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

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## **Steps taken to promote the achievement of an effectively verifiable Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and the realization of the goals and objectives of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East**

### **Report submitted by Sweden**

1. In part I of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (see the section entitled “Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States”, para. 16, subpara. 7), it is stated that:

“The Conference requests all States parties, particularly the nuclear-weapon States, the States of the Middle East and other interested States, to report through the United Nations Secretariat to the President of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as to the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee meetings to be held in advance of that Conference, on the steps that they have taken to promote the achievement of such a zone [i.e., a Middle East 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.”

2. Sweden would hereby like to communicate the following information regarding the realization of the goals and objectives of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East.

“1. *Endorses* the aims and objectives of the Middle East peace process and recognizes that efforts in this regard, as well as other efforts, contribute to, inter alia, a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction.”

3. Sweden supports negotiations for a just, enduring and comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East, based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the principles derived from successive agreements between the parties. Sweden

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\* Remark of Sweden.



is strongly committed to the need for a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. This goal could be promoted in several ways, for example, by making full use of the confidence-building measures that exist within the framework of European Union-Mediterranean cooperation (the Barcelona Process/Union for the Mediterranean) and by establishing mechanisms for transparent and reliable verification in order to destroy weapons of mass destruction in the region.

“2. ... call on those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards ...”

4. Sweden continues to emphasize the importance of universal accession and adherence to the Treaty. It calls upon Israel to sign and ratify the Treaty and to place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

“3. *Notes with concern* the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded facilities ... urging those non-parties to the Treaty ... that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities to accept full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.”

5. Sweden remains concerned about the existence of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities in the region. It urges all States in the Middle East that have not yet done so to conclude and bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols with IAEA.

“4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty, and calls upon all States in the Middle East that have not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.”

6. See answer under paragraphs 4 and 5 of the present document.

“5. *Calls* upon all States in the Middle East to take practical steps in appropriate forums aimed at making progress towards, inter alia, the establishment of an effectively verifiable Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear, chemical and biological, and their delivery systems, and to refrain from measures that preclude the achievement of this objective.”

7. Sweden is strongly committed to the establishment of zones free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. Sweden supported General Assembly resolution 64/26, entitled “Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East”, which was adopted without a vote by the Assembly at its sixty-fourth session.

8. The Islamic Republic of Iran’s nuclear programme presents a major challenge to the global non-proliferation regime. The Islamic Republic of Iran must fulfil the requirements of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors. The Islamic Republic of Iran should cooperate fully with IAEA for the purpose of clarifying all outstanding issues, in particular any military dimensions, and ratify and implement the additional protocol. Sweden supports the dual-track policy and efforts to achieve a negotiated solution with the Islamic Republic of Iran on its nuclear programme.

9. Sweden regrets that the Syrian Arab Republic has not yet responded in a satisfactory manner to the requests by IAEA, and calls for an early clarification of remaining questions in relation to the ongoing IAEA inquiry. The Syrian Arab Republic should cooperate fully with IAEA and show the necessary transparency in order to allow the completion of the Agency's assessment. The Syrian Arab Republic should sign and ratify the additional protocol.

“6. *Calls* upon all States party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to extend their cooperation and to exert their utmost efforts with a view to ensuring the early establishment by regional parties of a Middle East zone free of nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.”

10. Sweden continues to support the establishment of a regional zone free of nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction.

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