The European Union (EU) strongly believes that the work of the Disarmament Commission regarding ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament should build on the agreement reached by the States parties at the 2000 NPT Review Conference. The final document of the Conference, which built upon the principles and objectives of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, establishes the way forward for the efforts of the international community towards nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. It is the view of the European Union that this should be clearly reflected in the outcome document of the Commission. In this context, the European Union reserves the right to make further comments on all elements in the Chairman’s revised paper.

At this stage, the EU would like to present in writing a few initial comments and proposals made orally in the course of this year’s session in addition to the comments submitted during last year’s session (see A/CN.10/2000/WG.I/WP.3), which mainly covered the first three sections. As indicated in document A/CN.10/2000/WG.I/WP.3, it is the understanding of the European Union that the Chairman’s paper is not intended to be negotiated between delegations and that it contains suggested language that might not meet consensus. The proposals for new language are indicated in bold type.

Section 3

3 (a)

The European Union would like to propose beginning this subsection by listing different achievements in a more logical sequence, beginning with the following elements:

- **Conclusion of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and its near universal adherence**;

- **Decision on** indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the **1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference** (see A/CN.10/2000/WG.I/WP.3);
– Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference;
– Conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

4. The European Union would also like to suggest to make a reference to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the Chemical Weapons Convention. Moreover, the EU would like to have a reference to the draft international code of conduct against ballistic missile proliferation and the draft verification protocol to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention in this subsection.

5. As regards the structure, the European Union would suggest that a distinction be made between achievements and initiatives in this subsection.

3 (d)

6. The EU is of the opinion that for the sake of clarity this subsection would benefit from specifying the countries that have taken the measures indicated.

Section 4

4 (a)

7. The EU would like to add a reference to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to this subsection.

Section 5

8. The European Union believes that the subject “Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament” should cover the outcome document in its entirety. This subject should therefore not be reduced to a sub-chapter of the paper.

5 (a), first four dashes

9. The Canberra Commission, the Tokyo Forum, the New Agenda Coalition and the General Assembly resolutions related to disarmament could be regarded as initiatives rather than conceptual approaches. The European Union would therefore suggest that these initiatives be included under section 3.

5 (a), fifth and sixth dashes

10. The NPT and the steps agreed in the final document are dealt with in a more comprehensive way in section 3 and could therefore be incorporated into this section.

5 (b)

12. The EU would like to support the proposal put forward by Japan to rephrase the first tick as follows: “The early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”. The European Union would also like to add two new references to this subsection, with the following wording:

– Universal adherence to international norms and conventions in the area of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems;
– Consolidation, in an irreversible manner, of the cessation and reversal of the arms race of the cold war, concrete progress towards nuclear disarmament and reinforcement of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime.