



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 July 2012

Excellency,

I wish to thank you for your letter of 18 July 2012 forwarding your report on the results of the 58th session of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters.

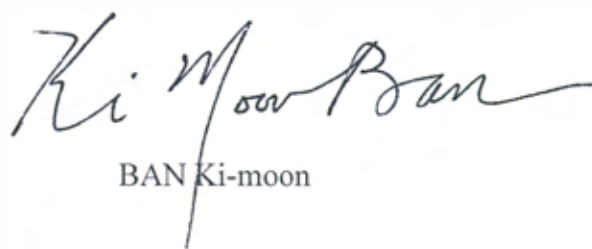
I would like to express my deep appreciation for the efforts of the Board, under your guidance, for its consideration of the item on conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture, as well as the follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament.

I have taken note of the various opinions expressed by the Board members concerning both issues. I concur with the need to strengthen the architecture of the existing conventional arms-related instruments, particularly in view of the ongoing negotiations on an Arms Trade Treaty. I also appreciate the comments of the Board on ways to revitalize the Conference on Disarmament and would like to assure the Board of my continued efforts to encourage the Conference in achieving a breakthrough to the prolonged impasse.

I am thankful for the continued oversight of the Board of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, particularly its views regarding the serious financial challenges faced by the Institute. I would certainly welcome the opportunity to receive a detailed brief on the difficult situation of the Institute when I meet you later during the year.

Your contribution as Chairperson toward the successful conclusion of the Board in its challenging work for this year has been invaluable.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. H.M.G.S. Palihakkara
Chairperson of the Advisory Board
on Disarmament Matters
Colombo



12 - 06801

Dis/06/001

United Nations



Nations Unies


Executive Office of the Secretary-General
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

#1 PRIORITY

To: Deputy Secretary-General,

Please find attached for approval, the SG's Report
on the Work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament
Matters.

ODA would be grateful if this report can be
cleared by tomorrow for the 30 July due date.


Political Unit
26 July 2012

cc: CdC

12-06801

United Nations



Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

To: Deputy Secretary-General,

Please find attached for your approval and SG's signature, a letter addressed to the Chairperson of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters.

Political Unit
24 July 2012

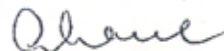
cc: CdC

12-06801

Note to Ms. Malcorra

ADVISORY BOARD ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS

1. The Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters held its 58th session in Geneva from 4 to 6 July. The Board continued its discussions on the issue of conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture, which it had started at its February session in New York. As requested, the Board also conducted follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament as its second agenda item of the summer session.
2. Enclosed is a letter from the 2012 Chair of the Advisory Board, Ambassador Hewa M.G.S. Palihakkara (Sri Lanka), addressed to the Secretary-General, attaching a summary of the deliberations of the Board on the above items at its latest session, as well as a set of related recommendations to the Secretary-General.
3. The Board also serves as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). In connection with its oversight over UNIDIR's research and funding activities, the Board expressed deep concerns over the increasingly serious financial challenges faced by the Institute. The Board also approved the submission of UNIDIR's report to the General Assembly.
4. I am attaching herewith, for the Secretary-General's consideration and signature, a letter of appreciation to the members of the Board, through Ambassador Palihakkara, on the Board's work in 2012.
5. Also attached, for the consideration and approval of the Secretary-General, is a draft copy of the Secretary-General's report on the work of the Advisory Board, which will be submitted to the 67th session of the General Assembly. Please note that the report needs to be submitted for processing to DGACM by 30 July, at the latest.

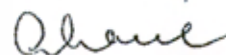


Angela Kane
23 July 2012

Note to Ms. Malcorra

ADVISORY BOARD ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS

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Angela Kane
23 July 2012

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters
58th Session
Geneva, 4-6 July 2012

18 July 2012

Dear Secretary-General,

The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters held its second session of the year from 4 to 6 July 2012 in Geneva. I have the pleasure to submit to you a report on the Board's work at its latest session.

The Board continued its deliberations on the item on conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture which it had started at its February session. The Board felt that the issue of conventional arms went beyond arms transfers regulation and disarmament but was also linked to development, public health, trade, human rights and humanitarian law issues. The Board agreed that the potential for overlaps among instruments in force and between a future Arms Trade Treaty and current instruments in the field of conventional arms existed but also thought that in certain cases such overlaps could be mutually reinforcing. The Board also felt that the machinery and institutions required for implementing the future legally binding instrument which would regulate the conventional arms trade depending on the outcome of the ongoing Arms Trade Treaty negotiations, would constitute an integral part of the 'architecture'. These overlaps and complementarities, as well as their cost implications would need to be further studied by an in-house task force or an expert group in order to make meaningful and detailed recommendations on a cost-effective 'architecture'.

As requested, the Board also conducted follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament during its recent session. Many members concurred over the need for further efforts to revitalize the Conference. Several members reiterated support for the need for an incremental approach as the most feasible means of breaking the deadlock at the Conference on Disarmament. It was generally felt that any attempts to change the consensus rule would not work given the longstanding consensus-based character of the Conference and the demonstrated ability of the Conference in the past to conclude treaties by consensus. The question of the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons was raised again by some members but doubts were also expressed whether such a group would be helpful in breaking the stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament.

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

I would like in particular, to invite your kind attention to the recommendation for a high level consultation process under your good offices, with all States concerned regarding the Conference on Disarmament while the Conference is encouraged to conduct some technical and scientific work relevant to a future fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT).

The Board was able to agree on a number of practical recommendations on both the above agenda items for your consideration.

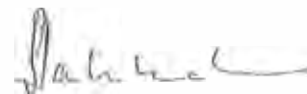
In its role as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), the Board strongly commended the broad range of research activities carried out by the Institute despite the continuing difficulties in raising adequate funds. The Board of Trustees once again engaged in an in-depth exchange of views on the complex and increasingly serious financial and governance situation of the Institute. However, deep concerns were raised by the members over the institutional obstacles which continue to pose serious hurdles to UNIDIR's efforts to improve its management and funding difficulties.

In this connection, the Board requested me, in my capacity as Chair, to orally communicate to you the Institute's precarious situation. Accordingly, I shall provide you with a more detailed oral report on the situation of deep concern prevailing at UNIDIR, as I am advised that I can do so when I visit you for a courtesy call this coming October.

The Board approved the submission of the Institute's report to the General Assembly and recommended the continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2012-2013, while reiterating its earlier recommendations that the subvention level be increased "to fully fund all core staff costs as a requisite for providing the stability needed to allow the Institute to pursue the structure and programme of work justified by its vision and mission." The Board noted that in recent years the buying power of the subvention had decreased to a level that no longer supported even the costs of the Director, thus falling short of its original purpose.

Members of the Board have again asked me to convey their appreciation for your continued full support for its work. As an integral part of the United Nations disarmament machinery, we remain at your disposal to assist you in the vital work of the Organization.

Yours sincerely,



H.M.G.S Palihakkara
Chairman

Chairman's Summary on the Work of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters at its 58th Session

Geneva, 4-6 July 2012

Summary

The Board continued its in-depth exchange of views on conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture. It also engaged in follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament. In its capacity as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), the Board was briefed by the Director of UNIDIR on its activities since the Board's last session in February 2012 and planned activities for 2013 and beyond. It also approved the submission of the Institute's report to the General Assembly and recommended the continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2012-2013, while stressing its earlier recommendations (A/65/177; A/66/125) that the subvention level be increased to meet the costs of the Director and core staff of the Institute.

Conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture

The Board continued its consideration of the agenda item on conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture which it had started at its February session in New York. As a means of improving its method of work, the Board had agreed at its February session in New York to set-up two sub-groups which would exchange opinions on the two agenda items for the Geneva session and possibly prepare common food-for-thought papers during the inter-sessional period.

Two members, Nobuyasu Abe and François Rivasseau provided 'food-for-thought' papers based on the exchange of views during the inter-sessional period among members of the sub-group on the item. Related to the topic, the Board also heard presentations from two representatives of civil society, Glenn McDonald, Senior Researcher at Small Arms Survey, and Jonathan Frerichs, Programme Executive for peace-building and disarmament, for the World Council of Churches and its Commission of the Churches on International Affairs.

Several Board members stated that the issue of conventional arms went beyond arms transfers regulation and disarmament but was also linked to development, public health, trade, human rights and humanitarian law issues. Therefore, it was suggested not to limit the scope of the proposed Arms Trade Treaty. The widest possible transparency in the realm of conventional arms was mentioned as a key point. In particular, the principles of transparency, accountability and the responsibility of States were stressed by a number of Board members.

The potential for overlaps between a future Arms Trade Treaty and existing instruments in the field of conventional arms was considered by the Board. Suggestions

were made by some members for the creation of a technical working group to study where overlaps might exist and ways to improve communications between and within the instruments and governments. A member expressed doubt over the need for such a technical working group. The need to await the outcome of the negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty was stressed.

It was also mentioned that the arms trade was directly linked to the issue of military spending as well as the fight against poverty, and criminal activities. It was mentioned that the Secretary-General's role could be significant in drawing attention to the negative aspects of the global arms trade. On the other hand, the legitimate right of States, especially smaller States, to ensure their territorial integrity and sovereignty was also acknowledged by many members.

The Board also discussed the most appropriate way of implementing the future legally binding instrument which would regulate conventional arms trade depending on the outcome of the ongoing Arms Trade Treaty negotiations. As the future implementation process may cover submitting reports, national capacity building in related areas and providing assistance, the Board also exchanged views on the United Nations experiences in supporting the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and Security Council resolution 1540 through their respective implementation support units. Many members underlined the need for strong verification and implementation measures for a robust Arms Trade Treaty.

The importance of the responsibility of States was mentioned by several members. It was emphasized that all States had a responsibility to control the production, use and flow of weapons on or through its territory. States should also be prepared to fulfill their obligations when restrictions on the flow, use or production of weapons are made by the appropriate international bodies. It was also mentioned that the Secretary-General could remind States of these responsibilities both at the national and international levels.

It was stated that while streamlining the work of the United Nations Secretariat relating to conventional arms, the Secretariat should secure sufficient resources to carry out the task that may be given by new arrangements such as the prospective Arms Trade Treaty.

Suggestions were also made that the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretariat should encourage more vigorous activities by various regional organizations to promote the United Nations conventional arms instruments. While doing so they may consider using the United Nations reporting forms complemented by additional elements for the regional use. The need to look into the relation between the United Nations and regional instruments was also mentioned, particularly on whether they could be mutually reinforcing.

It was proposed to advise the Secretary-General to focus on promoting transparency in conventional arms and establishing a comprehensive United Nations database which would reflect the implementation of the existing instruments in the sphere of conventional arms.

Other comments included the increasing important role of civil society, particularly women's organizations, play in global efforts to regulate the arms trade. The need for the Arms Trade Treaty to require States not to transfer arms internationally where there is a sustained risk that they might be used to perpetrate or facilitate a pattern of gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence. The need for assistance for capacity-building, particularly for small States, was also mentioned.

Recommendations:

- 1) The Secretary-General should stress where appropriate, the need of a consistent and non-redundant architecture for conventional arms based on the centrality of the United Nations tools such as the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and of negotiations mandated, conducted or endorsed by the General Assembly, particularly such as the Arms Trade Treaty.**
- 2) The Secretary-General could request the appropriate structure such as UNODA, UNIDIR, a possible future Arms Trade Treaty support unit or a technical working group to consider and report on a) overlaps between existing instruments; b) ways to improve communication between the instruments and governments, as well among them; c) ways to assist States with implementation and reporting under the existing instruments and frameworks; and d) how the United Nations and regional instruments relate to each other and how they can be utilized for mutual reinforcement.**
- 3) The Secretary-General should be encouraged to promote confidence-building measures in the military sphere among countries in different regions with the assistance of regional organizations, as appropriate.**
- 4) The Secretary-General should continue efforts to promote awareness of circumstances in which there can be negative consequences of the arms trade for example when it involves organized crime or violations of human rights.**

Follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament

Given the fact that the Board had considered at both its sessions in 2011 the issues raised at the high-level meeting, including the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons with special focus on the functioning of the Conference on

Disarmament, the Secretary-General requested the Board to consider the issue again at its July session in 2012. This would allow the Board to take into consideration any new developments at the Conference since it concluded its deliberations on the topic last July.

Members of the sub-group on the item conducted inter-sessional work and a food-for-thought paper was provided by Kate Dewes. Tim Caughley, Resident Senior Fellow at UNIDIR, also provided an updated paper on developments at the Conference on Disarmament. Briefings on the topic were also provided to the Board by Jarmo Sareva, Director of UNODA's Geneva Branch and Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, and Tim Caughley.

Many members stressed the need for continued efforts to revitalize the Conference on Disarmament. The need to maintain the status of the Conference as a uniquely important forum for the negotiation of multilateral disarmament agreements treaties in spite of the prolonged impasse was underlined. Opinions were also expressed that the ongoing difficulties faced by the Conference on Disarmament were caused by largely external political factors. Nonetheless, the need to consider reforming the decision making processes of the Conference on Disarmament in order to allow for an institutional normative structure that facilitates the advancement of negotiations was mentioned. Views were also expressed that if the stalemate persisted, alternative solutions would be unavoidable.

Several Board members reiterated support for the need for an incremental approach as the most feasible means of breaking the deadlock at the Conference on Disarmament. They suggested the establishment of informal scientific and technical groups within the Conference on Disarmament to explore and clarify issues related to a future fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT).

Suggestions were again made that the General Assembly could establish a negotiating body parallel to the Conference on Disarmament. Suggestions were made also to use the General Assembly as another venue to engage in negotiations, including on an FMCT, by establishing one negotiating body subordinated to it and deciding what kind of issues should be negotiated by this body. Such proposals were countered by views that it would not work since several or all nuclear-weapon States and nuclear-weapon capable States may not participate in such an initiative.

Some members acknowledged the significant support by over 140 States for the call by the Secretary-General in his Five Point Plan for the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, or similar instrument and growing support within civil society and States for alternative venues to the Conference on Disarmament to be explored.

The question of the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons was raised again by some members but did not find strong support. Doubts were expressed whether and how such a group would be helpful in breaking the stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament. Several members expressed preferences for the appointment of a special envoy or coordinator to engage in consultations, especially with the concerned parties. Such an envoy would also likely be more affordable in terms of

costs than the suggested high-level panel. However, concerns were also expressed over the possible overlap in functions with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs or the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament.

Nonetheless, should a high-level panel of eminent persons be established, the need to establish an institutional link between the Advisory Board and the proposed high-level panel by inviting one or more current or former Board members to be included in the panel was reiterated by a Board member.

Some members expressed the view that the agreement on CD/1864 could still serve as a basis for future negotiations and should not be discarded. Other members, however, stated that resurrecting CD/1864 did not look promising.

Some members revisited the suggestion made in 2011 in connection with the FMCT, proposing a similar approach to the 6-party talks in the Korean peninsula for South Asia by engaging in 5-party talks among India, Pakistan, China, the Russian Federation and the United States as an avenue for confidence-building measures. However, doubts were also voiced over the feasibility of the proposal. There were also calls for creative leadership by members of the P-5 States in terms of bilateral or other negotiations on an FMCT

The need for the Secretary-General to encourage States to take steps to restore the credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations and its disarmament machinery was emphasized. It was stated that disarmament was implicitly in the agenda of many other United Nations bodies and therefore, the Secretary-General should invite Member States to promote in the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies the cause of disarmament so that it is maintained in the United Nations' agenda.

It was generally felt that there was decreased interest in revisiting the issue of changing the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament and that such actions may not improve the situation. Attempts to change the consensus rule would not work given the longstanding consensus-based character of the Conference and the demonstrated ability of the Conference on Disarmament in the past to conclude treaties by consensus. Doubts were expressed whether changing the rules of procedures would be decisive in attaining progress in the Conference on Disarmament.

Some members expressed support again for the need for convening a fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD IV). A comment was made, however, that such a special session would normally pursue decisions by consensus while a regular General Assembly session would be able to take decisions through voting if needed. It was also mentioned that consideration could be given to the feasibility of a special session of the General Assembly confined to addressing issues relevant to the disarmament machinery of the United Nations.

A view was expressed that the Secretary-General should be encouraged to highlight the Decade of Disarmament by giving priority to the urgent need for

Disarmament Education and research, using the excellent work being done by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in this field.

Recommendations:

- 1) The Secretary-General should continue his efforts to encourage the Conference on Disarmament to pursue all efforts to achieve a breakthrough to the persisting stalemate. The Secretary-General could consider initiating a process of consultation with all concerned States to build consensus to commence substantive work on negotiations in respect of a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) under a balanced programme of work. The Secretary-General may also wish to consider an appropriate dedicated modality for this purpose, including the appointment of a special envoy or coordinator to assist him in his efforts.**
- 2) Parallel to his consultations, the Secretary-General may wish to consider encouraging members of the Conference on Disarmament to establish groups of scientific experts in the Conference on Disarmament with a mandate to explore technical and scientific issues to support work on a future fissile material cut-off treaty.**
- 3) The Secretary-General should continue his efforts to raise public awareness and encourage civil society groups and non-governmental organizations to provide input on ways to break the prolonged stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament. The Secretary-General could also encourage Member States to take steps to restore the credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations disarmament machinery by inviting them to promote the cause of disarmament in the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies so that it is maintained in the United Nations agenda.**

The United Nations Institute on Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

Sitting as the Board of Trustees for UNIDIR, the Director of the Institute briefed the Board members on the work of the Institute since the Board's last session in February 2012 and planned activities for 2013 and beyond, as well as the proposed programme of work and budget, including a request for a continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget. A subcommittee on UNIDIR, consisting of five Board members, met prior to the regular session on 3 July, to review the Institute's programme and financial situation in detail.

The Board strongly commended the broad range of research activities carried out by UNIDIR despite its persisting difficulties in obtaining sufficient funds. It was able to engage in an in-depth discussion of the challenges faced by the Institute in its funding activities and what could be done to alleviate the situation. The importance of adequate funding for the Institute was stressed in order for UNIDIR to maintain its independence.

At the same time, the Board expressed deep concerns over the institutional obstacles which continued to pose serious hurdles to the Institute's efforts to improve its management and funding difficulties. Board members were of the view that the current funding model for UNIDIR was inadequate and required significant and urgent changes. In order to work on those required changes, a suggestion was made to resume an inter-sessional subcommittee on UNIDIR to meet briefly during the latter part of the year, subject to the availability of funds. The Chairman stated that he would consult with the Secretariat and inform the subcommittee members, noting that the composition of the subcommittee may change as some members would be leaving the Board at the end of the year.

Irrespective of whether or not the subcommittee meeting would materialize, the Board requested the Chair to brief the Secretary-General of the current situation of concern pertaining to UNIDIR and request expeditious action on the part of UNIDIR and the United Nations Secretariat to develop a sustainable business plan and core funding plan for the Institute.

After considering UNIDIR's report, the Board approved the submission of the Institute's report to the General Assembly and also recommended the continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2012-2013, while also reiterating its earlier recommendations (as detailed in A/66/125) that the subvention level be increased (in addition to being cost adjusted)" to fully fund all core staff costs as a requisite for providing the stability needed to allow the Institute to pursue the structure and programme of work justified by its vision and mission." The Board noted that in recent years the buying power of the subvention had decreased to a level that no longer supported even the costs of the Director, thus falling short of its original purpose.

Other matters

One Board member indicated that the reduction in 2009, of the total number of Board members from 20 to 15, made the rotation of the membership somewhat erratic. While noting that the appointment of the Board members remained the sole prerogative of the Secretary-General, as decided by SSOD I, the Chair stated that he would convey to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs the concern raised regarding the rotation issue, as well as the need to ensure balanced geographical representation, particularly the absence of a member from the Middle East region.

Future work

The Board exchanged views on a number of possible issues for discussion at its sessions in 2013, including a broad range of issues such as cyber security, nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs), security in outer space, dual-use technologies and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and conventional arms issues following the outcome of the Arms Trade Treaty negotiations.

Possible specific topics that were suggested were (a) relations between different NWFZs; (b) space security, including preventing the placement of arms in outer space; (c) the role of emerging powers in the global nuclear order; and (d) changes in the landscape of WMD proliferation.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
xx August 2012

Original: English
Approved on behalf of the Secretary-General.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely of the Deputy Secretary-General.

Deputy Secretary-General
26 July 2012

Sixty-seventh session
Item 97 of the provisional agenda*
**Review of the implementation of the recommendations
and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its
tenth special session**

Work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters held its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, respectively, in New York from 22 to 24 February 2012 and in Geneva from 4 to 6 July 2012. The Board focused its deliberations during its sessions on the following substantive agenda items: (a) Ways to improve the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, (b) Conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture, and (c) Follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament.

The first item was discussed at the Board's fifty-seventh session only as a result of views expressed by many members at its Geneva session in July 2011 that it would be timely for the Board to examine ways to improve its method of work. The Board had an in-depth exchange of views on the second agenda item during both its 2012 sessions in New York and Geneva. The Board recommended that the Secretary-General should stress the need of a consistent and non-redundant architecture for conventional arms based on the centrality of the United Nations tools such as the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and of negotiations mandated, conducted or endorsed by the General Assembly. The Secretary-General could request the appropriate structure such as the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), as a possible future Arms Trade Treaty support unit or a technical working group to consider and report on i) overlaps between existing instruments; ii) ways to improve communication between the instruments and governments, as well among them; iii) ways to assist States with implementation and reporting under the exiting instrument and frameworks; and iv) how the United Nations and regional instruments relate to each other and how they can be utilized for mutual reinforcement. The Secretary-General should also be encouraged to promote confidence-building measures in the military sphere among countries in different regions with the assistance of regional organizations, as appropriate and should also continue efforts to promote awareness of circumstances in which there could be negative consequences of the arms trade. The **Board** considered the third agenda item during its fifty-eighth

session only. In view of the fact that the Board had considered at both its 2011 sessions the issues raised at the high-level meeting, including the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons with special focus on the functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, the Secretary-General requested the Board to consider the issue again at its July session in 2012. The Board recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to encourage the Conference on Disarmament to pursue all efforts to achieve a breakthrough to the persisting stalemate and could consider initiating a process of consultation with all concerned States to build consensus to commence substantive work on negotiations in respect of a fissile material cut-off treaty under a balanced programme of work. The Secretary-General may also wish to consider an appropriate dedicated modality for this purpose, including the appointment of a special envoy or coordinator to assist him in his efforts. Parallel to his consultations, the Secretary-General may wish to consider encouraging members of the Conference to establish groups of scientific experts in the Conference on Disarmament with a mandate to explore technical and scientific issues to support work on a future fissile material cut-off treaty. The Secretary-General should also continue his efforts to raise public awareness and encourage civil society groups and non-governmental organizations to provide input on ways to break the prolonged stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament and could encourage Member States to take steps to restore the credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations disarmament machinery by inviting them to promote the cause of disarmament in the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations

bodies so that it is maintained in the United Nations agenda.

As the Board of Trustees for the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the Board adopted the Institute's 2012 programme and budget and approved, for submission to the General Assembly, the report of the Director of the Institute on its activities from August 2011 to July 2012, as well as the proposed programme of work and estimated budget for 2012 and 2013. The importance of adequate funding for the Institute was stressed by members for UNIDIR to maintain its sustainability. The Board also recommended the continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2012-2013 while also reiterating its earlier recommendations that the subvention level be increased to fully fund all core staff costs as a requisite for providing the stability needed to allow the Institute to pursue the structure and programme of work justified by its vision and mission.

* A/67/100.

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters held its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, respectively, in New York from 22 to 24 February 2012 and in Geneva from 4 July to 6 July 2012. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/183 O. The report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), approved by the Advisory Board serving as its Board of Trustees, has been submitted in a separate document (A/67/...).

2. Hewa M.G.S. Palihakkara (Sri Lanka) chaired the two sessions of the Board in 2012.

3. The present report summarizes the Board's deliberations during the two sessions and the specific recommendations it conveyed to the Secretary-General.

II. Substantive discussions and recommendations

A. Ways to improve the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

4. A number of Board members had stated at its 2011 session in Geneva that it would be timely for the Board to examine ways to improve its method of work. The Secretary-General agreed with the suggestion and requested the Board to look at its working method for one session in February 2012.

5. At its fifty-seventh session, two Board members, Carlo Trezza and Olga Pellicer presented 'food-for thought' papers on the item.

6. Following an in-depth exchange of views, the Board agreed on the importance of maintaining a suitable balance in its composition in terms of the balance between government and non-governmental members, equitable regional representation, generational balance, as well as gender balance. In particular, a number of Board members pointed to the absence of members from the Middle East and the under-representation of certain regions. Some members questioned the benefits of a full and constant presence of Board members coming from the P-5 States. The need for an eventual increase in the number of Board members as a way to achieve better geographical representation was mentioned.

7. Concerns were raised that striving for consensus should not hamper the work of the Board. Members agreed that while achieving consensus on issues could be seen positively, it should not be an absolute necessity in the way of constituting an obstacle to conveying new ideas. Some members stressed that the Board should strive to provide the Secretary-General with bold and creative recommendations and that differing views should be properly reflected. Members also expressed the importance of providing the Secretary-General with both good

and practical recommendations. Extensive discussions also took place on ways to improve the modalities of reporting the work of the Board to the Secretary-General.

8. Members concurred on the usefulness of engaging in some type of inter-sessional dialogue among the members using various communication tools such as the internet, email, video-conferencing or teleconferencing. Proposals were made by several members to create sub-groups or small working groups to tackle specific items during the inter-sessional period or even during the regular sessions of the Board, if needed. Members expressed their wish to revisit the usefulness of such an inter-sessional dialogue in the near future. A suggestion was also made to have the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) subcommittee become active as soon as it was composed rather than waiting for its one-day meeting prior to the Board's summer session in Geneva.

9. A question was raised whether there was a need to update the General Assembly's 1999 decision 54/418 concerning the Board's mandate, particularly its role related to the implementation of the Disarmament Information Programme (DIP). There was agreement, however, that there was no need to revisit the issue at this stage and nor was there a need to narrow the Board's existing mandate. In this connection, the Board received an extensive briefing from the Chief of the

Information and Outreach Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) on the Disarmament Information Programme. Consequently, the Board requested to be kept regularly informed of the Programme through updates from ODA.

10. Other suggestions included a proposal to have food-for-thought papers prepared and circulated earlier if possible, as well as limiting the number of items considered by the Board to just two items to allow more time for their consideration.

B. Conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture

11. Over the past two decades, initiatives at the United Nations regarding conventional arms regulation have led to a number of new processes and instruments. With the development of such arms regulation instruments, it would be important that any overlap and duplication be avoided. Consequently, the Board was requested to address the inter-relationship of processes in the field of conventional arms regulation and formulate recommendations on how Member States could work together on making the United Nations architecture on conventional arms regulation as coherent and effective as possible.

12. At the Board's fifty-seventh session, two members, Nobuyasu Abe and Togzhan Kassenova, provided 'food-for

thought' papers. A presentation on the topic was also provided to the Board by Daniel Prins, Chief of the Conventional Arms Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

13. The Board acknowledged that the various existing conventional arms related instruments had potential overlaps but such overlaps could also be mutually reinforcing. Members concurred that the existing instruments had different mandates with some legally binding while others remained politically binding and therefore, efforts to coordinate all these instruments faced significant challenges. Limitations in the existing instruments were also recognized. Consequently, many members underlined the need to consider ways to make this architecture more coherent and consistent while promoting the most efficient use of these instruments. It was also stated that full consistency and streamlining may not be feasible or desirable given the different scope and circumstances of the instruments.

14. The Board also noted that the problem of conventional arms went beyond disarmament and touched upon areas such as development, good governance public health, human rights and trade. Many members emphasized the need to address the effects of conventional weapons on crime, human rights, humanitarian concerns and law enforcement. Emphasis was also laid on the need to encourage efforts to control the illicit

trade in conventional arms, as well as explore the link between conventional weapons and other United Nations goals such as peace and development.

15. Proposals were made to establish a technical working group tasked with considering which overlaps between existing instruments could be eliminated taking into account that some instruments were mutually reinforcing; ways to improve communication between the instruments and within the governments; ways to assist States with implementation and reporting under the existing instruments and frameworks; and how United Nations and regional instruments related to each other and how could they be utilized for mutual reinforcement.

16. Some members stated the need for the Secretary-General to pay special attention to greater public outreach on the issue of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), particularly in countries impacted by such weapons, as well as the fact that the general public was mostly unaware of the issue. The importance of civil society support and public discourse on the topic was also stressed. Other members commented that the Secretary-General should intensify his advocacy role and encourage States to achieve a positive outcome for the ATT negotiations. It was stated, however, that the Board should be careful about any recommendations since the ATT process was still ongoing and the outcome was far from certain due to considerable

divergence of views. It was generally felt that any United Nations architecture in the area of conventional arms needed to take into account the study of existing instruments' limitations and strengths and based on the outcome of the ongoing negotiations; also take into account non-United Nations activities in this field; and the ultimate goal of the general and complete disarmament.

17. It was suggested that the Secretary-General could request the First or Fifth Committees to see whether there were any overlaps in terms of efficiency that could lead to budgetary savings. One member mentioned the need for the Secretary-General to avoid any overlaps and seek better coordination and use of resources. A suggestion was also made that the United Nations could develop a database that would help to create a more unified system for information exchange on conventional arms.

18. A comment was made on the importance of tackling the issue of transparency together with efficiency. The need to generate transparency in terms of the transfer, production and use of conventional weapons was stressed. The need to include the issue of a preventive agenda in the Board's deliberations over the issue was also proposed.

19. The Board continued its deliberations on the item at its fifty-eighth session. As a means of improving its method of

work, the Board had agreed at its February session in New York to set-up two sub-groups which would exchange opinions on the two agenda items for the Geneva session and possibly prepare common food-for-thought papers during the inter-sessional period.

20. Consequently, two members, Nobuyasu Abe and François Rivasseau **provided** ‘food-for-thought’ papers based on the exchange of views during the inter-sessional period among members of the sub-group on the item.

21. Several Board members reiterated that the issue of conventional arms went beyond arms transfers regulation and disarmament but was also linked to development, public health, trade, human rights and humanitarian law issues. Therefore, it was suggested that the scope of the proposed Arms Trade Treaty should not be limited. The widest possible transparency in the realm of conventional arms was mentioned as a key point. In particular, the principles of transparency, accountability and the responsibility of States were stressed by a number of Board members.

22. The potential for overlaps between a future Arms Trade Treaty and existing instruments in the field of conventional arms was again considered by the Board. Suggestions were made by some members for the creation of a technical working group to study where overlaps might exist and ways to improve

communications between and within the instruments and governments. A member expressed doubt over the need for such a technical working group. The need to await the outcome of the negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty was stressed.

23. It was also mentioned that the arms trade was directly linked to the issue of military spending as well as the fight against poverty, and criminal activities. It was commented that the Secretary-General's role could be significant in drawing attention to the negative aspects of the global arms trade. On the other hand, the legitimate right of States, especially smaller States, to ensure their territorial integrity and sovereignty was also acknowledged by many members.

24. The Board also discussed the most appropriate way of implementing the future legally binding instrument which would regulate conventional arms trade depending on the outcome of the ongoing Arms Trade Treaty negotiations. As the future implementation process may cover submitting reports, national capacity building in related areas and providing assistance, the Board also exchanged views on the United Nations experiences in supporting the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and Security Council resolution 1540 through their respective implementation support units.

Many members underlined the need for strong verification and implementation measures for a robust Arms Trade Treaty.

25. The importance of the responsibility of States was mentioned by several members. It was emphasized that all States had a responsibility to control the production, use and flow of weapons on or through its territory. States should also be prepared to fulfil their obligations when restrictions on the flow, use or production of weapons are made by the appropriate international bodies. It was also mentioned that the Secretary-General could remind States of these responsibilities both at the national and international levels.

26. It was stated that while streamlining the work of the United Nations Secretariat relating to conventional arms, the Secretariat should secure sufficient resources to carry out the task that **may** be given by new arrangements such as the prospective Arms Trade Treaty.

27. Suggestions were also made that the Secretary-General and the United Nations Secretariat should encourage more vigorous activities by various regional organizations to promote the United Nations conventional arms instruments. While doing so they may consider using the United Nations reporting forms complemented by additional elements for regional use. The need to look into the relation between the United Nations and

regional instruments was also mentioned, particularly on whether they could be mutually reinforcing.

28. It was proposed to advise the Secretary-General to focus on promoting transparency in conventional arms and establishing a comprehensive United Nations database which would reflect the implementation of the existing instruments in the sphere of conventional arms.

29. Other comments included the increasing important role of civil society, particularly women's organizations, play in global efforts to regulate the arms trade. The need for the Arms Trade Treaty to require States not to transfer arms internationally where there is a sustained risk that they might be used to perpetrate or facilitate a pattern of gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence. The need for assistance for capacity-building, particularly for small States, was also mentioned.

Recommendations

30. The Board made the following recommendations:

- a) **The Secretary-General should stress where appropriate, the need of a consistent and non-redundant architecture for conventional arms based on the centrality of the United Nations tools such as the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and of negotiations mandated, conducted or endorsed**

by the General Assembly, particularly such as the Arms Trade Treaty;

- b) The Secretary-General could request the appropriate structure such as the Office for Disarmament Affairs, UNIDIR, a possible future Arms Trade Treaty support unit or a technical working group to consider and report on a) overlaps between existing instruments; b) ways to improve communication between the instruments and governments, as well among them; c) ways to assist States with implementation and reporting under the existing instruments and frameworks; and d) how the United Nations and regional instruments relate to each other and how they can be utilized for mutual reinforcement;
- c) The Secretary-General should be encouraged to promote confidence-building measures in the military sphere among countries in different regions with the assistance of regional organizations, as appropriate;
- d) The Secretary-General should continue efforts to promote awareness of circumstances in which there can be negative consequences of the arms trade for

example when it involves organized crime or violations of human rights.

C. Follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament

31. The item on follow-up discussions on the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament was proposed by the Board as an item for future consideration. In view of the fact that the Board had considered in both its 2011 sessions the issues raised at the high-level meeting, including the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons with special focus on the functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, the Secretary-General requested the Board to engage in follow-up discussions on the item again at its July session in 2012, taking into consideration any new developments at the Conference since July 2011.

32. Members of the sub-group on the item conducted inter-sessional work and a food-for-thought paper was provided by Kate Dewes for the fifty-eighth session. Tim Caughley, Resident Senior Fellow at UNIDIR, also provided an updated paper on developments at the Conference on Disarmament. Briefings on the topic were also provided to the Board by Jarmo Sareva, Director of the Office for Disarmament Affairs' Geneva Branch and Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, and Tim Caughley.

33. Many members reiterated the need for continued efforts to revitalize **the** Conference on Disarmament. The need to maintain the status of the Conference as a uniquely important forum for the negotiation of multilateral disarmament agreements treaties in spite of the prolonged impasse was underlined. Opinions were also expressed that the ongoing difficulties faced by the Conference on Disarmament were caused by largely external political factors. Nonetheless, the need to consider reforming the decision making processes of the Conference on Disarmament in order to allow for an institutional normative structure that facilitates the advancement of negotiations was mentioned. Views were also expressed that if the stalemate persisted, alternative solutions would be unavoidable.

33. Several **Board** members reiterated support for the need for an **incremental** approach as the most feasible means of breaking the deadlock at the Conference on Disarmament. They suggested the establishment of informal scientific and technical groups within the Conference on Disarmament to explore and clarify issues related to a future fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT).

34. Suggestions were made that the General Assembly could establish a negotiating body parallel to the Conference on Disarmament. Suggestions were made also to use the General

Assembly as another venue to engage in negotiations, including on an FMCT, by establishing one negotiating body subordinated to it and deciding what kind of issues should be negotiated by this body. Such proposals were countered by views that it would not work since several or all nuclear-weapon States and nuclear-weapon capable States may not participate in such an initiative.

35. Some members acknowledged the significant support by over 140 States for the call by the Secretary-General in his Five Point Plan for nuclear disarmament for the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, or similar instrument and growing support within civil society and States for alternative venues to the Conference on Disarmament to be explored.

36. The question of the possible establishment of a high-level panel of eminent persons was raised again by some members but did not find strong support. Doubts were expressed whether and how such a group would be helpful in breaking the stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament. Several members expressed preferences for the appointment of a special envoy or coordinator to engage in consultations, especially with the concerned parties. Such an envoy would also likely be more affordable in terms of costs than the suggested high-level panel. However, concerns were also expressed over the possible overlap in functions with the High Representative for

Disarmament Affairs or the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament.

37. Nonetheless, should a high-level panel of eminent persons be established, the need to establish an institutional link between the Advisory Board and the proposed high-level panel by inviting **one** or more current or former Board members to be included in the panel was reiterated by a Board member.

38. Some members expressed the view that the agreement on CD/1864 could still serve as a basis for future negotiations and should not be discarded. Other members, however, stated that resurrecting CD/1864 did not look promising.

39. Some members revisited the suggestion made in 2011 in connection **with** the FMCT, proposing a similar approach to the 6-party **talks** in the Korean peninsula for South Asia by engaging in 5-party talks among India, Pakistan, China, the Russian Federation and the United States as an avenue for confidence-building measures. However, doubts were also voiced over the feasibility of the proposal. There were also calls for creative leadership by members of the P-5 States in terms of bilateral or other negotiations on an FMCT.

39. The need for the Secretary-General to encourage States to take steps to restore the credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations and its disarmament machinery was emphasized. It was stated that disarmament was implicitly in the agenda of many

other United Nations bodies and therefore, the Secretary-General should invite Member States to promote in the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies the cause of disarmament so that it is maintained in the United Nations agenda.

40. It was generally felt that there was decreased interest in revisiting the issue of changing the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament and that such actions may not improve the situation. Attempts to change the consensus rule would not work given the longstanding consensus-based character of the Conference and the demonstrated ability of the Conference on Disarmament in the past to conclude treaties by consensus. Doubts were expressed whether changing the rules of procedures would be decisive in attaining progress in the Conference on Disarmament.

41. Some members expressed support again for the need for convening a fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD IV). A comment was made, however, that such a special session would normally pursue decisions by consensus while a regular General Assembly session would be able to take decisions through voting if needed. It was also mentioned that consideration could be given to the feasibility of a special session of the General

Assembly confined to addressing issues relevant to the disarmament machinery of the United Nations.

42. A view was expressed that the Secretary-General should be encouraged to highlight the Decade of Disarmament by giving priority to the urgent need for Disarmament Education and research, using the excellent work being done by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in this field.

Recommendations

43. The Board made the following recommendations:

a) The Secretary-General should continue his efforts to encourage the Conference on Disarmament to pursue all efforts to achieve a breakthrough to the persisting stalemate. The Secretary-General could consider initiating a process of consultation with all concerned States to build consensus to commence substantive work on negotiations in respect of a fissile material cut-off treaty under a balanced programme of work. The Secretary-General may also wish to consider an appropriate dedicated modality for this purpose, including the appointment of a special envoy or coordinator to assist him in his efforts;

b) Parallel to his consultations, the Secretary-General may wish to consider encouraging members of the

Conference on Disarmament to establish groups of scientific experts in the Conference on Disarmament with a mandate to explore technical and scientific issues to support work on a future fissile material cut-off treaty;

c) The Secretary-General should continue his efforts to raise public awareness and encourage civil society groups and non-governmental organizations to provide input on ways to break the prolonged stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament. The Secretary-General could also encourage Member States to take steps to restore the credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations disarmament machinery by inviting them to promote the cause of disarmament in the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies so that it is maintained in the United Nations agenda.

III. Civil society/non-governmental organization presentations

44. As is customary, the Board heard presentations on issues pertaining to its agenda from representatives of non-governmental organizations. At its fifty-seventh session, Jeff Abramson, Coordinator of the Control Arms Campaign, and Stephen Goose, Executive Director of the Arms Division of

Human Rights Watch and Chair of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) provided briefings to the Board.

45. At its fifty-eighth session, the Board heard presentations from Glenn McDonald, Senior Researcher and Yearbook Coordinator at the Small Arms Survey, and Jonathan Frerichs, Programme Executive for peacebuilding and disarmament in the World Council of Churches and its Commission of the Churches on International Affairs.

IV. Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

46. At its fifty-seventh session, the Advisory Board, sitting as the Board of Trustees, received a briefing from the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) on the work of the Institute since the Board's last session in **July** 2011, as well as an update on its programme of work for 2012. The Director informed the Board of the decision to abolish the Deputy-Director's post due to the lack of sufficient funds. Many members commended the research activities carried out by UNIDIR despite the continuing difficulties in raising funds. Concerns were expressed by the Board on the serious funding situation faced by the Institute. Views were exchanged on how the Board could provide

assistance and advice to UNIDIR in meeting its financial challenges. Several Board members stressed the need to further communicate the Institute's precarious situation to the Secretary-General, as well as to delegations.

47. The Board underlined the importance of broadening UNIDIR's funding base to include a more diverse set of Member States as currently only 10% of the United Nations' Member States make contributions. It also recognized the importance of the Institute's pursuit of both public and private partnerships. It was also recommended that UNIDIR make more efforts to publicize its activities and to obtain funding from other regions of the world.

48. The Board approved the Institute's report and budget for the 2012 to 2013 biennium contained in document A/66/123, which was presented at the Board's fifty-sixth session in Geneva last July and updated in the ACABQ's report.

49. The Board also welcomed the establishment of a distinctive emblem ("logo") for the Institute and looked forward to its introduction in UNIDIR's branding at the earliest date possible. It also endorsed the Resource Mobilization Strategy (RMS) of the Director as approved by the United Nations Office for Legal Affairs. The RMS has demonstrated small yet significant successes, which were all the more remarkable considering the global financial crises and the extremely

negative funding outlook for the traditional donor States. The Board welcomed the steps toward implementation of its 2005 recommendations related to UNIDIR staff contractual compliance ~~with~~ the United Nations Staff regulations and rules. As funding ~~permits~~, the Board expected that UNIDIR will begin to establish specific posts for the core functions of the Institute and work with the Human Resources Management Service (HRMS) to ensure that current staff service is taken into account. The Board also expressed its strong disappointment that United Nations regular budget support for the core staff of UNIDIR had not been forthcoming. It reiterated its call for subvention support for the core staff of the Institute as permitted under Article VII.2 of the UNIDIR Statute.

50. At the Board's fifty-eighth session, the Director of the Institute briefed the Board members on the work of the Institute since the Board's session in February and planned activities for 2013 and beyond, as well as the proposed programme of work and budget, including a request for a continuing subvention from the **United** Nations regular budget. A subcommittee on UNIDIR, consisting of five Board members, met prior to the regular session on 3 July, to review the Institute's programme and financial ~~situation~~ in detail.

51. The Board strongly commended again the broad range of research activities carried out by UNIDIR despite its persisting

difficulties in obtaining sufficient funds. It was able to engage in an in-depth discussion of the challenges faced by the Institute in its funding activities and what could be done to alleviate the situation. The importance of adequate funding for the Institute was stressed in order for UNIDIR to maintain its independence.

52. At the same time, the Board expressed deep concerns over the institutional obstacles which continued to pose serious hurdles to the Institute's efforts to improve its management and funding difficulties. Board members were of the view that the current funding model for UNIDIR was inadequate and required significant and urgent changes. In order to work on those required changes, a suggestion was made to resume an inter-sessional subcommittee on UNIDIR to meet briefly during the latter part of the year, subject to the availability of funds.

53. Irrespective of whether or not the subcommittee meeting would materialize, the Board requested the Chair to brief the Secretary-General of the current situation of concern pertaining to the Institute and request expeditious action on the part of UNIDIR and the United Nations Secretariat to develop a sustainable business plan and core funding plan for the Institute.

54. After considering the Institute's report, the Board approved the submission of UNIDIR's report to the General Assembly and also recommended the continuing subvention from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2012-2013,

while also reiterating its earlier recommendations (as detailed in document A/66/125) that the subvention level be increased (in addition to **being** cost adjusted) “to fully fund all core staff costs as a requisite for providing the stability needed to allow the Institute to pursue the structure and programme of work justified by its vision and mission.” The Board noted that in recent years the buying power of the subvention had decreased to a level that no longer supported even the costs of the Director, thus falling short of its original purpose.

V. Future work

55. The Board exchanged views on a number of possible issues for discussion at its sessions in 2013, including a broad range of issues such as cyber security, nuclear-weapon-free zones, security in outer space, dual-use technologies and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and conventional arms issues following the outcome of the Arms Trade Treaty negotiations.

56. Possible specific topics that were suggested were (a) relations between different nuclear-weapon-free zones; (b) space security, including preventing the placement of arms in outer space; (c) the role of emerging powers in the global nuclear order; and (d) changes in the landscape of WMD proliferation.

VI. Conclusion

57. During both its sessions in 2012, the Board was able to successfully conclude deliberations on the three items in its agenda. It provided a set of recommendations to the Secretary-General on the issue of conventional arms regulation: the future United Nations architecture and the issue of the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament. As the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), it spent considerable time looking into the research activities of the Institute and particularly the continuing serious funding challenges faced by UNIDIR.

Annex

Members of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

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