

Mr President

The NAM expresses its full confidence in your leadership of this review process and its commitment to support you to reach a successful conclusion. In this regard, we approve the proposed program of work of this first session of the working group and reaffirm our desire that it should strictly conform to the terms of reference in Council resolution 12/1 and to the established practice during the IB text negotiations. It is also our understanding that proposals would be made in the course of the different segments of agenda item 4, and that your compilation of proposals of states or groups of states will incorporate the content of their written submissions as well as oral statements made during the deliberations of the working group.

Regarding agenda item 3, I would like to affirm our understanding that this agenda item will witness general discussion on the work and functioning of the council in accordance with the mandate under op 16 of UNGA resolution 60/251. Therefore, this agenda item should not incorporate proposals, which should be included under the relevant segments of agenda item 4. We expect that the president of the council, in his compilation to be distributed at the end of the session, will reflect this understanding.

Finally, we would like to suggest that you would kindly give regional groups a two hour slot before embarking on the agenda item 5 to enable them to coordinate and to elaborate the preliminary reactions to the different proposals which they would express during the discussions under that item. In closing, we wish to reiterate our full support and our desire to work constructively with all sides under your leadership with a view to make this review a success.

I thank you.