Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

Working paper submitted by Pakistan

To be included in the section entitled “Conclusions and recommendations”:

1. The current substantive session of the Disarmament Commission is taking place in the backdrop of several challenges — both to the disarmament and non-proliferation regime as well as to its multilateral deliberative and negotiating forums.

2. The failure to achieve agreement on disarmament and non-proliferation at the United Nations Summit in 2005 highlighted these divergences. A decade-long impasse at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the inability of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to agree on any outcome and the two-year deadlock within this Commission underscore the fact that there are clear differences of perspective, approach and modalities among Member States to address nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues.

3. The Disarmament Commission was created at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament to serve as a forum for all United Nations Member States to “deliberate” on major disarmament issues. The Commission has since produced several useful recommendations that prepared the ground for multilateral disarmament negotiations.

4. Given its universal membership and deliberative role, the Commission is uniquely positioned to deliberate over the important nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues, with a view to evolving a new and balanced security consensus.
5. The following elements could constitute the basis for such a consensus:

   (a) Affirmation of the centrality of the Charter of the United Nations for peaceful resolution of disputes and acceptance of the principle of “equal security” for all States;

   (b) Arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation are essential means to promote and preserve international and regional peace and security;

   (c) Support efforts for the global elimination of all weapons of mass destruction and prevention of the proliferation of all such weapons in all their aspects; initial steps towards disarmament including those agreed at the international level; de-alert nuclear weapons;

   (d) Support for the multilateral treaties whose aim is to eliminate or prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and the importance for all States parties to these treaties to comply fully in order to promote international stability;

   (e) Commitment by all States to implement agreed measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

   (f) Recognition of the need for all States to take additional effective measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery;

   (g) Support the increased effectiveness of international safeguards and verification, and national controls and laws to prevent proliferation;

   (h) Reaffirmation that preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction shall not hamper international cooperation for peaceful purposes while goals of peaceful uses should not be used as a cover for proliferation;

   (i) Support the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones in accordance with agreed United Nations guidelines;

   (j) Normalization of the relationship of the three non-NPT States with the NPT regime as suggested by Dr. al-Baradei and others;

   (k) Revitalization of the United Nations disarmament machinery to address the international security, disarmament and proliferation challenges.