

**Statement by Mr. François Rivasseau, Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of France to the Conference on Disarmament**

**Introduction of the draft resolution
on the 25th anniversary of
the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)**

(New York, 19th October 2005)

Mr. Chairman

The international community should be in a position to benefit from the fruit of independent and thorough research on security issues and disarmament and non proliferation prospects.

The work of UNIDIR, which is celebrating this year its 25th anniversary, constitutes, in this regard, a particularly relevant contribution to thinking and analysis on international security issues in the current context. This work, by its topical interest and great quality, is of great importance and benefits to all of us.

Mr. Chairman

We feel it essential that UNIDIR can continue to carry out independent research on disarmament and security issues and conduct specialized studies requiring a high degree of expertise. But this implies that UNIDIR should receive sufficient resources to successfully conduct this work.

This is why this draft resolution, that we are tabling on behalf of France and the co-authors, particularly calls upon member States, who provide for UNIDIR's budget, to continue to allocate these voluntary contributions to enable the Institute to pursue its mission.

More generally, this resolution will also provide the opportunity for us all to express our satisfaction to UNIDIR, and to reaffirm our confidence and assure it of our support. This is why we invite all member States to support and to co-sponsor this project.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.