
Conference on Disarmament

18 June 2009

English

Final record of the one thousand one hundred and forty-second plenary meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Thursday, 18 June 2009, at 10.25 a.m.

President: Mr. Roberto García Moritán (Argentina)

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I call to order the 1142nd plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament.

On today's list of speakers to date I have the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It is my pleasure to give the floor to Ms. María Elena Dos Santos.

Ms. Dos Santos (Venezuela): Mr. President, I am addressing this Conference on behalf of the Latin American countries which are members of the Conference on Disarmament — Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela — and the following observer countries: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Uruguay and the Dominican Republic.

First of all we would like to congratulate you on taking the Chair of this Conference and say how happy we are to see you leading our work at this crucial time in this forum. We are thankful to you for the efforts you are making to enable the prompt implementation of the programme of work, as well as the transparency and inclusiveness in the consultations held so far.

Allow me also to express to you the total support and full cooperation of our delegations in the work which we hope will be undertaken in the next weeks.

Our delegations were very pleased at the recent adoption of the programme of work contained in document CD/1863, which will enable the Conference on Disarmament to assume its rightful role as the sole multinational negotiating forum for nuclear disarmament.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to reiterate our commitment to work constructively in this new process of implementing the programme of work, considering all initiatives put forward in order to achieve that objective.

The countries that subscribe to this statement are fully convinced that the political will recently demonstrated by member States will make it possible to enhance and consolidate the work of this Conference as an effective forum to meet the requirements of international peace and security.

The President: I thank the distinguished representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the Latin American countries in the Conference on Disarmament and observers, for that statement and her kind words addressed to the Chair. Would any other delegation like to take the floor? If not, I would like to inform you that the next formal plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament will be held on Tuesday, 23 June at 3 p.m. The change in time is due to the fact that at our plenary meeting we will be receiving Mr. Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the French Republic. The distinguished Minister will address the Conference on that occasion and take up the important issue of nuclear disarmament. As this will be the first visit by a minister since we adopted our programme of work, we hope that by the end of this year's session we will have many other high-level dignitaries from member States to mark the new period and the special climate prevailing in this forum. In that regard I would like to mention that I am concluding the consultations required in order to be able to make progress in accordance with the decision we adopted on Friday, 29 May. To that end I would like to express my appreciation for the special cooperation by all delegations, and particularly the coordinators of the various regional groups, and apologize to them for the many meetings we have held, and in that regard I would like to invite the regional coordinators to a meeting this afternoon at 4.45 p.m. If no other delegation wishes to take the floor, we could adjourn this meeting and meet again on Tuesday 23rd at 3 p.m. in the Council chamber.

The meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.