Algeria Ambassador Idriss Jazaïry Conference on Disarmament 31 August Unofifficial Transcript

Thank you, Mr. President. Let me start by saying how proud I am to see you, an eminent African ambassador, chairing this important body. You have demonstrated, during the past year, your wisdom will indeed be necessary in order for you to guide our steps towards, hopefully a positive outcome at the end of your presidency. I would also like to say how honored I am to haw been listening to the delicate words of the Minister of External Relations of Cameroon who will with no doubt inspire our deliberations.

Likewise I feel honored to have had the privilege to listen to the Deputy Minister from Indonesia. I would also like to extend our warm welcome to the new Ambassador of DPRK and I think that his contribution to our deliberation is promising to be very expiring because I think we were all quite impressed by the very thoughtful presentation that he made this morning. Ambassador Magnus Hellgren was my co-chair on these informal meetings that we had and that were indeed very helpful and fruitful. He has always been a source of inspiration for me personally. I think that many people around this table have referred to his convenient spirit and I think that is what I will keep from his present here. A person that is a bridge builder that tries to find accommodation on different views. We have been listening this morning and the debates has become more and more interesting, this morning w! e have been listening to different point of views, which I think the CD should really be about, of course we should be able to walk the walk and not just talk the talk, many states has been able to do so. Indeed I think that the whole atmosphere of disarmament is looking more rosily today broadly then it was at anytime in the recent past. Therefore we do feel that the CD should go further and not looking back to a past that has gone. The views of my delegation identifies with those from G21 and therefore I will not repeated them, but let me say that from this discussion we had this morning with a few broad views that had been expressed about the predicament we are in today. Some has put focus on something being wrong with the CD and with the distinguished members around the table, as many said, it has a lot of wisdom but something is wrong with the CD that needs to be fixed. The conclusion is that you need to look at the two box and find out how you can board the boats. Oth! ers has said that the problem is not in here in the machinery but with external data that has to do with the evolution with international relations in the field of security which creates some imbalances. I think we all need to get a proper assessment of what the nature of the problem is because ultimately we all have a common state in finding the right solution, so if we have the wrong diagnosis we are going to chase well over the edge. As we look for solution perhaps you have realized that in my presentation last time I did put a lot of emphasis on the aspects that was not just a question a fixing the rules of procedure or behaving better in the CD, but in the spirit of compromises lets look at both this issues and as we look for prescription we need to be aware that the diagnosis defers amongst us within the meeting. But as the distinguished representative of South Africa said, there is a problem and we can't stay there in definitely lamenting about the problem. We! need to do something about it. This is why the notion of invigorating t! he CD was not, in my delegation, the most appropriate way of saying it because it does give the sense of the focus being on something being wrong with the CD machinery as such. But the spirit of the initiative of the Secretary-General is something that my delegation strongly supports, and we do have some difficulties, particular about the time delegated when the heads of state or minister has to come from the other side of the world to speak for 3-5 minutes, which is a bit of a problem. We have also another problem that I realized this morning when I was reading this very useful document

which was put out on the arrangement for the meeting. It is the fact that Minister or Heads of States can only be accommodated by one person. Now we do have a second contributing as a backup for the Minister or Heads of states but at the same time we have some very nice colleagues in New York that might feel that they have a special claim when the meeting is taking place in New York. This !! imit of one person is going to be a source of embarrassment for some of us. I would not like to step on the toes of my colleagues in New York but at the same time I feel that we each has something that we could contribute to this discussion so I would be grateful if the Secretariat would kindly look at this issue and have some flexibility and let us know very quickly whether such flexibility can be achieved.

On the issue of the outcome, of course there are some different views, but I would like to say that I was pleased to hear this morning many echoing the position that my delegation expressed at the last meeting, when we said that the outcome might be a Fourth Special Session. I think that that would be the best opportunity to put everything on the table and to provide some kind of impetus that we need for the CD because things are tied to one another. In this regard, as far as the road for the CD is concern, I had the initiative to take the floor last time but it so happened that the discussion broke out in the plenary so I felt that we could all contribute and it turned out to be a very interesting discussion. There are two views that have been expressed since then in the CD as whether we should pursue this discussion in an informal context or in a double! informal, in the CD itself. I think the answer should not be a problematic one, it depends on how much time we have, if we can have a discussion in the CD I see merits in that because at least there is some following up and we can get some kind of outcome of that discussion and that makes our job easier rather than we have to draw the outcome our selves. I will leave that with you Mr. President, to see whether there would be some objections to using whatever time we have available in the CD plenary to proceed with the discussion of the HLM and if we need more time we could continue the discussion in some more informal settings.

Finally I find myself very much in agreement with the Ambassador of Austria and the distinguished representative of Croatia, we should not consider ourselves as an exclusive club and there would be benefits of having a positive attitudes towards the expansion of the membership of the CD, so this is the position of my delegations and it is very much as the represent of Croatia said, in line with a desire to promote greater transparency in our deliberations and therefore it is very much in the same breathe that I like to say that I would really welcome some initiatives following up the initiative that we took last year to get the NGOs to participate more active in our deliberations. I am always very struck by the resistance by some delegations and the human rights council to having the participation of NGOs in the debates and that seem to be much more reserved here as to their invol! vement. I think transparency should not be cut in bits, it cannot be isolated, transparency is a policy for multilateralism, it replies to the Human Rights Council and it replies to the CD, they have accept it in the Human Rights Council, we should accept it here. We must be fare and transparent, so with this words Mr. President, I would like to thank you once again for your patience, you're already enlightening contribution you made in the course of this morning debates.