



MONGOLIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

6 East 77th Street, New York, N.Y. 10075

Tel: (212) 861-9460 Fax: (212) 861-9464

e-mail: mongolia@un.int

Please check against delivery

**Statement by H.E. Mr Vaanchig Purevdorj,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Mongolia
to the Conference on Disarmament,**

**on Thematic Discussion on the UN Disarmament Machinery,
at the First Committee of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly**

27 October, New York

Mr. Chair,

Mongolia has always placed disarmament in its all aspects as one of the priorities of multilateral diplomacy for the plain reason that disarmament is fundamental to the global peace and security.

Given its commitment and willingness to contribute to the arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, Mongolia is genuinely concerned about the on-going stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) as well as about the continued failure of the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) to deliver recommendations on issues of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Despite the protracted deadlock, the international community keeps faith in us, Members of these bodies, and urges to resume substantive work and deliver our mandate. Thus, it is time to demonstrate necessary political will and take concrete actions to make progress.

Mr. Chair,

As H.E. Ambassador Dell Higginson of New Zealand reported in her capacity as the President of the Conference on Disarmament this year the CD Members continued their efforts to move forward the work of the Conference. For instance, the Conference re-established the informal working group to discuss possible options for developing a program of work (IWG on POW), and also conducted a series of informal discussions on each agenda item according to the schedule of activities of the CD.

Although the Conference on Disarmament is not designated to deliberate, my delegation believes that such structured and substantive discussions on the core agenda items would also be helpful in terms of building common grounds and may eventually facilitate the pathway towards renewed negotiations. With this in mind, during the Mongolian Presidency of the CD this year, we convened formal plenary meetings to have focused discussions on the four core issues, namely nuclear disarmament, FMCT, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and NSA. In this context, I would like to underline that we need to ensure continuity and outcome-oriented approach in our structured discussions at the CD.

This year, the successive Presidents of the Conference have also conducted consultations with Members States on the proposals on the issue of improving the functioning of the Conference and bringing possible changes to its methods of work. Although the Conference has not been able to produce tangible results on these issues, it was a useful exercise in terms of exchanging views on different aspects. My delegation considers it important that the CD continues its efforts to explore the possibility of ensuring improved and effective functioning of the conference with the view of overcoming its current impasse. In his connection, my delegation would like to commend the initiative and successful hosting of the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament the informal Conference on Disarmament – Civil Society Forum held on March 19, 2015.

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones is a positive step and important measure towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts. Thus, while promoting its nuclear-weapons-free status Mongolia, we believe that the existing zones need to be strengthened and measures ought to be taken to promote the establishment of new zones, including in the Middle East and in Northeast Asia. In this connection, Mongolia welcomes UNGA resolution 69/66 which enabled to convene the Third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia this year in New York. Taking this opportunity, we would also like to commend Indonesia, the President of the Conference for their commitment and dedication to make the conference a successful event.

Mr. Chair,

I wish to say a few words on our draft resolution on "Permanent neutrality of Mongolia". As is known, my delegation has had two informal consultations on the draft on 14 and 19 October respectively in addition to numerous bilateral meetings. The text of the draft resolution has been, by and large, agreed. However, some delegations requested more time to study it. Having consulted with the capital and the co-sponsors of the draft, my delegation has decided to temporarily postpone the submission of the draft resolution. We intend to take it up next May in the Plenary of the General Assembly. My delegation wishes to express its profound gratitude to all the delegations, particularly the co-sponsors, for their understanding and continued support.

Let me conclude by reiterating Mongolia's sincere hope that intergovernmental "disarmament machinery" will be able to halt this stalemate and start once again to deliver its mandate. We look forward a fruitful outcome in the near future.

Thank you.