Second Session
Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2003

Provisions of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in particular Articles VI and VII of the Treaty

Report submitted by Malaysia

1. Malaysia signed and ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1968 and 1970, respectively and remains fully committed to its obligations and commitments under the Treaty and the agreements reached at both the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences.

2. Malaysia continues to oppose nuclear testing and support the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Malaysia signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty on 23 July 1998. We believe, however, that the onus lies principally with the remaining number of the 44 countries, stipulated in Annex 2 of Article XIV of the Treaty, and would strongly urge them to take immediate steps to sign/accede/ratify the Treaty. Malaysia is also cooperating with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to host a verification facility (Radionuclide monitoring station) in Malaysia in support of the international monitoring system of the Treaty.

3. Malaysia’s nuclear research reactor is operated for peaceful purposes in accordance with the obligations stipulated in Article III, IV and V of the NPT. In this connection, the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement between Malaysia and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) entered into force in 1972. Further, the reactor is also subject to the IAEA’s safeguards under the Agreement between the IAEA and the Governments of Malaysia and the United States of America Concerning the Transfer of a Research Reactor and Enriched Uranium or better known as the Project and Supply Agreement, which was concluded since 1980.

4. Given the lack of progress in the area of nuclear disarmament over the past few years, Malaysia reiterates the necessity for full and timely implementation of the practical steps agreed upon by the States Parties of the NPT in 2000 in particular by the nuclear weapon States. As part of its contribution, Malaysia has for the past seventh consecutive year introduced a resolution on the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the legality of the use and threat of nuclear weapons at the 57th Session of the General Assembly, which was supported by the overwhelming majority of member States. Resolution 57/85 inter-alia, continues to underscore the unanimous opinion of the Court that there
exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.

5. Malaysia reiterates the importance of States Parties to the NPT to implement the resolve of their leaders at the Millennium Summit “to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers”.

6. Malaysia hosted a Regional Seminar for ASEAN States on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: Strengthened Safeguards and Additional Protocols in Kuala Lumpur from 31 March – 2 April 2003. The Seminar was jointly organized with the IAEA.

7. As a State Party to the South-East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ), Malaysia would continue to work with the other ASEAN countries in our common effort to encourage nuclear weapon States to accede to the SEANWFZ Protocol at an early date. Malaysia also strongly supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon free zones in other regions of the world, particularly in volatile regions, such as the Middle East and South Asia. In this context, we welcome the ratification by Cuba of the Tlatelolco Treaty, which resulted in the entry into force of the Treaty.

8. Malaysia continues to emphasise the importance of the universalisation of the NPT. In this connection, we welcome the accession of Cuba to the NPT and expressed the hope that it would encourage other states to accede to the Treaty. Malaysia remains committed to work with other NPT States Parties to achieve this end.

9. Malaysia has expressed concern with the developments in the Korean Peninsula including the decision by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to withdraw from the Treaty. We called on the parties directly concerned to resolve the issue peacefully.

10. In 1995, the States Parties extended indefinitely the NPT and adopted the “Decision on Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament” and “Decision on Strengthening the Review Process” as a package. Malaysia fully supports the view that the extension of the NPT does not permit the nuclear weapon States to possess such weapons in perpetuity.

11. At the 2000 Review Conference, the States Parties agreed on the practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement Article VI of the Treaty. Malaysia reiterates its commitment to pursue the long-term goal of the total elimination of all nuclear weapons and underscores the importance of strengthening the multilateral approach towards disarmament. The search for genuine measures for disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular in the area of nuclear disarmament, remains a high priority on the international agenda. In this connection, Malaysia believes that it is necessary for all State Parties, in particular the nuclear weapon States, to show their continued commitments to fulfill the implementation of agreements arrived at in 1995 as well as at the 2000 Review Conference.