

**2015 Review Conference of the Parties  
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation  
of Nuclear Weapons**

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**Comprehensive implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of  
Nuclear Weapons and active promotion of global nuclear governance**

**Working paper submitted by the Chinese Government**

China attaches great importance to the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* (NPT), the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime. Firmly committed to its obligations under the Treaty, China has been working actively to advance the three major goals of the Treaty, namely non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and further enhance the universality, authority and effectiveness of the Treaty.

The process of Treaty review is a major platform for global nuclear governance. As 2015 marks the 45th anniversary of the entry into force of the NPT, the 2015 Review Conference will provide an important opportunity to advance global nuclear governance and comprehensively move forward the process of building a nuclear-weapon-free world. China has

participated in the preparation of the Review Conference constructively and been actively involved in all the previous preparatory sessions. China has submitted working papers on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament, security assurances, peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear-weapon-free zones. As provided in Actions 5, 20, and 21 in the Action Plan of the 2010 Review Conference, China has submitted its national report on the implementation of the Treaty to the 2014 NPT Preparatory Committee and the 2015 Review Conference. China is committed to facilitating positive results of the Review Conference.

For the 2015 Review Conference, the Chinese delegation wishes to reiterate the following points and calls for their inclusion in the reports of all the main committees and the final document of the conference.

## **I. General Principles**

Nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as the key components of global governance in the nuclear field, have a direct bearing not only on global and regional peace and stability, but also on the security of all countries and the well-being of their people.

To improve global nuclear governance, all parties should further build consensus, strengthen cooperation and promote nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy in a comprehensive, balanced and prudent way.

The Actions reached in the final document at the 2010 Review Conference reflect universal consensus of all parties, and should become the roadmap for the further promotion of the review process.

It is necessary to uphold multilateralism, maintain the authority, universality and effectiveness of the NPT, adhere and give full play to the existing multilateral mechanisms such as the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, the Disarmament Commission and Conference on Disarmament, in order to provide legal support and institutional guarantee for advancing international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, including the nuclear disarmament process.

## **II. Nuclear Disarmament and Reduction of the Danger of Nuclear War**

Nuclear disarmament should be guided by the principle of universal security. A new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination should be pursued. The legitimate and reasonable security concerns of all countries should be fully respected and accommodated. Relations among countries should be built on the base of mutual understanding and trust. International disputes should be resolved peacefully through equal-footed dialogue. And efforts should be made to create a peaceful and stable international security environment so as to provide the necessary conditions for further progress in nuclear disarmament.

All nuclear-weapon States should be committed to the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, earnestly fulfill their obligations under Article VI of the NPT, and openly declare the commitment of not seeking permanent possession of nuclear weapons.

Nuclear disarmament efforts should follow the principles of "maintaining the global strategic stability" and "ensuring undiminished security for all" in a step-by-step manner.

Countries with the largest nuclear arsenals bear special and primary responsibility of nuclear disarmament and should continue to take the lead in making drastic and substantive reductions in their arsenals in a verifiable, irreversible and legally binding way, to create the necessary conditions for complete and thorough nuclear disarmament. When conditions are ripe, other nuclear-weapon States should join in the multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament. To attain the ultimate goal of complete and thorough nuclear disarmament, the international community should develop, at an appropriate time, a viable long-term plan comprising phased actions, including the conclusion of a convention on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

Development and deployment of global missile defense systems, which undermine global and regional strategic stability, should be abandoned, and international cooperation in this regard should be forestalled to avoid damaging international nuclear disarmament efforts. Preventing the weaponization of and an arms race in outer space helps maintain global strategic balance and stability and create the international security environment necessary for nuclear disarmament.

The *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty* is an important step in the nuclear disarmament process. Countries that have not yet signed and ratified the treaty should do so as early as possible in order for the treaty to enter into force at an early date, as stipulated by the relevant treaty provisions. Pending the entry into force of the treaty, nuclear-weapon States should continue to observe their moratoriums on nuclear tests.

The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva is the only appropriate forum for the negotiation on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Negotiations on such a treaty should begin as early as possible in the Conference on Disarmament in accordance with the mandate established under document CD/1299 and with the full participation of all the parties concerned. The Conference on Disarmament should also engage in substantive work on the issues of nuclear disarmament, the prevention of an arms race in outer space and the security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States.

Pending the conclusion of the international legal instruments on nuclear disarmament, all nuclear-weapon States should take the following measures to reduce the danger of nuclear war, diminish the role of nuclear weapons in national security policy and increase mutual trust among States:

(a) To abandon the nuclear deterrence policy based on first use of nuclear weapons and undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time or under any circumstances;

(b) To honour their commitments not to target their nuclear weapons against any country, refrain from listing any country as the target of nuclear strikes or targeting the nuclear weapons under their control at any country.

(c) To undertake clearly and unconditionally not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones; and to conclude relevant international legal instruments;

(d) To continue to support the efforts of relevant countries and regions in establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones and other weapons-of-mass-destruction-free zones in accordance with regional conditions and on the basis of voluntary consultation and agreement. All nuclear weapon States should assume obligation in this regard in a legally binding manner;

(e) To abolish the policy and practice of "nuclear umbrella" and "nuclear sharing". Countries which deploy nuclear weapons abroad should withdraw and repatriate all such weapons;

(f) To take all necessary steps to avoid accidental or unauthorized launches of nuclear weapons.

### **III. Prevention of Nuclear Weapons Proliferation**

The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation is an effective and necessary step towards the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, and a holistic approach should be taken to address both the symptoms and the root causes .

All countries should pursue universal security and remove the root causes of nuclear weapons proliferation; abandon the zero-sum and Cold War mentality, and endeavor to foster a peaceful and stable international environment; fully respect and accommodate the legitimate security concerns of all countries, attach importance to one's own security as well as common security, and build a community of shared destiny.

The issue of nuclear proliferation should be addressed peacefully through political and diplomatic means within the framework of existing international laws. Countries should refrain

from wilfully resorting to sanctions, the use or threat of force, and should not take non-proliferation as an excuse for other purposes.

All countries should abandon the practice of double standards or pragmatism, and uphold the authority of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime; ensure comprehensive, faithful and balanced compliance with various Treaty obligations, and not to determine non-proliferation standards according to one's own liking; uphold multilateralism, and strengthen the fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory nature of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime on the basis of universal participation and democratic decision-making; take seriously the issue of serious imbalance between supply and demand of nuclear materials in individual country, and adopt effective measures to address it.

The universality of the NPT should be enhanced and countries that have not yet joined the NPT should do so as non-nuclear-weapon States as soon as possible, and place all their nuclear facilities under the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in accordance with NPT provisions.

The role of the United Nations and other relevant international organizations and mechanisms should be given full play to, and UN Security Council resolutions 1540 and 1887 should be earnestly implemented. The universality of the IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols should be strengthened. All countries should further enhance their nuclear export control mechanisms, and support the efforts of the Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers Group in this regard.

All countries should observe the fair and balanced principles, and properly handle the relationship between nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. All measures taken to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons should not undermine the legitimate rights of countries to peaceful uses of nuclear energy; and all proliferation activities under the pretext of peaceful uses should be prohibited.

The Iranian nuclear issue and the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula concern the international nuclear non-proliferation regime as well as peace and stability of relevant regions. In this connection, China welcomes the progress made in the negotiations of Iranian nuclear issue in Lausanne in March 2015, and encourage all relevant parties to step up diplomatic efforts for a comprehensive agreement at an early date. All relevant parties should continue to oppose the development of nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula, and earnestly implement relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the September 19 Joint Statement; continue to make joint efforts for the resumption of meaningful Six-Party Talks and for substantial progress in the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

#### **IV. Nuclear-weapon-free Zones and Nuclear Issue in the Middle East**

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones is an important guarantee for preventing nuclear weapons proliferation, and is of great significance to maintaining international and regional peace, security and stability.

Efforts by all countries to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones based on Article VII of the NPT and the guidelines adopted by the UN Disarmament Commission in 1999 should be actively supported.



All nuclear-weapon States should explicitly and unconditionally undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones, and conclude a legally binding international instrument to this end.

All nuclear-weapon States should respect the legal status of nuclear-weapon-free zones, sign and ratify the protocols of relevant treaties on nuclear-weapon-free zones, and faithfully fulfill relevant obligations. In this context, China welcomes the signing of the Protocol to the *Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia* by the five nuclear-weapon States in May 2014, and appreciate states who have already ratified the Protocol; hopes to see the early signing and ratification of the Protocol to the *Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty*.

While promoting reconciliation and cooperation among the Middle East countries and facilitating the Middle East peace process, countries should continue to attach importance to and support the efforts to establish a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. All countries should earnestly implement relevant UN General Assembly resolutions, the Resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, and relevant provisions of the Final Document of the NPT Review Conference in 2000 and in 2010. In this connection, China encourages the relevant countries to step up consultations and to convene the International Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction at an early date.

Israel should accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon State as soon as possible. The relevant countries in the Middle East should sign and ratify the IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements as soon as possible. Relevant countries should be encouraged to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol to the IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements.

## **V. Peace Uses of Nuclear Energy**

As a mature, clean, safe and competitive source of energy, nuclear energy is of great importance to ensuring energy security and addressing climate change. Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear energy is one of the key goals set in the NPT and the IAEA Statute.

The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which are mutually reinforcing and of equal importance, should both be taken seriously. Efforts to prevent nuclear-weapon proliferation should not undermine the legitimate rights of countries, particularly the developing countries, to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The developed countries and the IAEA should step up assistance to developing countries in peaceful uses of nuclear energy based on their actual needs.

The IAEA should observe the principles set in its Statute, and maintain the balanced development of preventing nuclear weapons proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. China appreciates IAEA's effective work in promoting nuclear technology application. All member states should actively support IAEA activities in technological cooperation, and ensure sufficient and foreseeable resources for such cooperation.

Nuclear safety holds the lifeline for nuclear power development and nuclear technology application. It concerns the economic development and social stability of countries concerned, and might have serious regional or even global consequences. The international community should sum up in real earnest the experience and lessons of the Fukushima nuclear accident, strengthen nuclear safety measures, and promote safe development of nuclear energy.

All countries should strengthen nuclear security and eliminate the threat of nuclear terrorism; follow a rational, coordinated and balanced nuclear security approach, and build an international nuclear security system featuring fairness and win-win cooperation in line with the principle of placing equal emphasis on development and security, rights and obligations, independent and collaborative efforts, and treating symptoms and addressing root causes; truly undertake the primary responsibility, build up one's own nuclear security capacity, and actively participate in international cooperation on nuclear security; support IAEA's continued leading role in international nuclear security process.

Nuclear fuel supply is of great significance to the sustainable development of nuclear energy. All countries should, following the principle of balancing the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation, steadily promote relevant multilateral cooperation mechanisms through extensive consultation.

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