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 of the Kingdom of Morocco on the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the 1995 resolution on the Middle East

- I. Implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament
 - 1. The Kingdom of Morocco remains committed to general and complete disarmament and, in particular, nuclear disarmament. Since its accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1970, it has consistently worked in favour of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and their non-proliferation. Morocco considers that the Non-Proliferation Treaty is the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and a key instrument for preserving peace and security in the world. Accordingly, it has always supported initiatives aimed at strengthening the authority of the regime and promoting its universality.
 - 2. In implementation of the Treaty, Morocco concluded a safeguard agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1975. It is at an advanced stage in discussions with the Agency with a view to signing to the Additional Protocol in the near future.
 - 3. In the General Assembly, Morocco has always supported the adoption of resolutions to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
 - 4. As a contracting party, the Kingdom of Morocco has consistently supported decisions aimed at strengthening the Treaty's review process.
 - 5. The new international security situation, which came about after the events of 11 September 2001, underscored the vital importance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the need to preserve its validity and credibility in order to face threats linked to nuclear terrorism and arms of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles. Morocco believes that the Non-Proliferation Treaty's multilateral regime must be strengthened in order to combat the illegal proliferation of nuclear facilities and materials and the risks of nuclear terrorism.

- 6. Morocco ratified the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. It also notified the IAEA Director-General of its acceptance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.
- 7. Morocco underscores the crucial importance of respect by all States parties for the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the obligations under it.
- 8. Morocco, which supports a total nuclear-test ban, signed and ratified the Treaty on the Total Ban on Nuclear Tests. It deplores the fact that the Treaty, which was opened for signature on 24 September 1996, has still not entered into force. In this regard, it reiterates its appeal to all States which have not yet done so to accede to the Treaty without delay. It stresses the importance of respecting the nuclear-test moratoriums and the holding of conferences to facilitate the Treaty's entry into force.
- 9. Morocco reaffirms the inalienable right of the States parties to the Treaty to develop research in and the production and use of the energy for peaceful purposes, particularly through international cooperation under IAEA control.
- 10. Morocco supports actions aimed at ending the deadlock in the work of the Conference on Disarmament and continues to support the opening of negotiations for the elaboration of the treaty on fissile material, a legal instrument on negative security assurances and also a convention on nuclear disarmament.
- 11. Morocco fully supports the positive conclusions of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and reaffirms the importance of their implementation by the States parties in a transparent and irreversible manner.

II. Implementation of the 1995 resolution on the establishment of a nuclear-weaponfree zone in the region of the Middle East

- 1. The Kingdom of Morocco remains convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones helps strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. For this reason, it has always supported the establishment of such zones where they do not exist.
- 2. Morocco was one of the first countries to call for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East because it considers that the existence of such a zone is not only a necessary measure to eliminate proliferation and insecurity in the region, but is also an international objective and a factor for the consolidation of peace and security in the world.
- 3. In the League of Arab States, Morocco has participated in the elaboration of a legal and technical mechanism relating to the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.
- 4. Within IAEA, Morocco is taking active steps to promote the implementation of the Agency's safeguards regime throughout the region of the Middle East because it believes that this is an essential international security measure.
- 5. Morocco encourages the conclusion by all States in the region of the Middle East, including Israel, of generalized safeguards agreements with IAEA, as an important step towards establishing a climate of trust among the States of the region

and a preliminary measure for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

- 6. Morocco has helped to promote confidence-building measures among the States that are parties to the conflict in the Middle East, particularly by participating in the activities of the Multilateral Working Group on Regional Security and Disarmament Questions in the Middle East.
- 7. The establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East requires that the only State in the region that is not yet a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty Israel accede to it and submit its nuclear installations to the IAEA safeguards regime. This concern was explicitly referred to in the decisions of the 1995 and 2000 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conferences.
- 8. Morocco stresses the need for all parties concerned to take, as a matter of urgency, specific measures to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly their intention to refrain, on the basis of reciprocity, from manufacturing, acquiring or possessing in any other way nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and not to authorize the stationing of nuclear weapons in their territory by any third party.
- 9. Morocco believes that appropriate security measures for nuclear installations should be put in place.
- 10. The Kingdom of Morocco is carrying out ongoing work at both the regional and international levels to encourage all States in the region to commit themselves to bringing about a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.
- 11. The Kingdom of Morocco unceasingly reiterates its appeal to the nuclear Powers, particularly the depositaries of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and to the international community and international organizations to assume their respective responsibilities in bringing about a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

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