

SC on General Status and Operation of the Convention:

1) Discussion on the President's paper on the Intersessional Programme

I would like to thank the presidency for having prepared the non-paper on the Intersessional Programme. We think that it is a very good paper. It makes it very clear that the underlying ideas of the Intersessional Programme are as valid today as they were in 1999. We have to keep focused on these ideas and, at the same time, take into account that this is a dynamic process that has evolved in the last few years. We also agree that it is important to put a renewed emphasis on the implementation on the Convention's humanitarian core objectives.

If there were one element that I would like to stress following the discussion on Friday, it would be that of informality. Like South Africa, we think that this is very important to not to lose this aspect which is one of the major strength of this process.