Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 7 December 2015

[on the report of the First Committee (A/70/462)]

70/68. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,¹


Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”,² Assembly decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission and Assembly resolution 61/98, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make

² Resolution 44/119 C, annex.
every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly.\(^3\)

*Emphasizing once again* the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;\(^1\)

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament, notes that the Commission has not submitted any substantive recommendations to the General Assembly in the course of the past 16 years, and thus encourages the revitalization of the work of the Commission in its current triennial cycle;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion on the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,\(^3\) and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982 and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted “Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”;\(^2\)

5. *Welcomes* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492, at its 347th meeting, on 7 April 2015, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2015,\(^1\) on the understanding that consultations would continue on ways and means to implement resolution 69/77, and that the Commission decided that the agenda for its substantive session of 2015 should serve for the period 2015–2017;

6. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2016:

   \(a\) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

   \(b\) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

7. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission encourages the Chairs of its working groups to continue, during the intersessional period, informal consultations on the agenda item allocated to each of the groups;

8. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to invite, as appropriate, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to prepare background papers on the items on its agenda and, if need be, other disarmament experts to present their views, as provided for in paragraph 3 \((e)\) of resolution 61/98, upon the invitation of the Chair and with the prior approval of the Commission;

9. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2016, namely from 4 to 22 April, and to submit a substantive

\(^3\) Resolution S-10/2.
report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, and stresses that the
report of the Commission should contain a summary by the Chair of the proceedings
to reflect different views or positions if no agreement can be reached on the specific
agenda item deliberated on, as provided for in paragraph 3.4 of the adopted “Ways
and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission”;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament
Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in
the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and
services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also requests the
Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the
Conference on Disarmament on its 2015 session, together with all the official
records of the seventieth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament
matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for
implementing the present resolution;

11. Invites Member States to submit their views and proposals on the matter
early enough to enable practical consultations among them prior to the beginning
of the substantive session of 2016 of the Disarmament Commission, with a view to
facilitating its constructive outcome, and in this regard encourages the Chair-
designate to commence consultations and preparations for the substantive session of
2016 in a timely manner upon his or her nomination;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session,
under the item entitled “Review of the implementation of the recommendations and
decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session”, the

67th plenary meeting
7 December 2015

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