
Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Expert side events on a fissile material cut-off treaty

Working paper submitted by Australia and Japan

1. In the section on nuclear disarmament in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions adopted at the 2010 Review Conference, the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons reaffirmed “the urgent necessity of negotiating and bringing to a conclusion a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.¹
2. The parties to the Treaty also agreed, in action 15 of the same conclusions and recommendations, “that the Conference on Disarmament should, within the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, immediately begin negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein”.²
3. To support this long-standing call of the parties to the Treaty,³ and to encourage the implementation of action 15, Australia and Japan hosted on the margins of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva in 2011 three expert side events on aspects of the proposed treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, commonly known as the fissile material cut-off treaty.
4. These three side events, held over nine half-day sessions during the first and second parts of the 2011 session of the Conference on Disarmament, offered the opportunity for delegations of member and observer States of the Conference on Disarmament and experts from their capitals to exchange views on topics related to the proposed treaty, notably with respect to definitions and verification.

¹ NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, section I.E.

² Ibid.

³ See NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I and Corr.2), annex, decision 2, para. 4 (b) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), part I, section entitled “Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs”, para. 15:3.



5. The discussions, in which representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons participated, were guided by Bruno Pellaud of Switzerland. The Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research were also represented at the side events.

6. The reports from these side events have been issued in the six official languages of the United Nations as Conference on Disarmament documents (CD/1906 of 14 March 2011, CD/1909 of 27 May 2011, CD/1917 of 2 September 2011 and CD/1919 of 12 September 2011). Australia and Japan trust that these reports will continue to be useful resources for parties to the Treaty.
