



# General Assembly

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## **Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons**

**Geneva 2013**

Item 5 of the agenda

**Develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons**

### **Summary by the Moderator of Panel IV entitled “Perspectives on the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a nuclear weapons free world”**

#### **Submitted by the Chairperson**

1. The Moderator noted that the strategy and approach that should be pursued to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons was an overriding issue. Nevertheless, the view was that it is possible to build on past achievements such as the BWC, Mine Treaty and Cluster Munitions Conventions with a focus on the legal prohibitions and obligations.

2. The Panel reviewed the step-by-step approach to nuclear disarmament and the building block approach. Some participants favoured a gradual step-by-step approach but contend every step should not be a condition to next one and that they can be taken in parallel. The steps highlighted include:-

- entry into force of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty;
- entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;
- attaining the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;
- strengthening of Nuclear Weapon – Freezones and the creation of a Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East;
- transparency as a component of other steps;
- consideration of military doctrines;

- Negative Security Assurances;
- strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- others contend the issue of States under nuclear umbrellas should also be considered.

3. Others favour a comprehensive approach for making progress on nuclear disarmament. They contend, the step-by-step approach has not delivered. However, the proponents of the step-by-step approach argue it is not mutually exclusive and is part of the building block approach.

4. Concern was expressed regarding the absence of a number of nuclear weapon States from the discussions in the OEWG, thereby putting into question the utility of negotiating a nuclear weapon convention among non-nuclear weapon States. Doubt was therefore expressed whether the nuclear weapon States would sign up to a future convention.

5. Participants were in agreement that there was need to delegitimize nuclear weapons.

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