

Unofficial transcript

Argentina, CD President, Ambassador Roberto Garcia Moritan

26 June 2009

My thanks to the distinguished Ambassador of Japan for his statement. Would any other Delegation care to take the floor?

Distinguished colleagues, we find ourselves in a rather unusual situation. We have two Documents in front of us: 1866 and 1867. A number of Delegations in Regional Groups have expressed views on the matter and a number of Delegations have stressed the importance of addressing the matter this morning. As I said just a moment ago, from my consultations it would appear that we have found ourselves in the same stalemate as we have found ourselves in yesterday. Delegations in the meeting yesterday expressed their point of views and I think we all have listened to them very carefully. I think we all accordingly have a clear picture of the situation in which we find ourselves now. And yet, Distinguished Colleagues, I believe that there is a possibility for us to find a solution, and I am sure in the next few hours indeed. I think it is important that we preserve the constructive atmosphere amongst all Delegations, in order to make firm progress as speedily as possible.

More particularly I can understand the concern from Delegations to see us take a decision straight away and nothing would be more pleasing to me than to do so. However, it is my understanding that the Conference on Disarmament is not yet in a position to adopt a Decision on those two documents. I think that to preserve the atmosphere within our Conference is an important matter, which we should all bear in mind. And I trust that the weekend will enable us to reflect carefully on the situation which we are passing through at the present. Yesterday's plenary meeting was quite clear in that respect. I think none of us has any doubt on the situation and the difficulties and the requirements resulting in delays and that we must take into account.

In this situation, distinguished colleagues, unless anyone would like to take the floor at this point, I think it is important to recall that we have in front of us document CD/1866 and CD/1867 and we will have to take a decision on this matter as soon as possible. Those Delegations, which in the plenary yesterday expressed some difficulties and the need for additional time, lead us to hope that they will be able to resolve those aspects, those considerations, so that we can all take those decisions as speedily as possible.

I wonder once again whether any Delegation would like to take the floor at this point?

If that is not the case then I am quite sure that those Delegations who require more time will employ the weekend to that purpose. And I am also quite sure that the diplomatic capacity of my successor, accessing Presidency, that is to say the distinguished Ambassador of Australia, will help to ensure that the Conference on Disarmament will manage to get underway in the next few days. I would wish her every success in that regard.

In the absence of a Delegation wishing to take the floor I would like to express my thanks to the Secretary General of the Conference on Disarmament for his support and indeed to all of his team. To the interpreters and conference servants, to the coordinators of Regional Groups plus China, who have had the patience of coming along with me in a great many consultations. And I like to express sincere thank to you for that. It goes without saying that my thanks to the P-6, who have always been of such great assistance and a source of inspiration is clear. My thanks to each and every Delegation. It has been very gratifying to consult you all. And I think that we are on the threshold of major decisions. And I like to thank you for the spirit which has

prevailed in the consultations. I would like to thank Mariela Fogante for her patient because I have made the month of June a terrible one for my colleague.

Dear Colleagues thank you all. And this concludes our work for today. The next plenary meeting is, the formal meeting of the CD, has been scheduled under the Presidency of Australia on Tuesday the 2nd of July at 10 am in this same Conference Room. Although I might note that there is the possibility of conveying an earlier plenary.