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# Conference on Disarmament

12 September 2019

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## **Note verbale dated 28 August 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Viet Nam addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and requesting issuance of the document with the symbol CD/WP.622 as an official document of the 2019 session of the Conference on Disarmament**

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to submit herewith the President's Statement and two documents (CD/WP.621 and CD/WP.622), delivered and circulated by Permanent Mission of Viet Nam in its capacity as the President of the Conference on Disarmament, and kindly requests that the documents be issued as official Working papers of the Conference on Disarmament for the year 2019.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament the assurance of its highest consideration.

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\* Reissued for technical reasons on 7 October 2019.



## Draft decision on possible elements for a programme of work

### Submitted by the President

1. *Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament, by the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD-I);
2. *Recognizing* also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues;
3. *Having in mind* the forty-year anniversary of the establishment of the Conference on Disarmament and its contributions to the disarmament arena;
4. *Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals;
5. *In pursuance of its agenda*, and given the mandate conferred to the Conference on Disarmament by the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and the necessity to conserve the nature of this forum;
6. *Recalling paragraph 28 of its rules of procedure* which calls on the Conference to establish its programme of work on the basis of its agenda, and *noting* that it provides its Member States with a platform to engage in negotiations, on the basis of the rule of consensus;
7. *Without prejudicing* any past, present or future position, prescribing or precluding any outcomes(s), proposal or priority of any delegation nor any commitment undertaken in any other multilateral fora related to disarmament;
8. *Taking into account* the several proposals tabled for the programme of work of the Conference, and the interest in seeing the Conference return to substantive work and enable future compromise(s);
9. *Noting* the work of the Subsidiary Bodies established by decisions CD/2119 of 19 February 2018, and CD/2126 of 27 March 2018, and the Report of the Conference on Disarmament to the General Assembly of the United Nations contained in document CD/2149 of 14 September 2018;
10. *Aiming at* promoting multilateralism and enhancing the inclusiveness, effectiveness and authority of the Conference thus upholding the nature of this forum as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum;
11. The Conference decides that possible elements for a Programme of Work for the Conference, shall:
  - include a schedule of activities, in accordance with paragraph 28 of its Rules of Procedure
  - establish Subsidiary Bodies on the agenda items of the Conference to discuss options for negotiations, with a particular focus on elements of legally binding instruments and additional measures, in accordance with paragraph 23 of its Rules of Procedure
  - take into consideration possible mechanisms to discuss other issues, including the improved and effective functioning of the Conference and with regard to paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure.
12. The Subsidiary Bodies will be convened and chaired by the President of the Conference. The Subsidiary Bodies shall remain open to all Member States of the Conference on Disarmament and to those Non-Member States that the Conference has invited to participate in its work during the annual session. Each Subsidiary Body will decide on its first meeting the modalities and working procedures in accordance with the

Rules of Procedure of the Conference. The coordinators, to be nominated by each regional group, shall be appointed by decision of the Conference on Disarmament, and shall *inter alia* assist the President in deliberating the Subsidiary Bodies' reports.

13. Without prejudice to any further decisions of the Conference, to recommend that the Presidents for the year 2020 consider presenting for adoption by consensus the Programme of Work on the basis of the elements reflected herein.

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