2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of the 1995 resolution on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East

National report of Morocco

1. The Kingdom of Morocco remains convinced that the creation of nuclearweapon-free zones contributes to strengthening the non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament regime. For that reason, it has always supported the creation of such zones where they did not exist.

2. The Kingdom of Morocco ascribes particular importance to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. Morocco was one of the first countries to call for the establishment of such a zone, because it believes that such a zone is not only necessary in order to banish proliferation and insecurity in this region, but is also an international objective and a factor in the consolidation of peace and security in the world.

3. Establishing such a zone in the Middle East, in accordance with the commitments made by the international community in adopting, by consensus, the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, is of vital importance in maintaining regional and international stability and security.

4. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East requires that Israel, the only State in the region that is not yet a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, accede thereto and submit its nuclear installations to the IAEA safeguards regime. This concern was specifically mentioned in the decisions of the review conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons held in 1995 and 2000.

5. Morocco calls on all States of the Middle East region, including Israel, to conclude comprehensive safeguard agreements with IAEA, as an important step towards the creation of a climate of trust between the States of the region, and a preliminary measure for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

6. Morocco stresses the need for all the parties concerned to take concrete measures, as a matter of urgency, to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in 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 in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices, and not to allow the stationing of nuclear weapons in their territories by any third party.

7. The Kingdom of Morocco is engaged in sustained action, at both regional and international levels, to encourage all States in the region to undertake the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

8. In this connection, Morocco is one of the sponsors of the General Assembly resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" and has always voted in favour of General Assembly resolutions calling for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. It has also supported IAEA resolutions GC(53)/RES/16 and GC(53)/RES/17 on the application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East and on Israeli nuclear capabilities, respectively.

9. At the level of the League of Arab States, Morocco is participating in the development of a legal and technical mechanism for the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

10. Within IAEA, Morocco is engaged in promoting the application of the comprehensive safeguards regime throughout the Middle East region, because it believes that this is an essential international security measure.

11. Morocco has also expressed its support for all initiatives designed to facilitate the establishment of such a zone, including the IAEA proposal to organize a forum with the participation of the countries of the region.

12. The Kingdom of Morocco continues to call on the nuclear Powers, and particularly the depositaries of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the international community and international organizations to live up to their responsibilities with a view to establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.