

Excerpt from Chair's Statement

in the Informal Consultations, 26 January 2011, 3 pm.

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5. Now, in order to ensure that nobody gets lost (again), or takes a wrong turn, let me spell out the rules of the road, again:

- A draft composite text for the elements that will be taken up for the first time at the next session will be prepared on the basis of Members' textual proposals that are submitted by the set deadline. The purpose of this practice is to save time for the drafting group, which can then start work directly from the draft composite text. It goes without saying that Members can of course still make comments and proposals after that deadline – however, these will then be reflected as amendments in the composite text. This means that, once a part of the draft composite text has been discussed in the drafting group, new textual proposals on that part will no longer be integrated by the Secretariat but should be made in this group. So – to illustrate that point – if you would like to make new textual proposals on the part of REGISTRATION, these should be made *coram publico* in the drafting group.
- With regard to the deadline - in order to keep the process moving forward, and in view of the little time we have left before the formal meeting, I suggest the following. A draft composite text for the next

two elements, namely Legal Effects / Consequences of Registration and Fees and Costs will be prepared on the basis of proposals that delegations send in by Wednesday, 2 February, 2011 close of business (Geneva time).

6. In order to pre-empt expected comments from the floor, let me say the following. First, While my discussions with the HODs this morning did not mention the element of Fees and Costs I am setting this deadline also for this element in order to ensure that the deplorable situation of last night is not repeated during our next session and we do not lose further valuable time of overseas' experts. Second, the deadlines are there to encourage delegations to submit text ahead of the drafting group sessions, but they do not pre-empt further textual proposals or comments. They do however mean, that delegations cannot refuse engagement on the element in question, simply because they have no submitted text by the deadline – they are free to make their proposals *in any of the meetings of the drafting group*.
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