Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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English only

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Recommendations to the 2020 Review Conference

The Preparatory Committee reaffirms the need to continue to move with determination towards the full implementation of the provisions of the Treaty and realisations of its objectives, and accordingly conveys to the 2020 Review Conference the following recommendations for consideration, without prejudice to the work of the Review Conference:

1. Reaffirm commitment to the preamble and the articles of the Treaty, in light of the 50th Anniversary of its entry into force, and the 25th Anniversary of its indefinite extension.

2. Reaffirm the conviction that the Treaty is the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, is integral to international peace and security and plays a crucial role for nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and facilitates international cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

3. Reaffirm commitment to efforts designed to promote the full implementation of the provisions of the Treaty and realisation of its objectives, as well as the reaffirmation of the previous commitments made within the NPT framework, including the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference and the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on action of the 2010 Review Conference.

I. Nuclear Disarmament

4. Reaffirm the commitment by all States parties to the full and effective implementation of Article VI of the Treaty, and recall the commitment by the nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

5. Urge the pursuit of policies that are fully compatible with the Treaty and the objective of achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

6. Call for accelerated actions by the nuclear-weapon States in implementing the unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, in an irreversible, transparent and verifiable manner.

7. Reaffirm the importance of the continued implementation of bilateral arms control agreements between the Russian Federation and the United States, and urgent progress in this regard.
8. Reaffirm the responsibility of all States parties to maintain an international environment conducive to the full implementation of the Treaty and the importance of open, inclusive and transparent dialogue to achieve this end.

9. Reaffirm the integral role of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation to the maintenance of international peace and security.

10. Call for concrete and measurable steps to reduce the alert status of nuclear weapon systems and for the elaboration of measures to reduce the risk of the use of nuclear weapons, either intentionally, by miscalculation, or by accident.

11. Encourage State Parties to report to the next review cycle on their implementation of the Treaty, including commitments undertaken during previous cycles; call on nuclear-weapons States to agree upon a standard reporting form; and encourage sufficient time to be allocated during the next review cycle for consideration of the issue.

12. Call on nuclear-weapon States to cease the development of new types of nuclear weapons, and refrain from qualitative improvements to existing nuclear weapons, and further minimize the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies.

13. Further consider the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any intentional or accidental nuclear explosion.

14. Call for the entry into force as soon as possible of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), recalling the responsibility of all States to promote that Treaty; call for the urgent signature and/or ratification of the CTBT by the remaining eight Annex 2 States necessary for the entry into force of the CTBT; reaffirm, pending the entry into force of the CTBT, the need to maintain moratoria on nuclear test explosions and to refrain from any action that could defeat the objective and purpose of the CTBT; and calls for increased support for the Provisional Technical Secretariat and the International Monitoring System.

15. Call for the immediate commencement of negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament, on a verifiable, non-discriminatory and universal treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

16. Call for the immediate discussion at the Conference on Disarmament, of effective international legally binding arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

17. Acknowledge the support by many States parties for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and its complementarity with the NPT.

18. Reaffirm that effective and credible nuclear disarmament verification is essential to achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons and welcome ongoing work in this regard aimed at promoting trust and confidence among states, as well as the development of appropriate multilateral technical capabilities.

19. Support the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones and the entry into force of all Protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties.

20. Support initiatives in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education, and reaffirm that the overall objective of disarmament and non-proliferation education is to import knowledge and skills to individuals to empower them to make their contribution to the achievement of concrete disarmament and non-proliferation measures.

21. Endorse the fundamental importance of promoting the equal, full and effective participation and leadership of both women and men in nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
II. Nuclear Non-Proliferation

22. Reaffirm that IAEA safeguards are a fundamental component of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, play an indispensable role in the implementation of the Treaty and help to create an environment conducive to nuclear cooperation.

23. Reaffirm that the IAEA is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the Statute of IAEA and the IAEA safeguards system, compliance by States parties with the safeguards agreements undertaken in fulfilment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty and underscore that nothing should be done to undermine the authority of the IAEA in this regard.

24. Urge States party to the Treaty that have yet to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements with IAEA to do so as soon as possible and without further delay. Encourage all States parties with small quantities protocols which have not yet done so to amend or rescind them as soon as possible. Encourage also all States parties that have not yet done so to conclude and to bring into force additional protocols as soon as possible.

25. Encourage the IAEA to further facilitate and assist the States parties upon request in the conclusion, entry into force and implementation of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols. Encourage also the IAEA and States parties to consider specific measures that would promote the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements, and adherence to additional protocols.

26. Note that the comprehensive safeguards agreement and the additional protocol represents the enhanced verification standard under Article III of the Treaty which enables the IAEA to provide increased assurances on the non-diversion of declared nuclear material and on the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities.

27. Call upon all States parties to ensure that the IAEA continues to have all political, technical and financial support so that it is able to effectively meet its responsibility to apply safeguards as required by article III of the Treaty and to support and implement decisions adopted by the IAEA’s Board of Governors aimed at further strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of IAEA safeguards.

28. Emphasize the importance of maintaining the credibility, effectiveness, and integrity of IAEA safeguards, and stress that safeguards implementation should remain technically based, effective, transparent, non-discriminatory, and objective.

29. Call upon all States parties, within their responsibility, to achieve and maintain highly effective nuclear security, including physical protection, of nuclear and other radioactive material at all stages in their life cycle and protect sensitive information. Encourage all States parties, in their efforts to strengthen nuclear security, to take into account and apply the IAEA’s Nuclear Security Series publications.

30. Reaffirm the central role of the IAEA in strengthening the nuclear security framework globally and in coordinating international activities in the field of nuclear security. Emphasize the need for States parties to continue providing appropriate technical, human and financial resources, including through the Nuclear Security Fund, for the IAEA to implement its nuclear security activities and to enable the IAEA to provide the support needed by States.

31. Welcome that the IAEA organized international conferences on nuclear security and look forward to the International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held in February 2020.

32. Encourage States parties that have not yet done so to become party to Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its Amendment as soon as possible. Welcome
efforts to promote further adherence to the Amendment with the aim of its universalization. Note the preparations for convening a conference to review the implementation of the Amended CPPNM and encourage all parties to assist with preparations for such conference, which is due to take place in 2021.

33. Encourage States parties that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as soon as possible. Call upon all States parties to implement fully the Convention and relevant Security Council resolutions.

34. Call upon all States parties to improve their national capabilities to detect, deter and disrupt illicit trafficking in nuclear material throughout their territories, in accordance with their national legislation and relevant international obligations. Call upon the States parties in a position to do so to work to enhance international partnerships and capacity-building in this regard.

35. Encourage States parties that have not yet done so to establish and implement effective national rules and regulations and to make use of multilaterally negotiated and agreed guidelines and understandings in developing their own national export controls.

III. Peaceful uses of nuclear energy

36. Recall that nothing in the Treaty should be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of all the Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty and that States parties undertake to facilitate, and have the right to participate in, the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

37. Recall that in all activities designed to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, preferential treatment should be given to the non-nuclear weapon States parties to the Treaty, taking into account in particular the needs of developing countries. Emphasize that transfers of nuclear technology and international cooperation among States parties in conformity with the Treaty should be encouraged, and that they would be facilitated by eliminating undue constraints that might impede such cooperation.

38. Note that, when developing nuclear energy, including nuclear power, the use of nuclear energy must be accompanied at all stages by commitments to, and ongoing implementation of, safeguards as well as appropriate and effective levels of safety and security, consistent with States parties’ national legislation and respective international obligations.

39. Recognize the indispensable role of science and technology, including nuclear science and technology, in achieving social and economic development for all States parties. Underline the need for enhanced international cooperation, including through the efforts of the IAEA, to expand the extent that nuclear sciences and applications are utilized to improve the quality of life and the well-being of the peoples of the world including the achievement of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1), as well as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

40. Commend the IAEA’s contribution to peace and development under the motto “Atoms for Peace and Development”. Underline the role of IAEA in assisting developing States parties in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy through the development and delivery of effective and efficient programmes in areas such as health and nutrition, food and agriculture, water and environment and industrial applications. Note with appreciation the IAEA’s preparedness to respond to emergencies such as zoonotic disease outbreaks as well as natural disasters.

41. Acknowledge the development of competent human resources as a key component for the sustainable use of nuclear energy and underline the importance of collaboration with the IAEA, as well as among States parties, in that regard.
42. Acknowledge the central role of the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) in enhancing the application of nuclear science and technology in many States parties, in particular, in developing countries, and recognizes the Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) as the most important mechanism for the implementation of the IAEA TCP. Stress the need to make every effort and to take practical steps to ensure that IAEA resources for technical cooperation activities are sufficient, assured and predictable to meet the objectives set out in the IAEA’s Statute.

43. Welcome the completion of major construction under both Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories (ReNuAL) and ReNuAL+ projects. Welcome the contributions made by countries to this project and call upon States parties in a position to do so to make appropriate contributions to support the completion of the renovation of these Laboratories in Seibersdorf.

44. Acknowledge that the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) has become instrumental in mobilizing extrabudgetary contributions to support technical cooperation and other unfunded projects of the IAEA aimed at promoting broad development goals in Member States. Welcome the contributions made by countries to the PUI and encourage States parties in a position to do so to make additional contributions

45. Acknowledge that each State party has the right to define its national energy policy and that nuclear power is expected to continue playing an important role in the energy mix of many countries. Welcome IAEA support to interested Member States building their national capacities in the operation of nuclear power plants and those embarking on new nuclear power programmes.

46. Note developments on further minimization of highly enriched uranium in civilian stocks and the use of low enriched uranium. Encourage States parties concerned, on a voluntary basis, to continue these efforts, where technically and economically feasible.

47. Note the significant progress made on the establishment of the IAEA Low Enriched Uranium Bank in Kazakhstan. Note also that the creation of mechanisms for assurance of nuclear fuel supply should not affect State parties’ rights under the Treaty and should be without prejudice to their national fuel cycle policies, while tackling the technical, legal and economic complexities surrounding these issues, including, in this regard, the requirement of IAEA full scope safeguards.

48. Reaffirm the central role of the IAEA in promoting international cooperation on nuclear safety-related matters, including through the establishment of nuclear safety standards. Welcome the work of the IAEA to support regulatory bodies and other relevant areas of the nuclear infrastructure of Member States, including through peer review services, training and education programmes.

49. Call upon States parties that had not yet done so to become party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.

IV. Regional Issues

50. Continue efforts towards the full implementation and the realisation of the objectives of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and take into account the conference for the negotiation of a binding treaty on the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East to be held in 2019.

51. Note the strong support for the continued implementation of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Underscore the impartial and vital role of the IAEA in verifying and monitoring the implementation by the Islamic Republic of Iran of its nuclear-related commitments under the Plan. Emphasize the importance of strict adherence by the Islamic Republic of Iran to all of its nuclear-related commitments under the Plan and its full cooperation with IAEA to achieve international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear programme. Stress the need for
all parties concerned to maintain their constructive engagement so as to ensure that progress was made towards the full implementation of the Plan.

52. Call upon the Syrian Arab Republic to fully comply with its safeguards obligations and to cooperate fully with IAEA to resolve all outstanding safeguards issues.

53. Urge the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. Reaffirm that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State in accordance with the Treaty. Urge the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to return, at an early date, to the Treaty and IAEA safeguards. Stress the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, as well as of the peaceful and diplomatic resolution of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea nuclear issue, and encourage efforts towards continuing dialogue and engagement for the full denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. Stress that all States must fully implement the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

V. Universality and other provisions of the Treaty

54. Call upon States that are not yet party to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear weapon States promptly and without conditions and to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements as required by the Treaty.

55. Continue to examine ways and means of improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process of the Treaty, including through the establishment of working groups in the context of the next review cycle, and measures aimed at reducing costs and increasing the efficiency of the review process; and reaffirm the implementation of Decision 1 adopted at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference and “Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty” agreed at the 2000 NPT Review Conference.