr. Magnus Hellgren of Sweden, on 8 (two meetings), 22 and 23 June, and four more meetings were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Idriss Jazaïry of Algeria on 28 and 29 (two meetings) June and 13 July 2010.

B. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters

37. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

38. The following documents dealing with this agenda item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1881, entitled “Letter dated 12 January 2010 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia and Japan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the synopsis of the report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament entitled ‘Eliminating nuclear threats: a practical agenda for global policymakers’”;

(b) CD/1888, dated 14 June 2010, entitled “Brazil. Working paper. Proposal on the structure of a treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”;

(c) CD/1891, entitled “Islamic Republic of Iran. Working paper. The position paper of the G-21 on nuclear disarmament”;

(d) CD/1895, entitled “Australia. Working paper. Suggestions for the substance of the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty”;

(e) CD/1896, entitled “Australia. Working paper. Outline of possible verification provisions of the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty”.

39. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda items 1, entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, and 2, entitled “Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters”, were held under the chairmanship of Mr. Magnus Hellgren of Sweden on 8 (two meetings), 22 and 23 June, and four more meetings were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Idriss Jazaïry of Algeria on 28 and 29 June (two meetings) and 13 July 2010.

C. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

40. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

41. The following documents dealing with this item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1890, entitled “Letter dated 9 July 2010 from the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the report of a conference organized by UNIDIR entitled ‘Space security 2010: From foundations to negotiations’ held from 29 to 30 March in Geneva”;

(b) CD/1893, entitled “Islamic Republic of Iran. Working paper. The position paper of the G-21 on prevention of an arms race in outer space”.

42. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda item 3 entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space” were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares of Brazil on 9, 14 and 30 June and 5 July 2010.

D. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

43. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

44. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda item 4, entitled “Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”, were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mohammed Abdul Hannan of Bangladesh on 16 and 25 June and 1 and 16 July 2010.

45. The following document dealing with this item was submitted to the Conference:

CD/1892, entitled “Islamic Republic of Iran. Working paper. The position paper of the G-21 on negative security assurances”.

E. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons

46. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

47. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda item 5 entitled “New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons” were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus on 17 and 24 June and 1 and 8 July 2010.

F. Comprehensive programme of disarmament

48. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

49. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda item 6 entitled “Comprehensive programme of disarmament” were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Desra Percaya of Indonesia on 15 and 24 June and 6 and 15 July 2010.

G. Transparency in armaments

50. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

51. In accordance with the schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items during the second part of the 2010 session (CD/WP.560), and as updated (CD/WP.560/Amend.1), four informal meetings on agenda item 7 entitled "Transparency in armaments" were held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Hannu Himanen of Finland on 18 and 21 June and 9 and 12 July 2010.

H. Consideration of other areas dealing with the cessation of the arms race and disarmament and other relevant measures

52. No documents were submitted on this subject during the 2010 session of the Conference.

I. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Conference and any other report as appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

53. With the growing importance of multilateral disarmament, and building on the focused efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to establish a programme of work for the 2010 session, and with a view to early commencement of substantive work during its 2011 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference on Disarmament, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations.

54. The Conference decided that the dates for its 2011 session would be:

First part: 24 January-1 April

Second part: 16 May-1 July

Third part: 2 August-16 September

55. The annual report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, as adopted by the Conference on 14 September 2010, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

Anatole Fabien Marie Nkou
Cameroon
President of the Conference

