

Islamic Republic of

I R A N

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful

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**Statement by
The Islamic Republic of Iran
Subsidiary Body of Main Committee II
2010 NPT Review Conference
New York, 11 May 2010**

Madam Chairperson,

At the outset I would like to congratulate you for the assumption of this responsibility and assure you of my delegation's cooperation for the successful accomplishment of the mandate of this subsidiary body.

The establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones as reaffirmed at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD1) constitutes an important disarmament measure, which enhances the regional and global peace and security, and reinforces the non-proliferation objectives. Hence, the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in Latin America, the South Pacific, Africa, South-East Asia and Central Asia are all effective initiatives towards the attainment of a world entirely free from nuclear weapons.

Madam Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

The establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East has been a long-standing goal of the people of the region. First initiated by Iran in 1974, the idea of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone as an important disarmament measure in the Middle East was followed by the UN General Assembly resolutions which the last one is resolution 64/26 adopted in 2009.

Indeed, the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East will strengthen the security and stability in the region.

The resolution on the Middle East, as reaffirmed in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference, is an essential element of the package of agreements in the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, the basis on which the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was indefinitely extended without a vote.

The 2000 NPT Review Conference called upon all States in the Middle East, with no exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place their nuclear facilities under the full scope safeguards of IAEA. The Conference also specifically emphasized on the accession of the Zionist regime to the Non-proliferation Treaty and placement of all its nuclear facilities under IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards.

However, despite repeated calls by the international community demonstrated in the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the parties to the NPT, and related resolutions of the General Assembly as well as those of the IAEA and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Zionist regime has neither acceded to that Treaty nor has it placed its unwarranted nuclear facilities under full scope of the IAEA safeguards. The Zionist regime's benefiting from the full support of the United States and couple of other western allies has continued to refuse to accede to the Treaty and even declaring its intention to do so.

This regime is the only one with the dark record of attacking nuclear facilities of the States Parties of the NPT and continues to threaten to attack IAEA-safeguarded peaceful nuclear facilities of other states in the region. Needless to say that, the brutal attacks and aggressions by the Israeli regime against its neighbors under absurd pretexts, killing civilians, including women and children in Gaza by prohibited and devastating weapons and defying all and any call by the international community to stop the bloodshed of the innocent people, are blatant evidence of the grave threat posed by such an aggressive regime. Indeed, it magnifies how much nuclear weapon in the hands of such a regime could endanger the regional security. As the only non-party to the NPT in the Middle East, its nuclear weapons activities seriously threaten both regional and international peace and security, and endanger the non-proliferation regime.

The recent resolutions of the IAEA General Conference on the nuclear capabilities of the Zionist regime (GC (53)/RES/17) and the application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East (GC (53)/RES/16) are another manifestation of the international concern over the threat posed by the nuclear weapon program of this

regime and the main obstacle to the establishment of the Middle East nuclear weapon free zone.

Madam Chairperson, distinguished colleagues,

I have to recall the obligation of all States Parties under articles I, II and III of the Treaty, and the 2000 NPT Review Conference in which called upon all States Parties not to cooperate or give assistance in the nuclear or nuclear-related field to states not parties to the Treaty in a manner that would assist them in manufacturing nuclear weapons or any other nuclear explosive devices. Unfortunately, the inaction of the Security Council imposed upon by certain veto wielding countries over the past several decades in addressing the well-documented nuclear weapons programme implemented by the Zionist regime, has given the audacity to that regime on occasions to explicitly acknowledge possession of nuclear weapons. That acknowledgment was condemned by the Non-Aligned Movement in its statement issued on 5 February 2007.

This Review Conference should also condemn this regime for its defiance of the international calls and urge it to immediately stop its nuclear weapons activities. Moreover, it is not well beyond the expectation of the International community from the Security Council to fulfill its Charter responsibility in addressing such a clear and serious threat to international peace and security and take prompt and appropriate actions accordingly.

An agreed plan of action for the universality of the NPT, especially in the Middle East, should be on the agenda of all States Parties to the Treaty, in particular nuclear-weapon states. Additionally, there should be greater pressure on the Zionist regime to accede to the Treaty promptly and without condition, and to place all its nuclear facilities under the full scope of the IAEA safeguards. These two major steps undoubtedly prelude the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

Madam Chairperson,

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the Review Conference should focus mainly on the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East. In this context the Nuclear Weapons States in particular the sponsors of the 1995 resolution bear the main responsibility and have the obligation to implement it without any further delay. Any proposal on this topic should be consistent to that important resolution and aim at compelling the Zionist Regime to accede to the Treaty. It is a matter of concern that certain Nuclear Weapon States instead of fulfilling their obligations make proposals that not only undermine the 1995 Resolution, but also intend to grant legitimacy to this Regime and its nuclear

weapons through such proposals. No one should doubt that the accession of Israeli Regime to the NPT is the main prerequisite for the establishment of the Middle East Nuclear Weapon Free zone. It should be affirmed that any proposal which undermines the main essence of the resolution, that is accession of Israeli Regime to the NPT, dooms to fail.

We believe that achieving the goal of the Middle East Nuclear Weapon Free zone is not too difficult, provided that there is a political will by certain nuclear weapon States to fulfill their undertaking under 1995 NPT Review Conference. As long as US, France and UK continue their nuclear sharing and cooperation with the Israeli Regime and support this regime at any price with total ignorance of all its aggressions and violations, and impede the Security Council to take any action in this regard, how can we expect this Regime to accede to the Treaty?

I have to draw the attention of the conference to the policy of hypocrisy, ambiguity and deception of the Israeli Regime as regards the possession of nuclear weapons. I recall that former prime minister of the regime declared the possession of nuclear weapons in the course of his interview with channel 24 of German TV, where its representative to the IAEA denied the possession after facing avalanche of condemnations. The Islamic Republic of Iran proposed to the IAEA to send a fact finding mission in order to find out the reality on the ground and to report to the international community the status quo. During the General Conference of the IAEA, my Government did also announce its readiness to bear the cost of such an important verification mission by the IAEA.

Due to importance of the Middle East region and in order to meet all those obligations stipulated either in the Article VII of the NPT, the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East and the agreements contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, the Islamic Republic of Iran is of the view that all States Parties to the Treaty particularly the nuclear-weapon states, as sponsors of the 1995 Middle East Resolution, should continue to report their measures on the implementation of this resolution through the United Nations Secretariat to the President of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty.

In conclusion, Madame Chair, the following immediate steps should be taken by this Review Conference:

- 1- To Recall that the 1995 resolution on the Middle East as an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and of the basis of which the NPT was indefinitely extended, without a vote in 1995, and that the resolution remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved.
- 2- To reaffirm the resolution on the Middle East adopted in 1995, as well as the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference (Part I), which "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 IAEA safeguards.” To this end, there should be greater pressure on the Zionist regime, in particular by sponsors of that resolution in order to implement it promptly.

3- To condemn this regime for acknowledgment of possession of nuclear weapons, and urge it to immediately stop its nuclear weapons activities,

4- To call upon Israeli regime to accede to the NPT and place all its nuclear materials and facilities under IAEA full scope safeguards without any condition and further delay, and not later than the first Preparatory Committee session of the next NPT Review Conference (2012),

5- To strictly prohibit the transfer of any nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices, and the extension of know-how or any kind of assistance to and cooperation with Israel in the nuclear fields, as long as it remains a non-party to the NPT and has not placed all its nuclear facilities under full-scope IAEA safeguards. States parties to the NPT should also undertake to disclose all information available to them on the nature and scope of Israeli nuclear capabilities, including information pertaining to previous nuclear transfers to Israel.

6- To reaffirm that all State Parties to the Treaty particularly the nuclear weapon States, and sponsors of the 1995 Middle East Resolution, should continue to report on implementation of this resolution through the United Nations Secretariat to the President of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty.

7- To call upon States Parties to the NPT to disclose all information available to them on the nature and scope of Israeli nuclear capabilities, including information pertaining to previous nuclear transfer to Israel.

8- To adopt a plan of action for the universality of the NPT, particularly in the Middle East, taking into account the special responsibility of nuclear weapon states.

9- To establish a standing committee to monitor the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East as well as the agreements of the 2000 NPT Review Conference in this regard and to report to the States parties to the Treaty.

Thank you.