Preparatory Committee for the 2005 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. The complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons must be realized, thus establishing a world free of nuclear weapons. This will fundamentally remove the threat of nuclear weapons to mankind and greatly enhance world peace and security.
- 2. To achieve the above objectives, all States parties should respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, abide by the Charter of the United Nations as well as other basic norms governing international relations, and avoid the use or threat of use of force as a means to pursue national objectives.
- 3. All States parties should pursue a new security concept based upon mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation, commit themselves to the establishment of a just and equitable new international political and economic order so as to ensure common security for all, and create a favourable international environment for progress in nuclear disarmament.
- 4. Countries should refrain from introducing weapons into outer space and conclude international treaties in this regard through negotiations, so as to maintain global strategic balance and stability and to promote nuclear disarmament.
- 5. The Treaty of the Limitation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems is a cornerstone of global strategic balance and stability. Any damage to or violation of it will have a negative impact on global strategic balance and stability and run counter to the efforts of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- 6. Any nuclear disarmament measures, including various interim measures, should follow the principles of maintaining global strategic stability and undiminished security for all in a way that is conducive to enhancing international peace and security.
- 7. The nuclear-weapon States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals bear special responsibility for nuclear disarmament and should take the lead in reducing their nuclear arsenals drastically in a legally binding form. The nuclear weapons reduced

should be destroyed. This will create conditions for other nuclear-weapon States to join in the nuclear disarmament process.

- 8. The reduction of nuclear weapons should be carried out according to the principles of being effectively verifiable, irreversible and legally binding.
- 9. All nuclear-weapon States should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States or nuclear-weapon-free zones at any time or under any circumstances and, on that basis, conclude international legal instruments in this regard.
- 10. The nuclear-weapon States should undertake to withdraw and return home all the nuclear weapons deployed outside of their own territories.
- 11. The nuclear-weapon States and the non-nuclear-weapon States offering and receiving "nuclear protection" should forgo their policy of a "nuclear umbrella" and "nuclear-sharing".
- 12. No State should research and develop low-yield and more-easily-used nuclear weapons.
- 13. The nuclear-weapon States should take all necessary steps to avoid accidental or unauthorized launches of nuclear weapons.
- 14. Countries that have not yet signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty should do so as soon as possible so that the Treaty may enter into force at an early date according to its provisions. Nuclear-weapon States should continue their moratoriums on nuclear testing.
- 15. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work, begin at an early date negotiations on nuclear disarmament and a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons.
- 16. Countries that have not yet done so should accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at an early date.
- 17. The above-mentioned measures having been taken, a treaty on the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons should be concluded through negotiations, thus realizing a world free of nuclear weapons.

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