

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 6 APRIL 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANCE, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE CONFERENCE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THEIR JOINT DECLARATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE NPT

We have the honour to forward to you the text of a Declaration by France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, in connection with the NPT. This Declaration will be made at the plenary session of the Conference on Disarmament on 6 April 1995.

We should be grateful if you would kindly take the appropriate steps to register this document as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament, and to have it distributed to all member delegations and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed): Gérard Errera
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of France to the
Conference on Disarmament

(Signed): Grigori V. Berdennikov
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the Conference on
Disarmament

(Signed): Sir Michael Weston
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the United Kingdom
to the Conference on
Disarmament

(Signed): Stephen J. Ledogar
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
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Disarmament

DECLARATION BY FRANCE, RUSSIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND
THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NPT

We wish to express our continuing strong support for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), our desire that the forthcoming Review and Extension Conference in New York should decide on its indefinite and unconditional continuation in force and our determination to continue to implement fully all the provisions of the Treaty, including those in article VI.

We welcome the fact that the nuclear arms race has ceased and that, in keeping with the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, important steps have been taken towards nuclear disarmament, as a result of the agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the Russian Federation and the United States of America as well as the significant reductions made by France and the United Kingdom in their nuclear weapon programmes.

We welcome the important progress made at the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in the multilateral negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty to which we are all contributing actively.

We also welcome the establishment by the CD of an Ad Hoc Committee with a mandate to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. We urge that the negotiations begin forthwith.

We underline the importance of the harmonized security assurances which we have given to non-nuclear-weapon States Parties to the NPT against the use of nuclear weapons, as well as the commitments as regards the provision of appropriate assistance to a non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the NPT victim of aggression or threat of aggression with nuclear weapons. We believe that these strengthen international peace and security.

We solemnly reaffirm our commitment, as stated in article VI, to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to nuclear disarmament, which remains our ultimate goal.

We reaffirm our determination to continue to negotiate intensively, as a high priority, a universal and multilaterally and effectively verifiable comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty, and we pledge our support for its conclusion without delay.

We call upon all States Parties to the NPT to make the Treaty permanent. This will be crucial for the full realization of the goals set out in article VI.

We call upon all States that are not Parties to the NPT to accede to it soon, thereby contributing to the enhancement of both regional and global security.

A truly universal and fully implemented Treaty is in the interests of all.
