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**Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East  
Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons  
of Mass Destruction****Sixth session**

New York, 17–21 November 2025

**Working paper submitted by Libya****I. Negative security assurances provided by  
nuclear-weapon States****Introduction**

Negative security assurances are one of the fundamental mechanisms for strengthening collective security, particularly for nuclear-weapon-free zones. In this context, the need to provide such assurances in the Middle East is crucial for building trust and advancing disarmament.

**Legal and political framework**

Security assurances have been provided under treaties such as the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) and the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Treaty of Bangkok), while the Middle East still lacks a similar framework. It is essential for nuclear-weapon States to make unconditional commitments not to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear States in the region.

**Practical proposals**

- Call upon nuclear-weapon States to provide unconditional written pledges.
- Formulate an interim protocol that can be gradually adopted.
- Issue a Security Council resolution to reinforce these assurances.
- Encourage regional understandings based on refraining from seeking nuclear weapons.

**Conclusion**

The State of Libya affirms that negative security assurances represent an indispensable pillar for the successful establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, and that they must be prioritized both by the Conference and by the nuclear-weapon States.



## **II. Cooperation, consultation, clarification and dispute settlement**

### **Introduction**

The Middle East region is plagued by chronic political tensions, which highlights the importance of creating mechanisms for cooperation and dispute settlement as part of the efforts to establish a zone free of weapons of mass destruction.

### **Proposals to activate cooperation and consultation**

- Establish a permanent mechanism for technical and political consultation.
- Create a joint contact centre for information exchange.
- Exchange voluntary data on the peaceful uses of relevant technologies.

### **Clarification and dispute settlement mechanisms**

- Launch a regional mechanism for resolving nuclear-related disputes.
- Develop a clear protocol for addressing allegations.
- Cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

### **Expected positive effects**

- Building a regular regional dialogue environment.
- Reducing tensions and achieving mutual security.
- Supporting the credibility of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

### **Conclusion**

The State of Libya believes that continuous dialogue and consultation mechanisms constitute a fundamental pillar for the success of establishing the zone and that they must be reinforced through clear regional commitments.

## **III. Promoting cooperation between nuclear-weapon-free zones and the Middle East Conference**

### **Introduction**

Several regions around the world have successfully established nuclear-weapon-free zones and these experiences provide valuable lessons that can benefit the Middle East in its pursuit of a similar goal.

### **Objectives of the proposed cooperation**

- Transfer legal and technical expertise.
- Gain political and moral support.
- Coordinate positions in international forums.

### **Practical proposals for cooperation**

- Organize joint regional dialogues.

- Establish an informal coordination platform.
- Request technical support from IAEA and the United Nations.
- Include a standing item on cooperation in the agenda of the Conference.

**Expected benefits**

- Accelerating the process of establishing the zone.
- Enhancing the political credibility of the Conference.
- Supporting the development of strategic partnerships with other regions.

**Conclusion**

The State of Libya emphasizes the importance of international and regional cooperation in building a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East and calls for this axis to be adopted as part of the permanent working mechanisms of the Conference.

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