

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**2015 NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON
THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

Monday, 27 April 2015, at 10.30 a.m.
General Assembly hall

Opening of the Conference by the Chairman of the Third Session of the Preparatory
Committee and submission of the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee to the
Conference

Acting President – H.E. Ambassador Enrique Roman-Morey

His Excellency Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Distinguished Ministers, Excellencies and Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour for me to declare open the 2015 Review Conference of the
Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The Review Conference has been convened pursuant to article VIII, paragraph 3 of
the Treaty and resolution 66/33 of 2 December 2011 of the United Nations General
Assembly.

This Review Conference is the ninth Review Conference of the Treaty and the
fourth to be held since May 1995, when States parties adopted decisions on the indefinite
extension of the Treaty, on the strengthening of its review process and on principles and
objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, together with a resolution on
the Middle East.

The Treaty, which entered into force 45 years ago has played a crucial role in
nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
This Review Conference provides all Parties of the Treaty with an important opportunity
to reaffirm again their commitment to the Treaty and to the fullest implementation of all

its provisions, as well as the consensus outcomes of previous Review Conferences, so as to uphold the integrity of the Treaty and to ensure that it remains the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime.

Excellencies, distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Following the practice of previous review conferences, I now wish to introduce the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee (NPT/CONF.2015/1), adopted on 9 May 2014. The Committee held three sessions during the period April 2012 to May 2014. 148 States parties to the Treaty participated in the work of one or more of the sessions of the Preparatory Committee. States not party to the Treaty, specialized agencies and international and regional intergovernmental organizations, as well as representatives of academia and non-governmental organizations, have attended meetings of the Preparatory Committee in accordance with the modalities of attendance agreed by the Committee. At each session of the Preparatory Committee, a meeting was specifically allocated to representatives of non-governmental organizations to address delegations.

The Preparatory Committee was able to agree and make a recommendation on all main issues related to the organization of the Conference, in particular the date and venue of the Conference, the draft rules of procedure and the financial arrangements, the provisional agenda, the allocation of items to the Main Committees as well as background documentation. The recommendations on these issues are reflected in the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee. The Committee decided to defer consideration on a final document, or documents, to the Review Conference.

Throughout the preparatory process, the Committee devoted most of its meetings to a substantive discussion on all aspects of the Treaty and consideration of three clusters of issues, based on the allocation of items to the Main Committees of the 2010 Review Conference, and three specific blocs of issues:

Nuclear disarmament and security assurances;

Regional Issues, including with respect to the Middle East and the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East; and

Peaceful uses of nuclear energy and other provisions of the Treaty; and improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process.

Guided by the provisions of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, paragraph 7 of the section entitled "Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty", the Chairmen of the first and second sessions of the Committee prepared factual summaries of the consideration of the issues of the Committee. In the course of these discussions, as well as those at the third session of the Committee, many proposals were put forward – including those contained in the Annex II list of documents in the Final Report. Despite the Committee making every effort, it was unable to produce a consensus report containing substantive recommendations to the Review Conference.

Excellencies, distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At this stage, it is my privilege and duty to take up a particular issue, namely the recommendation for the office of the President of the Conference.

[Election of the President of the Conference (item 2 of the provisional agenda)]

As agreed at the third session of the Preparatory Committee, upon receipt of the nomination from the Chair of the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty, I communicated the candidacy of Her Excellency Ambassador Taous Feroukhi of Algeria to all States parties on 17 November 2014 and her candidacy was unanimously endorsed for the presidency of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. I now place the recommendation formally before the Conference for approval.

May I take it that the Conference wishes to elect Her Excellency Ambassador Taous Feroukhi by acclamation as President of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons?

It is so decided.

[➡ *GAVEL*]

I wish to express my cordial congratulations to Her Excellency Ambassador Taous Feroukhi and to assure her of my fullest support and cooperation and, I am sure, of all delegations during the Conference. I would now like to invite the President to take her seat on the podium.
