2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Implementation of article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament

Report submitted by Switzerland

In accordance with paragraph 15, subparagraph 12 of the chapter concerning article VI in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, the Swiss Government is reporting on the measures that it has taken to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and paragraph 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

Switzerland supports all multilateral efforts in the areas of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation which aim to achieve specific and verifiable results. It is in favour of the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction. In the nuclear arena, it fully observes the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and supports the strengthened treaty review process.

Support for United Nations efforts in the areas of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation

At the fifty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, Switzerland co-sponsored several resolutions on nuclear disarmament:

- Resolution 59/76 (Japan): A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons;
- Resolution 59/81 (Canada): The Conference on Disarmament decision ... to establish ... an ad hoc committee to negotiate ... a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices:
- Resolution 59/109 (New Zealand): Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

In addition, Switzerland supported several other resolutions on nuclear disarmament, including:

- Resolution 59/63 (Egypt, Arab League): Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;
- Resolution 59/65 (Sri Lanka, Egypt): Prevention of an arms race in outer space;
- Resolution 59/73 (Mongolia): Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;
- Resolution 59/85 (Brazil, New Zealand): Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;
- Resolution 59/80 (India): Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;
- Resolution 59/75 (Sweden, New Agenda Coalition (NAC)): Accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;
- Decision 59/513 (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan): Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;
- Resolution 59/106 (Egypt, Arab League): The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East:
- Resolution 59/94 (United States, Russian Federation): Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework.

Switzerland has submitted a report pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

Switzerland took part in the preparation of the agenda of the United Nations Disarmament Commission.

Support for other multilateral efforts in the areas of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation

Switzerland is taking an active part in the preparations for the Diplomatic Conference to Amend the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

Within the framework of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, Switzerland participates actively in discussions aimed at improving the regime's efficiency.

Efforts made at the diplomatic level to facilitate the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Switzerland signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996 and ratified it in 1999. It is included in the list of 44 States whose ratification is required for the entry into force of this Treaty.

Switzerland takes an active part in the various diplomatic meetings designed to ensure that the Treaty enters into force as soon as possible and has made a seismic station available to the International Monitoring System.

Activities preparatory to the start of the negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty

On several occasions, Switzerland has recalled that, in accordance with the mandate of 23 March 1995, the Conference on Disarmament should start negotiations as soon as possible on a treaty halting the production of fissile material for military purposes.

At the fifty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly, Switzerland co-sponsored resolution 59/81 (Canada) on the preparation of a treaty halting the production of fissile material for military purposes.

Unilateral activities designed to contribute to nuclear non-proliferation

On 1 February 2005, Switzerland informed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna that it had complied with the legal and constitutional requirements for the entry into force of the Additional Protocol to its Safeguards Agreement with the Agency.

On 7-9 February 2005, in the spirit of the Group of Eight's Global Partnership, Switzerland organized a conference designed to facilitate the participation of interested States in the decommissioning of the Russian Federation's three remaining plutonium-producing nuclear reactors.

Through close cooperation with IAEA and other States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons or members of the Agency, Switzerland is actively combating the illegal trade in nuclear technology.

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