Delegation of Jordan
To the First Session of the Preparatory Committee
Of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to
The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
(NPT)

Statement by
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Specific Issue – Regional Issues
The Middle East and Implementation
Of the 1995 Middle East Resolution

Vienna, May 10, 2007
Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statements of the Group of Arab Countries and the Group of the Countries of the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as the working paper presented to this meeting by the Sultanate of Oman on behalf of the Arab countries.

I shall not, therefore, repeat what was mentioned in those statements and working paper, especially that I am aware of the time limitation, but would rather limit my intervention to a call on all states parties to spare no effort in urging Israel to accede to NPT without further delay and accept its 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and to take immediate steps to achieve that on the basis of the Arab Working Paper, and the proposals contained therein.

Mr. Chairman,

Two review conferences have been held since the Middle East resolution was adopted by the 1995 Review Conference. Since then and apart from the reference to that resolution in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, little has been done to implement the Middle East resolution.

Again, like in core issues in the Middle East conflict itself, where many relevant international resolutions and decisions have yet to be implemented, the 1995 resolution adopted by the NPT Review Conference to create a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Middle East has yet to be implemented.
But the 1995 resolution is not political per se. It should not, therefore, be the victim of protracted political arguments and debates, nor should be allowed to become the subject of extensive negotiations. It is simply a resolution adopted by all of us, the states parties; and therefore, all of us must urgently, diligently and unequivocally ensure it is implemented. By doing so, we not only guarantee that what we call for is executed and does not remain ink on paper, but we also send a much needed message to the world at large: this Treaty is capable of translating words into deeds, and it deals with all issues and all countries even-handedly and with 'single' standards.

But equally, if not more, important, implementing the Middle East resolution will be a si qua non condition for the establishment of comprehensive peace and security in the Middle East, which is in the interest and for the good of all countries and peoples of the region. Out of this conviction, we repeat our call upon Israel to accede to NPT and place its facilities under IAEA safeguards, so that the path is paved for the declaration of a WMD Free Middle East. We also repeat our call on Israel to take the extended Arab hand and embrace the Arab Peace initiative announced first in the 2000 Arab Summit and reiterated just last month by the Arab Foreign Ministers.

We all know, Mr. Chairman, that the adoption of the 1995 resolution was fundamental for the indefinite extension of NPT. The Treaty is now extended, and that is very positive. However, the second leg of the outcome of the 1995 Conference remains intangible. Until the Middle East resolution becomes a reality on the ground, the entire Treaty will continue to run the risk of being undermined.
Mr. Chairman,

Having to choose between peace and security for all the people of the Middle East on the one hand, and leaving the region for the vicious circle of an arms race and the danger of nuclear threat on the other hand. Jordan chooses the first. We call on all states parties as well as Israel to do the same, by implementing the 1995 Middle East resolution.

I thank you.