



General Assembly

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Seventy-eighth session

Agenda item 101 (a)

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: report of the Conference on Disarmament

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 2023

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/78/576, para. 9)*]

78/61. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,¹

Recalling its resolution 77/89 of 7 December 2022,

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,

Recognizing the addresses of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, and referring to their various expressions of support for and concern about the endeavours of the Conference and calls for the Conference to commence negotiations without delay to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and emphasizing the importance of effective multilateralism in the context of the changing international climate,

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2023 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work by means of negotiations or agree to a programme of work, although the Conference did hold substantive thematic discussions on its agenda items,

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/78/27).*



Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of priority issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to implementing the mandate of the Conference on Disarmament on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Underlining the need for continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as among the successive Presidents of the Conference,

Noting with appreciation the efforts and contributions made at the 2023 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda,

Reaffirming the importance of multilateralism and the principle of inclusivity in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and noting with regret that the latter has not always been sufficiently ensured,² while recalling in this regard the rules of procedure of the Conference,

Acknowledging the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

Recognizing the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2023 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse of more than two decades, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2024 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,³ as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Encourages* the current President and the incoming President of the Conference on Disarmament to conduct consultations on the activities of the Conference in fulfilling its mandate during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* the current President and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the States members of the Conference in the effort to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2024 session;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2024 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

² Ibid., para. 9.

³ Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/64/27)*, para. 18.

7. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to undertake efforts to ensure inclusivity and multilateralism in its work, including through participation at its sessions, in accordance with its rules of procedure;⁴
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;
9. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on its work;
10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the sub-item entitled “Report of the Conference on Disarmament”.

*42nd plenary meeting
4 December 2023*

⁴ CD/8/Rev.10, paras. 32–36.