
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-weapon-free zones

Working paper submitted by Peru, as Chairman of the Latin American and Caribbean Group, on behalf of the States parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) represented at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 NPT Review Conference

1. We the States parties to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) represented at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) reaffirm our conviction that the existence of nuclear weapons constitutes a threat to the survival of mankind, that the only real assurance against their use or the threat of their use is their total elimination and that, in this connection, nuclear-weapon-free zones are an effective means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.
2. We also reiterate our commitment to strengthen cooperation arrangements between the various nuclear-weapon-free zones, with a view to promoting this universal goal.
3. As States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which 40 years ago established the first densely populated nuclear-weapon-free zone, we appeal to the States parties to and signatories of the other treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones to adopt specific measures as soon as possible to continue strengthening cooperation and consultation arrangements between the various zones.
4. We reaffirm the full applicability of the Declaration of the Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones held in Mexico City in April 2005 and the Santiago de Chile Declaration adopted by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in November 2005.
5. We emphasize the important contribution that nuclear-weapon-free zones can make to the strengthening of the NPT system and the achievement of nuclear disarmament. As States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco which have renounced



nuclear weapons, we possess the moral and legal authority to demand compliance with the nuclear disarmament obligations contained in the NPT.

6. We reaffirm the need to advance towards the priority goal of nuclear disarmament and the achievement of the elimination and prohibition of nuclear weapons. In this context, we reiterate our conviction that the achievement of this goal requires firm political will on the part of all States, and particularly those possessing nuclear weapons.

7. We recognize that multilateralism is the keystone of disarmament negotiations and nuclear non-proliferation efforts.

8. We reiterate our profound concern at the lack of progress in implementing the nuclear disarmament measures agreed at the 2000 NPT Review Conference and urge all States to comply immediately with the obligation stipulated in article VI of the NPT. In this connection, we reiterate our appeal to nuclear-weapon States to fulfil their obligation to pursue negotiations in good faith in order to achieve nuclear disarmament and a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

9. We reiterate our profound concern at the current strategic security doctrines that assign a greater role to nuclear weapons.

10. We reaffirm that the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is a violation of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as repeatedly stated by the United Nations General Assembly.

11. We welcome the signature in September 2006 of the Semipalatinsk Treaty, establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia. With this new zone, States such as ours that have decided to renounce nuclear weapons expand our presence and send a stronger message about the desire of mankind to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

12. We reiterate our support for the creation of new nuclear-weapon-free zones, for example in the Middle East and in South Asia, as indicated in the Final Document of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference and in the 2005 Declaration of the Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.

13. We shall encourage the creation of arrangements for consultation and cooperation between States parties to and signatories of the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Semipalatinsk, and Mongolia.

14. We have identified a series of actions that we could take between the various nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, including:

- Strengthening denuclearization regimes in these zones and arrangements for consultation and cooperation between them on the basis of shared goals;
- Promoting preparations for a second conference of these zones and Mongolia, before the Eighth NPT Review Conference in 2010;
- Maintaining enhanced cooperation in order to coordinate our positions in relevant international meetings, conferences and agencies;
- Promoting information sharing between the zones;

- Urging nuclear-weapon States, and any other State mentioned in the relevant protocols of the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, which have not yet signed or ratified the protocols to do so as soon as possible;
- Making further efforts to urge nuclear-weapon States that have signed or ratified any of the relevant protocols of a treaty establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones and that did so with reservations or unilateral interpretations affecting the status of the denuclearized zone to modify or withdraw such reservations or unilateral interpretations;
- Urging nuclear-weapon States to provide effective assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States that they will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against them. In this connection, the appeal should be reiterated to nuclear-weapon States to take measures for the conclusion, as a matter of priority, of a universal, unconditional and legally binding treaty on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States and, pending the conclusion of such a treaty, to respect the commitments made regarding security assurances;
- Making a substantive contribution to the NPT review cycle culminating in the 2010 Review Conference.

15. To this end, we express our willingness to receive comments and suggestions on the above proposals from States parties to and signatories of the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

16. We are willing to conduct consultations with the parties to and signatories of treaties on other nuclear-weapon-free zones during the preparatory process for the 2010 Review Conference.

17. At this first session of the Preparatory Committee, the States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco represented here have decided to appeal to all NPT States parties to enable us to advance, in a constructive spirit, towards the full application of all the provisions of the Treaty and make a definite contribution to the priority goal of achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world.
