CD plenary
30 June 2020

Statement by Norway, Deputy Permanent Representative, Ms Trine Heimerback

Thank you, President,

On behalf of my delegation, I would like to express Norway’s appreciation to Austria for organising today’s meeting despite the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic brings.

While we all need to continue to be vigilant in order to fight the pandemic, we agree that time has come to restart meetings and processes. This includes physical meetings as long as they can be organised in a way that is safe and inclusive of all.

We’re pleased that extensive consultations led you to decide to resume the work of the CD also in a physical form. We all need to be flexible and find the best possible working methods for the time ahead, for as long as the pandemic is with us, in order to make progress.

We need a CD that engages with the substance of its agenda. Only then can the CD fulfill its mandate. We therefore regret that the CD has again this year been unable to agree on a program of work. However, we would like to commend this year’s presidents for their efforts, including meetings held on thematic issues such as gender and disarmament under Argentina’s presidency.

I would also like to thank the previous president, Australia, for their hard work and consultations conducted during their presidency. (referanse til innlegget deres som vi vil få tilgang til i forkant)

We to have a substantive discussion on nuclear disarmament verification in the CD, which is also called for in UNGA resolution 74/50. This is but one issue we hope the CD will engage on in the future, as we endeavor to get back to substantive work in this body.

Thank you.