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**Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review  
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the  
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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**Nuclear disarmament and reduction of the danger of  
nuclear war**

**Working paper submitted by China**

1. Pursuing a security concept based on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation, safeguarding international strategic stability and building up sound international security circumstances constitute the basis for progress in nuclear disarmament.
2. Adherence to multilateralism and maintaining and enhancing the authority, universality and effectiveness of relevant multilateral institutions and treaties are proper approaches to the advancement of international arms control and disarmament as well as to the process of nuclear disarmament.
3. The international legal framework governing arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation should be preserved and strengthened, and predictability of the international security situation should be enhanced.
4. The relationship among nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy should be properly handled, so as to make them mutually complementary and reinforcing.
5. The goal of complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons should be achieved at an early date and an international legal instrument thereupon should be concluded, thus realizing a world free of nuclear weapons.
6. Nuclear disarmament undertakings, including intermediate steps, should follow the guidelines of promoting global strategic balance and stability and undiminished security for all, and should be conducive to promoting international peace and security.
7. Nuclear disarmament should be a just and reasonable process of gradual reduction towards a downward balance. States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals bear special responsibility for nuclear disarmament and should take the lead in drastically reducing their nuclear arsenals in a verifiable, irreversible and legally binding way, so as to create conditions for the realization of the final nuclear disarmament in a comprehensive and thorough manner.



8. Missile defence programmes should not affect global strategic balance and stability or impair regional and international peace and stability.

9. Prevention of weaponization of and an arms race in outer space is conducive to safeguarding global strategic balance and stability and also to creating the international security circumstances necessary for nuclear disarmament. The Conference on Disarmament should negotiate and conclude relevant international legal instruments as soon as possible so as to prevent the weaponization of and an arms race in outer space, and to promote nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

10. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is an important step in the nuclear disarmament process. Countries that have not done so should sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible so that it may enter into force at an early date in accordance with its relevant provisions. Pending the entry into force of the Treaty, nuclear-weapon States should continue to observe their moratoriums on nuclear testing.

11. The Conference on Disarmament should arrive at a comprehensive and balanced programme of work as soon as possible so as to begin substantive work on such important issues as nuclear disarmament, banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, prevention of an arms race in outer space, and negative security assurances.

12. The following measures should be undertaken to promote nuclear disarmament, reduce the danger of nuclear war and diminish the role of nuclear weapons in national security policy:

(a) Abandoning the policies of nuclear deterrence based on the first use of nuclear weapons and lowering the threshold for using nuclear weapons;

(b) Honouring their commitment not to target their nuclear weapons against any countries, nor to list any countries as targets of nuclear strikes;

(c) Undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time or under any circumstances; to refrain unconditionally from using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones; and to conclude relevant international legal instruments thereupon;

(d) Supporting efforts of relevant countries and regions to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and other weapons-of-mass-destruction-free zones in accordance with regional conditions on a basis of voluntary consultation and agreement;

(e) Not developing easy-to-use low-yield nuclear weapons;

(f) Withdrawing and repatriating all nuclear weapons deployed outside their own territories;

(g) Abandoning “nuclear umbrella” and “nuclear sharing” policies and practices;

(h) Taking all necessary steps to avoid accidental or unauthorized launches of nuclear weapons.

13. Realizing the universality and enhancing the authority of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is of extreme importance. Countries that have not yet done so should accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States at an early date.