

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

7 May 2007

English

Original: Chinese/English

First session

Vienna, 30 April-11 May 2007

Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

Working paper submitted by China

1. The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation is conducive to the maintenance of regional and international peace and security. Nuclear non-proliferation is therefore in the common interest and a shared responsibility of the international community.
2. The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation is also an effective and necessary step towards the complete prohibition and total elimination of nuclear weapons. In this regard, the efforts of the international community to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation are an indispensable part of the international nuclear disarmament process.
3. All States should work towards the development of a global security environment that is based on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation and one that ensures common security for all members of the international community, thereby removing any justification for States to acquire, develop or maintain nuclear weapons.
4. In order to achieve the goal of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, States should promote dialogue on an equal basis and strengthen international cooperation with a view to further developing and improving international nuclear non-proliferation regimes.
5. All concerns related to the proliferation of nuclear weapons should be addressed peacefully through political and diplomatic means within the framework of existing international laws. The imposition of sanctions is not an effective way of resolving problems. States should refrain from resorting to the use or threat of force. Building upon the efforts that have already been made, parties concerned should be encouraged to continue exploring through dialogue and negotiations effective ways of addressing outstanding regional nuclear issues.
6. There must be an end to double standards on nuclear non-proliferation. It is essential to ensure that the international nuclear non-proliferation regime is fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory in nature. Efforts to strengthen the regime should respect the principle of multilateralism and be characterized by universal



participation and democratic decision-making. Great importance should be attached and full play given to the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in these efforts.

7. Nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually reinforcing. Legitimate rights to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should be guaranteed on condition that the goal of nuclear non-proliferation is respected. Efforts should be made to prevent any State from engaging in nuclear weapons proliferation activity under the guise of the peaceful use of nuclear energy. In that connection, any international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy should serve to strengthen the principles and effectiveness of the international non-proliferation regime.

8. Every effort should be made to consolidate and enhance the role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime. In order to ensure the effectiveness and integrity of the NPT, each and every obligation under the Treaty should be strictly observed and fully implemented.

9. The universality of the NPT is an important factor for the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation. Those States that have not yet done so are urged to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States as soon as possible and place all their nuclear facilities under the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty.

10. The IAEA safeguards are an important means of preserving the effectiveness of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. To that end, the universality of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols should be promoted.

11. All States should seriously implement resolution 1540 (2004) of the United Nations Security Council and enhance and consolidate international cooperation on the basis of existing international law in order to deal appropriately with the illicit trafficking of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and related materials by non-State actors.

12. Measures should also be taken to further strengthen nuclear export control regimes and the efforts of the Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to this end should be supported.

13. Lastly, effective measures should be taken to strengthen nuclear security and to guard against and combat nuclear terrorism. To that end, the efforts of IAEA to guard against nuclear terrorism should be supported.
