

# Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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## Second session

Geneva, 22 April-3 May 2013

### Disarmament and non-proliferation education

#### Working paper submitted by the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates)

1. The Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at its first session a joint working paper on disarmament and non-proliferation education in which it provided specific proposals and examples of good practices by its members (NPT/CONF.2015/PC.I/WP.14). The present working paper provides additional examples.

2. In August 2012, Japan and the United Nations University jointly held the Global Forum on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education in Nagasaki. At the Forum, the participants, including government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations, educators and experts, held active discussions and worked to strengthen cooperative efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education. The results of the Forum were summarized in the 2012 Nagasaki Declaration. Before the Forum, Japan, in cooperation with relevant embassies in Tokyo, had testimonies of atomic bomb survivors translated into 13 languages and uploaded to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. An official Facebook page (Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education) and Twitter account (DisarmamentJAPAN@global\_forum) created to provide a platform for exchange of information and views in this area have been actively used as valuable tools to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education. The Twitter account currently has more than 1,200 followers. Japan has vigorously promoted disarmament and non-proliferation education in many ways and, since 2000, has co-sponsored the General Assembly resolution entitled “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”, which is introduced every two years by Mexico. To promote understanding of the consequences of the use of nuclear weapons, Japan announced at the sixth Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative Ministerial Meeting in The Hague on 9 April 2013 its launch of a new “Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons” programme. The programme will encourage younger generations to share with the world what they



have learned about the devastating effects of nuclear weapons and develop ideas for how to achieve their elimination. It will complement the “Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons” program, under which more than 90 atomic bomb survivors have so far shared their experiences with international audiences.

3. Since 2000, Mexico has introduced the General Assembly resolutions entitled “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education” and “United Nations Disarmament Information Programme” on a biennial basis in order to highlight the need to expand and improve education and training on disarmament and non-proliferation. In 2010, Mexico welcomed a delegation from the hibakusha project being carried out by Peace Boat, which included a group of 10 atomic bomb survivors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In addition, it hosted a seminar on the theme “Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation: voices of survivors”, which included press conferences and other events to share and disseminate the testimony and experiences of survivors and to raise awareness of the urgency of nuclear abolition. The National Autonomous University of Mexico is engaged in teaching at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels and has carried out studies and research projects on nuclear disarmament. In addition, Mexico has supported and promoted resolution CG/E/Res.547, on peace and nuclear disarmament education, by which the members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean established an open-ended working group for the design of a course on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education.

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