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

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Working paper on implementation of the resolution on the Middle East that was adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and of the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference with regard to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, submitted by the Lebanese Republic on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States to the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

1. The Arab States remind the international community that the resolution on the Middle East, which was adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, was one of the most important outcomes of that Conference and one of the fundamental elements that made it possible to extend the Treaty indefinitely without a vote. The Arab States express their deep concern that, 15 years after its adoption, the resolution has still not been implemented, thereby prejudicing the credibility of not only all the resolutions adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, but of the Treaty itself.
2. The Arab States insist that the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference must be implemented. Among other things, the Final Document (a) states that the 1995 resolution on the Middle East remains valid until the goals and objectives are achieved; (b) welcomes the accession of all Arab States to the Treaty; (c) calls for Israel to accede to the Treaty and place all its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
3. At the three sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference, the Arab States submitted detailed working papers¹ which set forth basic information and their positions on implementation of the resolution on the Middle East.

¹ The first working paper (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.28) was submitted for the first session of the Preparatory Committee, held in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May 2007. The second (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.II/WP.2) was submitted for the second session, held in Geneva from 28 April to 9 May 2008. The third (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.III/WP.23) was submitted for the third session, held in New York from 4 to 15 May 2009.



4. The Arab States affirm that Israel's persistent refusal to accede to the Treaty and defiance of the relevant resolutions threaten the safety and security of the Arab States, all of which are parties to the Treaty. Indeed, that situation threatens the security of the region as a whole, casts doubt on the capacity of the Treaty to achieve security and may in the future lead the Arab States to review their approach to the issue.

5. The Arab States affirm that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones would make an effective contribution to the consolidation of the non-proliferation regime, and emphasize the need for a nuclear-weapon-free zone to be established in the Middle East. That measure would promote non-proliferation and constitute a significant step towards achieving the universality of the Treaty in the Middle East.

6. The Arab States call on the Security Council to exercise its authority by exerting genuine pressure on Israel to implement United Nations resolutions concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

7. The Arab States insist that a subsidiary body must be established under Main Committee II of the 2010 Review Conference in order to discuss and follow up implementation of the resolution on the Middle East and determine a mechanism to follow up that process.

8. In the light of the above, the Arab States strongly urge the 2010 Conference to adopt resolutions in order to:

(a) Emphasize that the existence of any nuclear weapons in the Middle East constitutes a threat to regional and international peace and security. The international community should exert the necessary pressure on Israel and compel it to comply with the relevant United Nations and IAEA resolutions, thereby ridding the Middle East of nuclear weapons;

(b) Reiterate the call on Israel to accede without delay to the Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapon State and place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards in order to achieve the universality of the Treaty in the Middle East;

(c) Affirm that nuclear-weapon-States should comply with the provisions of Article I of the Treaty by not transferring to Israel any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or nuclear devices directly, or indirectly, and by not in any way assisting, encouraging, or inducing Israel to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Such actions affect the credibility of the Treaty, and could prompt the States of the region to adopt a different approach in the future;

(d) Emphasize that, in keeping with the seventh preambular paragraph and with Article IV of the Treaty, all States parties to the Treaty should declare their commitment not to cooperate with Israel in the nuclear domain or transfer to it any related equipment, information, materials, facilities or resources;

(e) Call on the United Nations to convene an international conference that genuinely aims, within a specific time frame, to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including the General Assembly resolutions entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East"; and call on IAEA to

prepare the necessary reference documents, drawing on its experience in preparing for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in other regions of the world;

(f) Establish a standing committee comprising the members of the Bureau of the 2010 Review Conference, with a mandate to follow up implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, which called on Israel to accede to the Treaty forthwith and place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards. The Committee should also follow up implementation of the outcome of the 2010 Review Conference, and submit a comprehensive report thereon to the 2015 Review Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, in order to inform them of the progress made;

(g) Follow up and monitor implementation of those commitments through reports submitted by States parties to the 2015 Review Conference and to the sessions of the Preparatory Committee that will be convened prior to that Conference;

(h) Request the Secretariat of the United Nations to circulate those reports at the 2015 Review Conference and sessions of the Preparatory Committee, with a view to considering and evaluating the progress made in implementing State commitments;

(i) Affirm to the Agency that the relevant IAEA resolutions should be implemented, including the resolution entitled "Israeli nuclear capabilities" (GC (53)/RES/17), which was adopted by the General Conference in September 2009, and that interim reports on implementation should be submitted to the IAEA Board of Governors and General Conference. Those reports should include all the measures that have been adopted by the Agency and its Director General pursuant to those resolutions.
