Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty
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Regional issues and implementation of the 1995
Middle East Resolution

Additional remarks on behalf of the European Union
by

Mr. Pavel KLUCKÝ
Head of the non-proliferation and disarmament unit
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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(Check against delivery)
Mr. Chairman,

The EU attaches utmost importance to the implementation of the 1995 Middle East Resolution and has already stated in its statement on the draft recommendations put forward by the Chair that those recommendations should address, in addition to the three pillars of the NPT, the issue of the Middle East.

In addition, the EU is committed to contribute to the establishment of a WMD free zone in the Middle East, as suggested by President Mubarak and as common undertaking of all EU member states and Mediterranean partners in the Barcelona declaration.

The EU will organize a seminar on "Middle East security, WMD non-proliferation and disarmament" to which all countries of the region will be invited, as well as the five nuclear weapon States and all EU member states. The EU welcomes the proposal for a conference or a meeting, put forward by the Russian Federation, for the implementation of the 1995 Resolution. The seminar organised by the EU can thus be complementary to all other proposals. It is indeed meant to facilitate all initiatives taken for the implementation of the 1995 Resolution.

In this regard, the EU is ready to play an active role together with states of the region and other states parties of the NPT.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.