Draft Report of the Preparatory Committee on its second session

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with the decision taken at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the second session of the Preparatory Committee was held in Geneva from 23 April to 4 May 2018.

2. The second session of the Preparatory Committee was opened on 23 April by Adam Bugajski (Poland), Chair of the second session of the Committee.

3. At the 1st meeting of the Preparatory Committee, on 23 April, the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, delivered a statement.

4. Also at the 1st meeting, Cornel Feruta, Chief Coordinator, Director General’s Office for Coordination, International Atomic Energy Agency, delivered a statement.

5. At the 1st meeting, on 23 April, the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Lassina Zerbo, delivered a statement.

6. The following 105 States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons participated in the work of the Preparatory Committee at its second session: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab
Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

7. The Preparatory Committee held [18] meetings, of which summary records were provided for the opening meeting (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/SR.1), the general debate (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/SR.1-6) and the closing meeting (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/SR.[18]), in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee. The summary records are issued separately from the present report (see annex).

8. Ioan Tudor, Chief, Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch, Office for Disarmament Affairs, served as Secretary of the Preparatory Committee. Cornel Feruta, Chief Coordinator, Director General’s Office for Coordination, International Atomic Energy Agency, represented the Agency.

II. Substantive and procedural issues

A. Organization of work of the Preparatory Committee

9. The Preparatory Committee continued to conduct its work on the basis of the agenda (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/7) adopted at its first session, in 2017, which reads as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of the Chair.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. General debate on issues related to all aspects of the work of the Preparatory Committee.
5. Statements by non-governmental organizations.
6. Preparatory work for the review of the operation of the Treaty in accordance with article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty, in particular, consideration of principles, objectives and ways to promote the full implementation of the Treaty, as well as its universality, including specific matters of substance related to the implementation of the Treaty and Decisions 1 and 2, as well as the resolution on the Middle East, adopted in 1995; the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference; and the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions adopted at the 2010 Review Conference.
7. Organization of work of the Preparatory Committee:
   (a) Election of officers;
   (b) Dates and venues for further sessions;
   (c) Methods of work:
      (i) Decision-making;
      (ii) Participation;
      (iii) Working languages;
(iv) Records and documents.

8. Report on the results of the session to the next session of the Preparatory Committee.

9. Organization of the 2020 Review Conference:
   (a) Dates and venue;
   (b) Draft rules of procedure;
   (c) Election of the President and other officers;
   (d) Appointment of the Secretary-General;
   (e) Provisional agenda;
   (f) Financing of the Review Conference, including its Preparatory Committee;
   (g) Background documentation;
   (h) Final document(s).

10. Adoption of the final report and recommendations of the Preparatory Committee to the Review Conference.

11. Any other matters.

10. At its 1st meeting, on 23 April, the Preparatory Committee took note of the indicative timetable (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/INF/3/Rev.1, as well as the summarized indicative timetable NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/INF/4).

11. In the course of the discussion on the organization of work of the Preparatory Committee (agenda item 7), the following decisions were taken:

   (a) Election of officers

   With regard to the chairmanship of the various sessions of the Preparatory Committee and the presidency of the 2020 Review Conference, an understanding had been reached among delegations, according to which a representative of the Western Group should be proposed to chair the first session, a representative of the Group of Eastern European States should be proposed to chair the second session, a representative of the Group of Non-Aligned and other States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons should be proposed to chair the third session and a representative of the Group of Non-Aligned and other States parties to the Treaty should be proposed for the presidency of the 2020 Review Conference.

   Pursuant to the understanding referred to in the above paragraph, at its 1st meeting, on 23 April, the Preparatory Committee elected Ambassador Muhammad Shahrl Ikram Yaakob (Malaysia) to serve as Chair of its third session (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/DEC.1).
(b) Dates and venues for further sessions

Also at its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to hold its third session in New York from 29 April to 10 May 2019 (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/DEC.2).

(c) Methods of work

(i) Decision-making

At its 1st meeting, the Committee decided to make every effort to adopt its decisions by consensus. In the event that a consensus could not be reached, the Committee could then take decisions in accordance with the rules of procedure of the 2015 Review Conference of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which would be applied mutatis mutandis;

(ii) Participation

Pursuant to the relevant rules of procedure and the decision taken at its first session, the Preparatory Committee took note of the requests from specialized agencies, international and regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to attend its meetings as observers.

The following specialized agencies and international and regional intergovernmental organizations were represented as observers at the meetings of the Preparatory Committee: the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean; the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials; the European Union; the International Committee of the Red Cross; the International Federation of Red Cross; the League of Arab States; the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization; and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

Furthermore, representatives of 66 non-governmental organizations (see NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/INF/5) attended the meetings of the Committee.

(iii) Working languages

At its 1st meeting, the Committee decided to use Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish as its working languages.

12. The Preparatory Committee set aside six meetings for a general debate on issues related to all aspects of the work of the Preparatory Committee (agenda item 4), in the course of which 87 statements were made. The statements are reflected in the summary records of those meetings (NPT/CONF.2015/PC.II/SR.1-6). Furthermore, the Committee invited the representative of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean to make a statement at the end of the general debate. The representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross also addressed the Committee at the end of the its 8th meeting.

13. At its 5th meeting, on 25 April, the Preparatory Committee heard 18 statements by non-governmental organizations.
14. The Preparatory Committee held a total of 11 meetings for a substantive discussion under agenda item 6.

15. The discussion was structured according to an indicative timetable (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/INF/4), which provided equal time for the consideration of three clusters of issues and three specific blocs of issues.

16. The Preparatory Committee considered the following three clusters of issues based on the allocation of items to the Main Committees of the 2015 Review Conference (NPT/CONF.2015/1, annex V):

   (a) Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, disarmament and international peace and security (articles I and II and preambular paragraphs 1 to 3; article VI and preambular paragraphs 8 to 12; article VII, with specific reference to the main issues considered in this cluster); security assurances (Security Council resolutions 255 (1968) and 984 (1995); effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons);

   (b) Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, safeguards and nuclear-weapon-free zones (article III and preambular paragraphs 4 and 5, especially in their relationship to article IV and preambular paragraphs 6 and 7; articles I and II and preambular paragraphs 1 to 3 in their relationship to articles III and IV; article VII);

   (c) Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to the inalienable right of all parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II (articles III (3) and IV, preambular paragraphs 6 and 7, especially in their relationship to article III (1), (2) and (4) and preambular paragraphs 4 and 5; article V); other provisions of the Treaty.

17. The Preparatory Committee considered the following three specific blocs of issues:

   (a) Nuclear disarmament and security assurances;

   (b) Regional issues, including with respect to the Middle East and the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East;

   (c) Peaceful uses of nuclear energy and other provisions of the Treaty.

The Committee also considered the issue of improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process.

B. Organization of the 2020 Review Conference

18. In the course of the discussion on the organization of the 2020 Review Conference (agenda item 9), the following actions were taken:

   (a) Dates and venue

   At its 1st meeting, on 23 April, the Preparatory Committee decided to hold the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in New York from 27 April to 22 May 2020 (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/DEC.3).
(f) Financing of the Review Conference, including its Preparatory Committee

In response to a request made by the Preparatory Committee at its first session, the Secretariat provided the Committee with an estimate of the costs of the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including its Preparatory Committee (see NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/1). These costs are based on the estimated number of documents to be produced at the Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee.

C. Documentation

19. During the session, the Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/1 Estimated cost of the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: note by the Secretariat

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/2 Implementation of the action plan of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: report submitted by Switzerland

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/3 Implementation of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: summary update to the reports submitted by Austria

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/4 Financial report

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/5 Implementation of the action plan agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: report submitted by Japan

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/6 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: national report submitted by New Zealand

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/7 Joint Statement on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) by the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China


NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/9 NPT addressing the North Korea’s nuclear challenge: statement open to all States Parties to the NPT
NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.1 Nuclear cooperation with States that are not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: working paper submitted by Egypt

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.2 The role of nuclear weapons in security and defence doctrines: working paper submitted by Egypt

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.3 Peaceful uses of nuclear energy: working paper submitted by Egypt

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.4 Strengthening nuclear safety: working paper submitted by Switzerland

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.5 Addressing “Vienna issues”: the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty; compliance and verification; export controls; cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy; nuclear safety; nuclear security; and discouraging withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: working paper submitted by Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden (the Vienna Group of Ten)

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.6 Nuclear disarmament verification: working paper submitted by the European Union

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.7 Fissile material cut-off treaty: working paper submitted by the European Union

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.8 Framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation: working paper submitted by France

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.9 Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons: working paper submitted by Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa and Thailand

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.10 Nuclear weapons and security: a humanitarian perspective: working paper submitted by Austria

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.11 Conclusions from the first session and recommendations for the second session of the Preparatory Committee: working paper submitted by the Netherlands
NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.12 Procedures in relation to exports of nuclear materials and certain categories of equipment and material under article III (2) of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: working paper submitted by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America as the members of the Zangger Committee.

NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.13 Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: reiterating the urgency of its implementation: working paper submitted by New Zealand on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition (Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand and South Africa).


NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/WP.20 The inalienable right to develop research, production and uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes: working paper submitted by the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
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<td>Action to strengthen the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: working paper submitted by the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Turkey and United Arab Emirates)</td>
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<td>Proposals by the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative to enhance transparency for strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: working paper submitted by the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Turkey and United Arab Emirates)</td>
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20. A list of participants in the second session of the Preparatory Committee, including States parties, observers, specialized agencies and international and regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, is contained in document NPT/CONF.2020/PC.II/INF/6.