

## **IGOS Statement at the Conference on Disarmament**

**Geneva, 17 June 2014**

**Delivered by the  
Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic,  
H. E. Ambassador Kateřina Sequensová**

Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak to you on behalf of the Informal Group of Observer States to the Conference on Disarmament. The observer States would like to congratulate you on assuming the presidency and assure you of our full support. We deeply appreciate your deliberate interest in the functioning of the Conference and your understanding of the need to expand the CD in order to ensure universality of its instruments.

In today's speech, we would like to thank Mr. Michael Møller, Acting Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament for the four proposals on revitalizing the Conference introduced on May 20, on which we shall provide several comments. We entirely share the Acting Secretary-Generals analysis that it is high time the CD considered some alternative ways forward and innovatively overcome the absence of consensus and political will. We therefore find his proposals very interesting.

We believe that both the idea of identifying areas of common ground with a view eventually to produce framework conventions and the idea of negotiating politically binding instruments are very promising. At the same time, we attach great importance to the question of working methods that provide a procedural basis for substantive work. As we are currently witnessing positive outcome of structured debates on core issues under the Schedule of Activities, we think that a subsidiary body should be established in order to explore ways on how best to render the CD more efficient and result-oriented. We are particularly of the view that for example the length of tenure of the presidency should be re-evaluated and revised.

It is well known, that the fundamental course of IGOS is the expansion of the membership of the Conference, which is not only essential to the CD but also of importance to the international community as a whole. Regrettably, the Conference on Disarmament does not devote sufficient time to this question. The CD has neither included it into the Schedule of Activities, nor featured it in the program of discussions in the plenaries.

It has been more than a decade that this body consulted this question and more than 14 years without action being taken on the issue of enlargement. We think that a universal goal of international stability and security, respectively disarmament must by definition be addressed by a universally represented body, reflecting developments in the global security environment.

Mr. President, that is why we welcome and appreciate your decision to appoint a Friend of the CD President for enlargement. We are certain that such a decision will be conducive to better understanding of a variety of modalities and tailor-made scenarios for the CD in the question of expansion. We assume, that during consultations, friend of the CD president will have the possibility to foster convergent aspects and seek a common basis for future endeavors. We would like to congratulate Ambassador of Albania, Mrs. Filloreta Kodra on assuming the post and we want to wish her all the best to fulfill this noble task.

Mr. President,

Allow us to reaffirm that we are prepared to contribute to the re-start of the disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control efforts in the CD that are long overdue.

Thank you Mr. President.