

# COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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## STATEMENT OF THE GROUP OF 21 ON EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AGAINST THE USE OR THREAT OF USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

1. In its statement (CD/280) of 14 April 1982 the Group of 21 had stated that "further negotiations in the ad hoc working group on this item are unlikely to be fruitful so long as the nuclear weapon States do not exhibit a genuine political will to reach a satisfactory agreement. The Group, therefore, urges the nuclear weapon States concerned to review their policies and to present revised positions on the subject to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament which shall fully take into account the position of the non-aligned, neutral and other non-nuclear weapon States".
2. At the second special session the Nuclear Weapon States failed to meet the concerns of the Group of 21 in this regard.
3. In subsequent discussions in the Working Group the nuclear weapon States have persistently upheld their existing unilateral declarations which reflect their own subjective approach, with the result that the negotiations on this item cannot be carried any further.
4. The Group of 21 deeply regrets this situation.
5. The Group of 21 reiterates its belief that the most effective assurances of security against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is nuclear disarmament and prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons. The Group of 21 reaffirms its adherence to the principles enunciated in the Group's statement (CD/280) of 14 April 1982, regarding an agreement on the question of "effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".
6. The nuclear weapon States have an obligation to guarantee in clear, unambiguous terms that the non-nuclear weapon States will not be threatened or attacked with nuclear weapons. The inflexibility of the concerned nuclear weapon States to remove the limitations, conditions and exceptions contained in their unilateral declarations runs counter to their obligations to extend credible assurances to the non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The resulting impasse is preventing the working group from proceeding to the elaboration of a common formula or common approach acceptable to all to be included in an international instrument as called for by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.
7. The Group of 21, therefore, once again urges the concerned nuclear weapon States to display the necessary understanding and political will in this respect thus enabling the working group to resume work at the beginning of the next session.