

Algeria
Ambassador Idriss Jazairy
Conference on Disarmament
08 July
Unofficial Transcript

Thank you Mr. President.

I had not intended to take the floor at this stage, but I do feel that I should do so. First to address to you personally, our enormous appreciation for the work you have done in such a professional manner to advance the CD by trying to move forward to the acceptance of a programme of work.

As the distinguish representative of Brazil just said, the adoption of a programme of work is not a question related to whether we have consensus or not. The adoption of a programme of work is related to the overall political balance of security interest in some particular regions in the world. And we need to achieve a political progress on these issues for the CD to come to a stage where it can translate this political agreement in to legal language, which is purpose of negotiating in the context of the CD, such as the different instruments that has been refer to in the matter related to a programme of work. Unfortunately, we cannot yet archive consensus on the programme of work- I don't think that it should be seen as a weakness of the CD itself, it is rather an incapacity of the powers that need to reach agreement on ! issues which would provide adequate security to all countries. When this is done we can move to negotiation. But we cannot substitute for such a political agreement, this is not the forum to do it. Also mentioned before in the inspiring statement made of Mr. Duarte, it is the intention of the international community to convene high- level meeting in September in support of the CD work. It would be a useful opportunity that after concluding this meeting, to stay on to discuss the views of different groups as to what would be the best way to get out of this meeting in New York, the possible mileage in achieving the proclaimed objective which is to support our work. So what could be the expected outcome of this meeting?- As we will be breaking for summer soon, I think it would be help-ful if we could have a possibility to consult and concert in order to make the most of this opportunity.

One last point, when we talk of the programme of work, some of us have referred to this or that particular term as being ripe. I think that in respect of difference in sensitivity and different groups of countries, with respect to the components of the programme of work which of priorities to them and the priorities are not the same. What might been seen as ripe for one group, in terms of them being ready to negotiate, may not be acceptable by another group, because they feel that they want to achieve progress on another issue which is of priority to that specific group. So to say that one issue is riper than the other is to give priority to one group over the concern of others. This is certainly not the way to reach agreement. The agreement should be a result of mutual accommodation by defining a formulation on each of the fo! ur core issues, which would provide satisfaction to the different groups.

With this said. I am looking forward to having some interaction between different groups between now and September to see how we can make a positive contribution. I think that the CD itself has benefitted from this part, it should try to express itself, what kind of support it would like and what it has contribute to make sure that this very short meeting of half a day would be taken advantage of, for the purpose of achieving consensus on the programme of work.

Once again Mr. President, our warmest congratulations. We are really proud that you belong to a group that we share, but you have acted as an independent president. And I thank you, you have done the most that could be done under these circumstances, and I know what I'm talking about.

Thank you very much Sir.