
**Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

2 May 2003

ORIGINAL: English

Second Session

Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2003

Implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**Report submitted by Sri Lanka**

1. In the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the State Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Conference agreed on regular reports by all State Parties, within the framework of the strengthened review process on the implementation of article VI and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 Decision on Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. Sri Lanka hereby submits its report to the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT.
2. Sri Lanka participated in the 2000 NPT Review Conference and contributed to the successful adoption of its Final Document. Sri Lanka believes that nuclear disarmament is of concern to the entire international community. However, primary responsibility for the process towards nuclear disarmament lies with Nuclear-Weapon States and they are required to pursue in good faith negotiations on effective measures relating to nuclear disarmament. In this regard, Sri Lanka, welcomed the unequivocal undertaking given by the Nuclear Weapon States in the year 2000 towards the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals. Nevertheless, Sri Lanka is deeply concerned about the lack of progress by the Nuclear Weapon States to accomplish the goal of elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament and on the implementation of the commitments contained in the final document of the 2000 Review Conference, in particular, the thirteen steps agreed upon by the Parties to the NPT.
3. At the Fifty-Fifth session of the UN General Assembly, Sri Lanka supported, among others, the resolution on “2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.”
4. Pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), Sri Lanka hopes that Nuclear-Weapon States and nuclear weapon capable countries would continue to maintain a moratorium on nuclear weapon test explosions. Sri Lanka has worked closely with the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) in order to set up an Auxillary Seismic Station in Colombo to monitor seismological events, thus contributing to enhancing the seismological sensing capacity of the CTBTO.

5. Sri Lanka supports the establishment of an ad-hoc committee in the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, taking into consideration both disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives.
6. Sri Lanka has also emphasized on the necessity of establishing in the Conference on Disarmament, appropriate subsidiary bodies to deal with nuclear disarmament, and legally binding security assurances by the Nuclear-Weapons States to the Non-Nuclear Weapons States Parties to the NPT. Furthermore, as an important part of the international fight against terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, Sri Lanka is of the view that there is an urgent and renewed need for international cooperation to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime to prevent the possibility of weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of terrorist groups.
7. Sri Lanka co-initiates the resolution on the “prevention of an arms race in outer space”, at the First Committee every year, with the expectation that the stalled negotiations on that issue at the Conference on Disarmament would recommence at the earliest, with an appropriate mandate. In Sri Lanka’s view, preventing an arms race in outer space will contribute towards strategic stability in the world and thereby facilitate the progressive reduction of the nuclear weapons leading towards nuclear disarmament.
8. Sri Lanka supports the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to Disarmament at the earliest with the expectation that it would pave the way for further measures towards nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.
9. Sri Lanka welcomed the signing of the Moscow Treaty on strategic offensive arms reductions in May 2002. Nevertheless, Sri Lanka believes that reductions in deployment and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In this regard, Sri Lanka reiterates the value of the principle of irreversibility and would urge for a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security doctrines of Nuclear-Weapon States.
10. At the Fifty-Fifth, Fifty-Sixth and Fifty-Seventh Sessions of the General Assembly, Sri Lanka voted in favour of all resolutions calling for establishing or consolidating regional nuclear-weapon-free zones, including the resolution calling for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.
