
**Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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**Letter dated 17 February 2012 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the Chair-designate of the first session of the
Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the
Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

At the conclusion of the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, held in New York on 24 September 2010, I circulated a summary of the discussion that reflected my understanding, as convener and Chair of the high-level meeting, of the views expressed, which was later brought to the attention of the members of the General Assembly, on 14 October 2010, as the annex to document A/65/496. I also indicated that I would present my report on the meeting and its follow-up to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. I hereby bring the Chair's summary to the attention of the Preparatory Committee and present the following report on follow-up actions taken.

To encourage progress at the Conference on Disarmament, I addressed the Conference in January 2011, for the third time, in my capacity as Secretary-General. I also sent a message to the Conference at the beginning of its 2012 session in which I urged its members to restore the Conference to the central role it can and must play in strengthening the rule of law. I further reminded Member States of our shared responsibility to make the Conference work.

On 8 December 2010, the General Assembly adopted resolution 65/93, by which it decided to include the item "Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session. Consequently, from 27 to 29 July 2011, the Assembly held plenary meetings at which it considered the matter.

I asked my Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters at its 2011 session to review the issues raised at the high-level meeting. The Board subsequently focused its deliberations on issues raised at the high-level meeting, including the possible establishment of a panel of eminent persons with special focus on the functioning of the Conference on Disarmament. My report on the Board's work has been submitted to the General Assembly as document A/66/125 of 11 July 2011.



On 28 February 2011, as a sign of his personal commitment to revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the President of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, Joseph Deiss, addressed the Conference. He reaffirmed the readiness of the Assembly to contribute to the revitalization of the Conference.

Despite the above-mentioned efforts, it is regrettable that the Conference has not been able to commence substantive work on the basis of an agreed programme of work. In this regard, I perceive a broader sense of frustration, not only within the membership of the Conference, but also within the membership of the United Nations. The 2012 session of the Conference will be crucial to overcoming the stalemate. Failing to do so may create a move for action outside the Conference, which will further undermine that body.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General
