

**Statement
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**on behalf of the Group of Member States of the
Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
at the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the
Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

on

Cluster 2 issues: Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, safeguards and nuclear-weapon-free-zones

Vienna, 7 May 2012

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am very pleased to speak on behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
2. The Group emphasizes that the Treaty is an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and a key instrument in the efforts to halt the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons.
3. The Group emphasizes that non-proliferation must be pursued and implemented, without exception in all its aspects. The Group further stresses that efforts aiming at nuclear non-proliferation should be parallel to simultaneous efforts aiming at nuclear disarmament.
4. In this regard, the Group attaches great importance to the full compliance of the nuclear-weapon States with Article I of the Treaty under which they have undertaken “not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; and not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce any non-nuclear weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices”. The Group, therefore, stresses that nuclear-weapon States shall refrain and abstain from nuclear weapon-sharing with other States under any kind of security arrangements, including in the framework of military alliances.
5. Likewise, the Group underlines the prime importance of the full compliance of the non-nuclear-weapon States Parties with Article II of the Treaty under which “each non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty undertakes not to receive the transfer from any transferor whatsoever of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or of control over such

weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; not to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and not to seek or receive any assistance in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices". In this regard, the Group stresses that the non-nuclear-weapon States Parties shall refrain and abstain from nuclear weapon-sharing for any purpose and under any kind of security arrangements in times of peace or in times of war, including in the framework of military alliances.

6. In the view of the Group, any such horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon-sharing by States Parties constitutes a clear violation of non-proliferation obligations under Articles I and II of the Treaty.
7. The Group once again would like to reaffirm the importance of Decision 2 of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Treaty on Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament which stipulates that universal adherence to the Treaty is an urgent priority, and that all States not yet party are called upon to accede to the Treaty at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities.
8. The Group reaffirms also that this Decision stipulates that the proliferation of nuclear weapons would seriously increase the danger of nuclear war, that the Treaty has a vital role to play in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and that every effort should be made to implement the Treaty in all its aspects to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, without hampering the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by States parties to the Treaty.

Mr. Chairman,

9. The Group strongly underlines that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament, non-proliferation and international security issues. In this regard, the Group underlines that the IAEA established multilateral mechanism is the most appropriate way to address verification and safeguards issues. At the same time, the Group emphasizes that the IAEA's work with regard to safeguards and verification has to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of its Statute and safeguards agreements. The Group expresses its strong concern at the growing resort to unilateralism and unilaterally imposed prescriptions.
10. The Group fully recognizes the role of the IAEA as the sole competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring compliance by States Parties with their safeguards agreements undertaken under Article III (1) of the Treaty, for the exclusive purpose of verification of the fulfillment of their obligations assumed under this Treaty with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

11. The Group stresses the statutory role of the IAEA on nuclear disarmament including applying safeguards on nuclear materials derived from the dismantling of nuclear weapons, and recognizes the Agency's capability to verify nuclear disarmament agreement.
12. The Group emphasizes that it is fundamental to make clear distinction between legal obligations and voluntary confidence-building measures and that such voluntary undertakings shall not be turned into legal safeguards obligations. In this regard, the Group also emphasizes that IAEA shall ensure avoiding any ultra vires acts which jeopardizes its integrity and credibility. The Group urges States Parties to the Treaty to maintain and strengthen the technical character of the IAEA consistent with its Statute.
13. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty emphasizes that non-proliferation must be pursued and implemented, without exception, through the strict observance of and adherence to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to IAEA comprehensive safeguards as a condition for any cooperation in the nuclear area with States not parties to the Treaty. In the view of the Group, new supply arrangements for the transfer of source or special fissionable material or equipment or material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material to non-nuclear-weapon States should require, as a necessary precondition, acceptance of IAEA full-scope safeguards and internationally legally binding commitments not to acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
14. The Group underlines the importance that the reporting of the IAEA on the implementation of safeguards should continue to be factual and technically based and reflect appropriate reference to the relevant provisions of safeguards agreements.
15. The Group stresses the need to strictly observe the provisions of the IAEA Statute, including its Article 12 which outlines the mandate of the Agency in verifying compliance with safeguards agreements and in particular that any non-compliance has first to be reported by the Agency's inspectors.
16. The Group believes that the differentiated nature of the financial obligations undertaken by Member States of the IAEA with respect to safeguards should be recognized and respected by the IAEA in its work.

Mr. Chairman,

17. The Group welcomes the efforts aimed at establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones in all regions of the world and calls for cooperation and broad consultations in order to achieve agreements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned. In this regard, the Group continues to consider nuclear-weapon-free zones created by the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Semipalatinsk as a positive step and important measure towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. (agreed)

18. In this regard, the Group strongly supports the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East and calls for the full implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, which is an integral and essential part of the package of decisions reached without a vote that enabled the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995. In the view of the Group, this resolution remains valid until its objectives are achieved. Pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, the Group demands on Israel, the only country in the region that has neither joined the Treaty nor declared its intention to do so, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the NPT without precondition and further delay, and to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under the IAEA full-scope safeguards.
19. Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the detailed plan of action on the Middle East, of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the Group strongly urges the UN Secretary-General and the co-sponsors of the 1995 Resolution, in close consultation and coordination with all States of the region, to exert all efforts towards the successful convening of the Conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.
20. The Group reiterates that, in the context of the nuclear-weapon-free zones, it is essential that the nuclear-weapon States provide unconditional, non-discriminatory and concrete legal assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all States of the zone concerned. In this regard, the Group strongly calls for the withdrawal of any related reservations or unilateral interpretative declarations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of such treaties. The Group further calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to fulfil their obligations towards the achievement of the objectives of the Treaties to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and their protocols.
21. Finally, I would like to draw attention to the relevant Working Papers submitted by the Group, which contain the Group's detailed position.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.