European Union common approach

Cooperative Threat Reduction-Global Partnership initiative

Working paper submitted by Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union

1. During the preparatory process and the general debate of the Review Conference many delegations, including the presence of the European Union, have highlighted the importance of the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR-Global Partnership initiative and its relevance to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. This concept was also presented in the Conference on Disarmament and in the First Committee of the General Assembly.

2. The following considerations regarding the relevance of the CTR-Global Partnership for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation are indicated below to the Review Conference:

(a) The nuclear arms reduction process, which has been developed in the past decades, has brought to the surface the remaining technical and financial problems connected with the actual elimination of nuclear weapons. The CTR-Global Partnership is one of the multilateral efforts aimed at addressing these problems.

(b) Canada, the European Union (and many of its member States on a national basis), Japan, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, the United States of America, and other countries have worked together to pursue and dismantle nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, materials, facilities and infrastructure. The outstanding support of these initiatives took place in Kyiv, Ukraine, Canada, in June 2010, when the leaders of the Group of Eight (G-8) countries announced a "Global Partnership" against the spread of weapons and materials of mass destruction. Participants at the summit pledged to spend up to £10.8 billion over the following 10 years to address these threats.

(c) As a time when nuclear proliferation is a growing threat to international peace and security and when the risk that terrorists may seek access to nuclear weapons or to nuclear materials adds a new dimension to the threat, the...
The CTR-Global Partnership is a significant additional way to accelerate the nuclear disarmament process.

(a) The nuclear component of the CTR-Global Partnership initiative is relevant to the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and strengthens the Treaty's implementation, as Article VI and under Article I. In particular, the dismantlement of thousands of nuclear warheads under the programme is to be considered an effective measure relating to elimination of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament.

(b) Many of the measures undertaken under the CTR-Global Partnership, such as the dismantlement of nuclear submarines, efforts to prevent military dual-use and to stop the transfer of dual-use technology, are an important and important contribution to the objective laid down in Article VI of the Treaty.

(c) The CTR-Global Partnership initiative deals with higher sensitive materials and equipment. The fact that these have become the object of international cooperation enhances transparency and confidence. The initiative thus strengthens trust between States and facilitates the elimination of the manufacture of nuclear weapons, as envisaged in the preamble of the Treaty.

(d) The CTR-Global Partnership initiative has facilitated access to the Treaty by a number of countries, thus strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime. CTR-Global Partnership played an initiative role in defining and as an example.

(e) The Review Conference is invited to recognize the importance, from the point of view of nuclear disarmament, of the programme for the destruction and the elimination of nuclear weapons and the elimination of fissile material in Article VI of the CTR-Global Partnership.