UN Disarmament machinery

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UN Disarmament machinery *

UN General Assembly

Disarmament Commission

First Committee

UNODC

UNODA

UNIDIR

Conference on Disarmament

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

* UN Security Council has its own credentials and subsidiary bodies
UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC)

UNDC is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly (UNGA)
UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC), cont’d

- UNDC is mandated to consider and make recommendations on various disarmament related issues and to follow up the relevant decisions;
- Created in 1952 under Security Council. In 1978 established as a subsidiary organ of the UNGA, composed of all Member States of the UN;
- The UNDC, which meets for three weeks in the spring, operates in plenary meetings and working groups, the number of WGs depending on the number of substantive items on its agenda;
- From 1993, it has, in practice, dealt with two or three items, each of which has usually been considered for three consecutive years;
- UNDC has formulated consensus principles, guidelines and recommendations on subjects discussed.
UN GA First Committee
“Disarmament and International Security”

❖ The First Committee deals with disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community;
❖ Considers all disarmament and international security matters within the scope of the UN Charter;
❖ The Committee works in close cooperation with the UN Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament;
❖ The First Committee sessions are structured into three distinctive stages: general debate, thematic discussions and action on drafts. The GA is considered in session the entire year;
❖ Over the years, efforts have been made to rationalize the work of the Committee, concentrating on rearranging its agenda and improving its organization of work.
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

- UNODA was originally established in 1982. In 1992, its name was changed to Centre for Disarmament Affairs; in 1997, it was renamed Department for Disarmament Affairs and in 2007, it became the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.

- The Office promotes:
  - Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;
  - Strengthening of the disarmament regimes in respect to other weapons of mass destruction, and chemical and biological weapons;
  - Disarmament efforts in the area of conventional weapons, especially landmines and small arms, which are the weapons of choice in contemporary conflicts.

- Support to UNDC, CD and UNIDIR by UNODA staff
Conference on Disarmament (CD)

- CD is not formally a United Nations organization, it is linked to the UN through a personal representative of the UN Secretary-General; this representative serves as the secretary general of the conference;
- Established in 1979 as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community. It succeeded other Geneva-based negotiating fora, which include the Ten-Nation Committee on Disarmament (1960), the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament (1962-68, NPT), and the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (1969-78, BWC);
- CD has 65 Member-states. The terms of reference of the CD include practically all multilateral arms control and disarmament problems.
CD was the forum used to negotiate, inter alia, the Biological Weapons Convention (1972) and the Chemical Weapons Convention (1992);

In the 1990s, the CD held intensive efforts over three years to draft the CTBT text and its two annexes, but it did not succeed in reaching consensus on the text (adopted at UN GA on 10 September 1996 by a large majority);

Currently under discussion are Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), Pact to prevent an arms race in outer space (PAROS), nuclear disarmament, and negative security assurances (NSA);

The CD meets in an annual session, which is divided in three parts of 10, 7 and 7 weeks, respectively, according the Rules of Procedure. It reports to the UN General Assembly annually;

No substantial results in last two decades.
The CD has its own rules of procedure and conducts its work by consensus;
The “Decalogue” (ToR) – ten main topics of the CD Agenda. Since 2009, all efforts to work out a comprehensive agreement on the commencement of substantive work (the so-called “program of work”) have never succeeded;
The preliminary discussions of the major issues on the CD are practically organized within the format of three regional groups – western, eastern and so called “group-21” comprising the developing states. A separate entity is China, operating at the CD independently from any of the groups.

**Current priorities at the CD**

**Group 21:** nuclear disarmament;

**Western group** and part of the Eastern group: FMCT;

**Russia and China:** PAROS with the accent on PPWT (draft Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects, submitted in 2008 and blocked by USA);

**Pakistan:** special position on FMCT negotiations. They prefer FMT negotiations with no reference to Shannon mandate.
The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

❖ Established in 1997 in Vienna to assist the UN in better addressing a coordinated, comprehensive response to the interrelated issues of illicit trafficking in and abuse of drugs, crime prevention and criminal justice, international terrorism, and political corruption;

❖ UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch is the key UN entity providing legal counter-terrorism technical assistance to UN Member States, upon request, with the ratification, legislative incorporation and implementation of the universal legal framework against terrorism.
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

- **UNIDIR** is a voluntarily funded autonomous institute within the United Nation, based in Geneva (1980);
- **Mission:** to assist the international community, through its research and educational efforts, in finding and implementing solutions to disarmament and security challenges;
- UNIDIR strives to anticipate new security challenges and threats and to elaborate possible methods to address them;
- **Four research programmes:** weapons of mass destruction, conventional weapons, emerging security issues and security and society.
- **UNIDIR** conducts more than 20 individual projects, holds conferences and seminars and issue annually about 20 publications. Reports to the UN GA annually.
UN Security Council Committees

- The UNSC has established two committees that act under Chapter VII of the UN Charter: the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the 1540 Committee (in counter-terrorism and nonproliferation areas);
- CTC was established pursuant to UN SC Resolution 1373 adopted in 2001 (to counter terrorist activities domestically, regionally and globally: criminalize financing of terrorism, etc.) This ad hoc committee consists of all 15 Council members, and seeks to monitor implementation of this resolution with the assistance of appropriate expertise; By its resolution 1535 (2004), the Council subsequently established the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)
- The UNSC 1540 Committee was established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004). It is charged with monitoring the implementation of the resolution, which seeks to prevent terrorist acquisition of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials;
- On 20 April 2011, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1977 and extends the mandate of the 1540 Committee for a period of ten years to 2021.
Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF)

Established by the Secretary-General in 2005 in the Department of Political Affairs. Consisting of 38 entities of the UN and affiliated organizations, CTITF works to promote coordination and coherence within the UN System on counter-terrorism and to provide assistance to Member States.

From 2018 - Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact TASK Force

UN Counter - Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

Established in 2011, provides capacity-building assistance to Member States and carries out counter-terrorism projects around the world in line with the four pillars of the Global Strategy.
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

In 2017, the CTITF and the UNCCT were moved out of the Department of Political Affairs into a new Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) as established by the GA Res 71/291 on 15 June 2017 and headed by an Under-Secretary-General (Amb. Vladimir Voronkov)

The Office of Counter-Terrorism has five main functions:
(a) provide leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from across the United Nations system;
(b) enhance coordination and coherence across the 38 Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (former CTITF) Task Force entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;
(c) strengthen the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States;
(d) improve visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts; and
(e) ensure that due priority is given to counterterrorism across the United Nations system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy.
The existing United Nations disarmament machinery is criticized as stagnated, bureaucratic and unproductive;

The progress in multilateral nuclear disarmament has been slow to date;

The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva has not been able to carry out negotiations in two decades and the UN Disarmament Commission has not produced a substantive outcome since 1999;

The optimization of UN disarmament system is vital regarding the serious new challenges in the disarmament, nonproliferation and security areas.

UNOCT has to coordinate all UN counter-terrorism activities and global response to new challenges in timely manner.
KEY COMPONENTS OF NUCLEAR SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

UNITED NATIONS* 193 members

GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO COMBAT NUCLEAR TERRORISM (GICNT) 86 members and 5 official observers

INTERPOL* 190 members

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST THE SPREAD OF WEAPONS AND MATERIALS OF MASS DESTRUCTION 29 members

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)* 168 members

WHAT ROLE DO THEY PLAY IN NUCLEAR SECURITY?

UNITED NATIONS
Strengthens International framework

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
Funds and coordinates programs in radiological and nuclear security

GICNT
Strengthens capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to nuclear terrorism

INTERPOL
Prevents trafficking of radiological materials

ICSANT
Criminalizes possession or use of radioactive materials or devices

UNSCR 1540
Aims to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems

IAEA
Provides guidance in developing and implementing nuclear security measures

CPPNM & AMENDMENT
Protects nuclear material during international transport

1540 COMMITTEE
U.N. Security Council committee focused on national implementation of UNSCR 1540

1: http://www.uns2016.org/about-uns/ frequently-asked-questions/
Thank you for your attention!

Questions?