Disarmament Commission
Substantive session of 2015
New York, 6-24 April 2015

Draft report of Working Group II on agenda item 5

1. At its 347th plenary meeting, on 7 April 2015, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2015 (A/CN.10/L.74/Rev.1) and decided to allocate to Working Group II agenda item 5, entitled “Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons”. The Commission also decided that the agenda should serve for the period 2015-2017. At its 348th plenary meeting, also on 7 April, the Commission elected Bouchaib El Oumni (Morocco) as Chair of Working Group II.

2. Working Group II held eight meetings, from 13 to 22 April 2015. The Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management served as secretariat of the Working Group, and the Office for Disarmament Affairs served as adviser to the Working Group.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 13 April 2015, the Working Group took up the previous Chair’s conference room paper (A/CN.10/2014/WG.II/CRP.1/Rev.3) and completed a reading of the text.

4. At its 2nd meeting, also on 13 April, the Working Group began a second reading of the conference room paper and held an exchange of views on the “Principles” section of the document.

5. At the 3rd meeting, on 15 April, the Chair circulated a non-paper dated 15 April 2015 based on the previous Chair’s conference room paper and incorporating proposals made by delegations. The non-paper was presented under his own responsibility and without prejudice to the position of any delegation in order to facilitate discussions. At the same meeting, the Working Group began a preliminary discussion on the non-paper.

6. At its 4th meeting, on 15 April, the Working Group held discussions on the “Principles” section of the non-paper and continued its reading of the Chair’s non-paper dated 15 April 2015, during which delegations made written and oral proposals.
7. At its 5th meeting, on 17 April, the Working Group continued its reading of the Chair’s non-paper dated 15 April 2015. A presentation was then made by the Office for Disarmament Affairs on confidence-building measures.

8. At the 6th meeting, on 21 April, the Chair introduced a conference room paper (A/CN.10/2015/WG.II/CRP.1). The paper was presented under his own responsibility and without prejudice to the position of any delegation. At the same meeting, the Working Group began a first reading of the paper.

9. At its 7th meeting, on 21 April, the Working Group completed its first reading of the Chair’s conference room paper (A/CN.10/2015/WG.II/CRP.1).

10. At its 8th meeting, on 22 April, the Working Group expressed its appreciation to the Chair and the Secretariat.

11. At the same meeting, the Working Group encouraged the Chair to continue, during the intersessional period, informal consultations on the agenda item allocated to the Group.

12. Also at its 8th meeting, on 22 April, the Working Group considered and adopted by consensus its report on agenda item 5. It also decided to make the conference room paper (A/CN.10/2015/WG.II/CRP.1) available to the Commission at its substantive session of 2016.