Proposal by the President
On the Programme of Work for the 2005 session of the
Conference on Disarmament

Draft decision

The Conference takes the following decision:

1. The Conference establishes for the duration of the current session, an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament under agenda item 1 entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”. The Ad Hoc Committee shall exchange information and views on practical steps for progressive and systematic efforts to attain this objective, and in doing so shall examine approaches towards potential future work of a multilateral character.

In discharging its functions, the Ad Hoc Committee will take into account current efforts and existing proposals and views, as well as proposals that may emerge from the study and discussion.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall present a report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the current session.

The mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be reviewed as appropriate taking into consideration all relevant views and proposals and the prospects for future work.

2. The Conference establishes, for the duration of the current session, an Ad Hoc Committee under agenda item 1 entitled “Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament”, which shall negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, taking into account all existing proposals and drafts as well as future initiatives with a view to giving the Conference a possibility to achieve its final drafting as soon as possible.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall present a report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the current session.
3. The Conference establishes, for the duration of the current session, an Ad Hoc Committee under agenda item 3 entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space” to deal with the prevention of an arms race in the outer space. The Ad Hoc Committee shall identify and examine, without limitation and without prejudice, any specifics topics or proposals, which could include confidence-building or transparency measures, general principles, treaty commitments and the elaboration of a regimen capable of preventing an arms race in outer space. In doing so, the Ad Hoc Committee shall take appropriate account of the need to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and the prevention of the arms race there, while also promoting international stability and respecting the principle of undiminished security for all.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall present a report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the current session.

The mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be reviewed as appropriate, taking into consideration all relevant views and proposals and the prospects for future work.

4. The Conference establishes, for the duration of the current session, an Ad Hoc Committee under agenda item 4 entitled “Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons”, to develop recommendations on how to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall present a report to the Conference on Disarmament on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the current session.

The mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be reviewed as appropriate, taking into consideration all relevant views and proposals and the prospects for future work.

5. The establishment of these subsidiary bodies does not preclude the establishment of any other subsidiary bodies or the appointment of special co-ordinators if there is a consensus in the Conference to do so. It is also taken without prejudices to the right of Members of the Conference to move forward with positions and proposals already made or to be put forward in the future.

6. The Conference agrees to review its Programme of Work no later than the 2009 session, with the aim to reflect and be responsive to developments in the international strategic scene which affect the security interests of its individual member States.