Preparatory Committee for the 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 Ukraine

In 2004 Ukraine will mark the 10th anniversary of its accession to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

In 1999 in the Declaration on the State Sovereignty Ukraine proclaimed its intention to keep to the three non-nuclear principles set out in the article II of the NPT — not to receive, manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Since that time Ukraine has consistently followed the way towards a nuclear-weapon free status. One of the first significant steps in this direction was the signature of the Lisbon protocol to the START I Treaty (May, 1992) according to which Ukraine assumed obligations of the former Soviet Union under the mentioned Treaty and pledged to accede to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state.

After Ukraine acceded to the NPT on November 18, 1994 and the START I Treaty entered into force on December 5, 1994, Ukraine began practical implementation of its obligations under the mentioned treaties.

By December 5, 2001 Ukraine eliminated all deployed strategic offensive arms, as required by the provisions of article II of the START I Treaty. These included:

- 130 silos for SS-19 Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) and 45 silos for SS-24 ICBMs with multiple independently-targetable nuclear warheads (SS-19 and SS-24 were capable of carrying 6 and 10 warheads respectively),
- 44 heavy bombers (Tu-160) — 19 units, Tu-155MC — 25 units, each type equipped for 8 long-range nuclear Air-Launched Cruise Missiles (ALCMs),
In 1992-1996 all tactical nuclear warheads and more than 1500 strategic nuclear warheads were transferred from Ukraine to the Russian Federation. By October 2001 all those warheads were eliminated at the relevant facilities of the Russian Federation under the monitoring of Ukrainian representatives.

Ukraine ensured reduction of both strategic and non-strategic nuclear weapons inherited from the former Soviet Union having thus made a considerable contribution to the cause of practical nuclear disarmament.

As of to date Ukraine keeps carrying out its START I obligations with regard to the non-deployed ICBMs. This process provides for completing a highly challenging task — disposal of the solid propellant from the SS-24 ICBM loaded motor cases.