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

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Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

Working paper submitted by China

- 1. Preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons is an effective and necessary measure towards the comprehensive prohibition and total elimination of nuclear weapons. Such a step, which is critical to the maintenance of international and regional peace and security and serves the shared interests of the international community, requires joint efforts by that community.
- 2. The underlying determinants of nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism should be eradicated by addressing both the symptoms and the root causes in a comprehensive manner. All States should embrace the new security concept centred on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation, commit themselves to fostering a peaceful and stable international security environment and achieve universal security for all that is mutually beneficial and universally advantageous, thereby eliminating the root causes of conflict and unrest.
- 3. Pragmatism and the use of double standards in tackling the proliferation of nuclear weapons must be eschewed. The principle of multilateralism should be followed, and the role of the United Nations and other relevant international organizations must be accorded due importance and given full play. Continuous efforts must be made to strengthen the impartial, equitable and non-discriminatory nature of the international non-proliferation regime on the basis of universal participation and democratic decision-making.
- 4. Concerns about the proliferation of nuclear weapons should be resolved peacefully by political and diplomatic means within the existing framework of international law. Sanctions do not offer an effective means of solving the problem, nor should parties resort to the use or threat of force. Instead, they should be encouraged to continue seeking effective ways to address regional nuclear hotspot issues through dialogue and consultation.
- 5. Promoting the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is a critical link in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Countries that have not yet acceded to the Treaty should do so promptly as non-nuclear-weapon States and, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty,





place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

- 6. Persistent efforts should be made to consolidate and strengthen the role of the Treaty as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime, to enhance its authority and effectiveness and to ensure effective and strict compliance with its provisions.
- 7. IAEA safeguards offer an important means of ensuring the effectiveness of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime. Efforts should be made to promote the universality of the comprehensive safeguards agreements and the additional protocols thereto.
- 8. All States should strengthen the physical protection of their nuclear facilities and nuclear materials, take steps to counter nuclear terrorism, actively pursue international cooperation in the area of nuclear security and support IAEA in playing a central role in enhancing international nuclear security cooperation and improving global nuclear security. Efforts should be made to promote the universality of international instruments on nuclear security, such as the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the amendments thereto.
- 9. All States should take steps to further strengthen their nuclear export control mechanisms and support the efforts by the Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers Group in this regard.
- 10. All States should scrupulously implement Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) and 1887 (2009) on the basis of existing international law, and further promote and strengthen international cooperation with a view to effectively tackling the problem of illicit trafficking in weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials by non-State actors.
- 11. Nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually reinforcing. Any measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons should not infringe upon the legitimate right to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Meanwhile, efforts should be made to prevent any country from engaging in proliferation activities under the pretext of peaceful use. International cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy should contribute to maintenance of the effectiveness and authority of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime.

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