



INTERVENCIÓN
DEL
EMBAJADOR ALBERTO J. DUMONT
REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE ANTE LA OFICINA DE NACIONES
UNIDAS Y JEFE DE DELEGACION DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA
ANTE LA CONFERENCIA DE DESARME

EN NOMBRE DE
ARGENTINA, BRASIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA,
ECUADOR, MÉXICO, PERÚ Y VENEZUELA

GINEBRA, 26 DE JUNIO DE 2007

- cotejar con lectura -

English translation inside

MR. CHAIRMAN,

It is an honor for me to deliver a joint statement on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. Let me, in the name of these latinamerican countries members of the Conference on Disarmament congratulate you on your appointment as Chairman of the Conference and express our support for the fulfillment of your duties. Through you, I would also like to congratulate the authorities of the Conference, in particular, Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze General Director of the United Nation Office in Geneva and Secretary General of the Conference on Disarmament and Mr. Tim Caughley, Under Secretary General of the Conference on Disarmament.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

The current threats in the field of international security require immediate action from all States of the international community. Over the last years we have experienced several challenges in the fields of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which show the need to join efforts to fully implement and strengthen the current regime.

We are convinced that the United Nations continues to be the proper framework to effectively address these challenges to the international peace and security. This task can only be undertaken through the revitalization of the existing disarmament machinery and, in particular, of this Conference on Disarmament.

For this aim, it is our wish to express once again the need to promptly initiate substantive negotiations at the only and truly multilateral negotiation forum on disarmament available to the international community.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

As stated in our intervention on June 28, 2005, let us reiterate our flexibility to adopt a Program of Work that reflects the interests of all Member States. In this regard, we would

like to jointly express our full support for the proposal of the six Presidents of the Conference , presented as Document CD/2007/L.1, and its Complementary Presidential Statement.

In our view, the aforesaid document, prepared on the basis of multiple and transparent consultations, reflects the fruitful debates that took place in the first period of sessions. Even though each delegation would like to have reflected its national position in each of the items, the document contemplates the discussion on the Agenda items deemed to have priority and translates into a Program of Work the compromise between the different stances taken by the CD members.

As for the treatment given to the items, we reiterate our call for flexibility. The "Six Presidents" proposal provides the opportunity to start substantive negotiations with a view to conclude an "international, non-discriminatory instrument to prohibit the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices" and, at the same time, facilitates the continuity of debate for the purpose of making headway in substantive terms on "Nuclear Disarmament", "PAROS" and "Negative Security Assurances".

MR CHAIRMAN,

Nuclear disarmament is a priority for the countries subscribing this declaration. We reiterate our conviction that the existence of nuclear arsenals as part of the military doctrines of countries in possession of this kind of weapons discourages the efforts that could be made in other bodies related to international security.

A positive sign for non-nuclear states would be the prompt initiation of negotiations towards a treaty prohibiting the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, as this would evidence the willingness to take concrete steps that lead to general and complete nuclear disarmament. To this end, the scope of this

instrument should give certain treatment to the issue of fissile material stockpiles and verification provisions should also be included.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we deem it a priority to promptly initiate negotiations on the aforesaid instrument, and hope that in the context of such negotiations the concerns of all CD members will be adequately addressed.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

Let us also refer briefly to the debates on procedural matters that have recently taken place. We consider that the obstacles we are facing can be easily overcome if the required political will exists. Paragraph 23 of CD Rules of Procedures empowers the Conference to create the "subsidiary bodies " in order to serve as a vehicle and tool for fulfilling the Conferences's tasks.

In several forums on disarmament and non-proliferation we have seen how procedural matters have been used to prevent progress on the substantive issues. We trust that the CD will not fall victim to this procedure, and that, instead, it will offer a specific response to make progress on the strengthening of this important multilateral dimension.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

We appreciate your efforts to continue consultations for the purpose of adopting a Program of Work that will allow us to overcome more than a decade of stagnation.

The Latin American and Caribbean States are forerunners in the adoption of instruments of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and we have valued the benefits that derive from such instruments for the consolidation of international peace and security. The commitment toward strengthening them and the establishment of new regimes continue to be a priority for our region.

We are convinced that all of the Conference on Disarmament members share this basic idea. Thus, we call for that conviction to translate into concrete results, through the adoption of a Program of Work as soon as possible.

We hope to see a renewed interest on the part of all Member States in the ongoing search for the consolidation of multilateralism as an effective tool in addressing the challenges faced by international peace and security for the purpose of creating a safer world for our citizens.

THANK YOU.