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Verification

Working paper presented by the members of the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

1. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty commends IAEA for the extensive verification activities it has undertaken since its inception and expresses full support for its ongoing efforts.

2. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty reaffirms that the IAEA is the sole competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring compliance by States Parties with their safeguards agreements undertaken in fulfillment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty, with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

3. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty stresses the necessity that all members of the IAEA strictly observe its Statute. Therefore, nothing should be done to undermine the authority of IAEA in this regard. Any undue pressure or interference in the Agency’s activities, especially its verification process, which could jeopardize the efficiency and credibility of the Agency, should be avoided. States Parties that have concerns regarding non-compliance by the States Parties with the safeguards agreements of the Treaty should direct such concerns, along with supporting evidence and information, to IAEA to consider, investigate, draw conclusions and decide on necessary actions in accordance with its Statute.

4. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty stresses that the issue of proliferation should be resolved through political and diplomatic means, and that measures and initiatives taken in this regard should be within the framework of international law; relevant conventions; the Charter of the United Nations, and should contribute to the promotion of international peace, security and stability.

5. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty emphasizes the need to achieve worldwide application of the comprehensive safeguards system and calls on all nuclear-weapon States and all States not parties to the Treaty to place all their nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards. The Group proposes that
nuclear-weapon States Parties to the Treaty undertake to accept full-scope safeguards. This is to be set forth in an agreement to be negotiated and concluded with IAEA in accordance with its Statute and the IAEA safeguards system, for the exclusive purpose of verification of the fulfilment of nuclear-weapon States’ obligations assumed under this Treaty with a view to providing baseline data for future disarmament and preventing further diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, as well as the prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear scientific or technological fields to States non-parties to the Treaty without exception.

6. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty, mindful of the importance of article III in verifying the peaceful nature of nuclear programmes, reiterates that obligations under this article provide credible assurances for States Parties to engage in the transfer of nuclear equipment, material and technology for peaceful purposes. Therefore, States Parties to the Treaty are called upon to refrain from imposing or maintaining any restriction or limitation on the transfer of nuclear equipment, material and technology to States Parties with comprehensive safeguards agreements.