

**Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review  
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty  
on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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**Report on the Middle East submitted under paragraph 16, subparagraph 7 of the  
chapter of the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference devoted to  
article VII, on measures taken by France to promote the achievement of a  
zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction  
and the realization of the goals and objectives of the 1995 resolution  
on the Middle East**

**Report submitted by France**

1. On 30 April 2003, at a press conference on the Middle East, Mr. Dominique de Villepin, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement on the subject of the Middle East:

*“Where non-proliferation is concerned, we reject the status quo.*

*“The multilateral non-proliferation regime is intended to apply to the entire region. It must be accompanied by efforts to devise a new regional security framework based on confidence-building and non-aggression measures. The project for a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, presented by President Mubarak and based on Security Council resolution 687, offers a solid foundation in this regard.*

*“We must move forward simultaneously in several directions:*

*“First, we must consider how to carry out tough inspections, under United Nations auspices.*

*“Second, we must secure new commitments from the countries of the region:*

*“To sign the Chemical Weapons Convention;*

*“To subscribe to the code of conduct against missile proliferation;*

*“To sign the IAEA additional protocol known as 93+2.*

*“Third, we must offer technical and financial assistance from the international community to the countries in the region which undertake to eliminate their weapons of mass destruction completely and verifiably.*

*“Fourth, we must make the granting of economic benefits to countries whose intentions are in doubt subject to commitments in the non-proliferation field.*

*“We suggest that new lines of thinking should be pursued on the occasion of the Security Council meeting on non-proliferation which has been proposed by the French President.*

*“Today, it is clear that there is a need to embark on a proactive strategy, to transform challenges into opportunities. France, guided by its values, its principles, its convictions, seeks to move forward together with all its partners in response to the urgent needs of the entire region.”*

2. France reiterates its support for the objectives of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the NPT Review and Extension Conference in 1995.
3. It calls for the implementation of this resolution by all the States concerned, so as to secure progress towards a lasting peace in the Middle East and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region.
4. France has taken every opportunity, at the bilateral and multilateral level, to emphasize the importance of the following steps:
  - The establishment of a dialogue among all the States of the region in order to restore peace and stability in the Middle East in a lasting manner;
  - Respect for the nuclear non-proliferation commitments entered into by all the States parties to the NPT;
  - Peaceful disarmament of the States which are violating their non-proliferation obligations, under the authority of the United Nations Security Council;
  - A halt to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems in the region;
  - Accession by all States to the relevant international instruments, in particular the NPT, the CTBT, the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention, and endorsement by all of the Hague code against missile proliferation;
  - Action by all States which have undertaken to do so to adopt comprehensive safeguards and to place all nuclear facilities in the region under IAEA safeguards;
  - Adoption and implementation of an additional IAEA protocol by all States in the region;

- Elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons and ballistic missile programmes involving proliferation;
  - Strengthening of national measures to monitor exports of goods and technologies which can be used in the development of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems;
  - Prevention of the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems by terrorists;
  - Endorsement by all the States in the region of the G-8 principles adopted in Kananaskis;
  - Identification and securing of all dangerous sources of radiation in the region.
5. France will continue to work towards these objectives in all relevant forums, with all States and partners concerned.

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