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

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Implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Report submitted by Mongolia

Introduction

Mongolia views the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the most important binding instrument available to the international community to curb proliferation of nuclear weapons and seek to achieve the ultimate goal of their elimination. The full and effective implementation of the Treaty on the part of both the nuclear and non-nuclear countries has a pivotal role in promoting international peace and nuclear security.

Article I and II

Mongolia's unequivocal commitment to the goals of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons as stated in Articles I and II was further reaffirmed in the declaration of its territory a nuclear-weapon-free zone in 1992 at the UN General Assembly. The Law of Mongolia on its nuclear-weapon-free-status adopted in 2000, institutionalized it at the national level. According to the Law, individuals, legal entities and foreign States are prohibited "to develop, manufacture or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons" (4.1.1.), "station or transport nuclear weapons by any means" (4.1.2), transportation through the territory of Mongolia of components or parts thereof, as well as of nuclear waste or any other nuclear material designed or produced for weapons purposes is prohibited as well (4.2). Moreover, the competent authorities of Mongolia have the right to gather information, stop, detain and search any suspected aircraft, train, vehicle, individual or group of persons (6.2).

Article III

The Safeguards Agreement between the IAEA and Mongolia was concluded on 5 September 1972. In December 2001, Mongolia signed the Additional Protocol to the Agreement, and ratified it on 24 April this year, thus further strengthening the IAEA safeguards regime.

Article IV and V

Mongolia has been a participant in the Technical Co-operation programme of the IAEA /Agency/ since mid seventies. The National Energy Commission of Mongolia has only one laboratory, namely the Central Radiological Laboratory. However, it has facilitated the establishment of national nuclear infrastructure, in a number of Universities and research institutes through IAEA's Technical Co-operation programme. With animal husbandry and mining being the main pillars of national economy, Technical Co-operation Programme with the Agency has been focused on agriculture with special emphasis on animal production and health, nuclear analytical measurements in support of mineral exploration, and uranium resource evaluation. In addition, human health, ground water hydrology and environmental monitoring have also figured prominently, particularly in recent years.



Article VI

Mongolia stands for more progress to be made by the time of the 2005 Review Conference on the measures agreed upon in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, including the universalization of the Treaty. Mongolia supports the appeal of the international community to those states which have not yet done so to accede to the Treaty promptly and without conditions.

Mongolia believes that nuclear disarmament efforts cannot be successful without curbing the production of fissile material used in nuclear weapons. We support an early conclusion of a universal and verifiable treaty banning the production of such material. Pending the negotiation of such treaty. Mongolia advocates an immediate and universal moratorium on production of weapons-grade fissile materials. In his speech at the 55th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, H.E.Mr. L.Erdenechuluun proposed to establish a Register for all stocks of weapons grade fissile material that would help establish an important balance with the UN Register of Conventional Arms.

Mongolia ratified the CTBT back in 1997. The early entry into force of the Treaty is one of the most important practical steps to ensure progress towards non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear weapons. Although the Treaty has not yet become effective, the process of establishing under the CTBT an International System to monitor nuclear weapons tests is advancing well, which is to be welcomed. As a contribution to the System, Mongolia is hosting 3 monitoring stations (1 radionuclide, 1 seismic and 1 infrasound).

Mongolia views the Conference on Disarmament as a pivotal mechanism for moving forward nuclear disarmament agenda. We believe that what is needed to bring the Conference out of its stalemate is a political will. Keeping in mind the need to give political impetus to the disarmament agenda, the Prime Minister of Mongolia proposed during the 56th UN General Assembly session that the Security Council meet at the highest level and/or one of the future sessions of the Conference be held at the level of foreign ministers. We believe that the realization of this proposal can lead to a progress in the work of the Conference.

Article VII

In line with its policy on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. Mongolia has always been a strong supporter of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various parts of the world. NWFZs are not only an important means to enhance the security of the States entered into relevant zone treaties. Their establishment, on the basis of agreements freely arrived at, is essential for strengthening nuclear non-proliferation and achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.

Mongolia welcomes conclusion of the negotiations on the text of Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (CANWFZ) Treaty on 27th September 2002 in Samarkand. We believe that the entry into force of this treaty will be conducive to strengthening stability and predictability in the region.

As it was mentioned, Mongolia declared her territory a NWFZ back in 1992 and adopted a law on the status in 2000. Mongolia does not currently have either an internationally recognized or legally binding nuclear-weapon-free-status. Hence we work towards institutionalization of Mongolia's NWFS at the international level. Mongolia's efforts in this

regard have been supported and strengthened by UN General Assembly resolutions "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status" adopted in 1998, 2000 and 2002 respectively as well as by the joint Statement made by nuclear-weapon States in October 2000, providing nuclear security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its NWFS.

Article X

Mongolia fully supported the consensus decision in 1995 that the NPT be extended indefinitely.