Explanatory Note:

The 1995 NPT Review Conference adopted Decision 1 on “Strengthening the review process for the Treaty” (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), which inter alia stated [emphasis added]:

3. The Conference also concluded that the present structure of three Main Committees should continue and the question of an overlap of issues being discussed in more than one Committee should be resolved in the General Committee, which would coordinate the work of the Committees so that the substantive responsibility for the preparation of the report with respect to each specific issue is undertaken in only one Committee.

4. It was also agreed that subsidiary bodies could be established within the respective Main Committees for specific issues relevant to the Treaty, so as to provide for a focused consideration of such issues. The establishment of such subsidiary bodies would be recommended by the Preparatory Committee for each Review Conference in relation to the specific objectives of the Review Conference.

5. The Conference further agreed that Review Conferences should look forward as well as back. They should evaluate the results of the period they are reviewing, including the implementation of undertakings of the States parties under the Treaty, and identify the areas in which, and the means through which, further progress should be sought in the future. Review Conferences should also address specifically what might be done to strengthen the implementation of the Treaty and to achieve its universality.

In pursuit of the full, effective and urgent implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the 1995 Decision entitled “Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament”, and building upon the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Main Committee I of the 2015 NPT Review Conference reaffirms the need for the full implementation of the action plan agreed to at the 2010 Review Conference.

Accordingly, the following draft “Report of Main Committee I”, evaluating the results of the period under review including the implementation of undertakings of the States Parties under the Treaty and identifying the areas in which and the means through which further progress should be sought in the future, is presented for the consideration of States Parties present at the 2015 NPT Review Conference.

The draft Report is the Chair’s best effort to reflect the views and positions of States at the Review Conference, both during the Opening Debate and at Main Committee I, across their convergences and divergences. It reflects the Chair’s assessment of the elements on which Main Committee I may be able to evolve convergence sufficient to convey the report to the Review Conference in a spirit of flexibility and compromise.

The work of Main Committee I and its Subsidiary Body is being carried out in a positive spirit; it is the Chair’s hope and wish that this constructive approach is maintained during the remaining sessions of the Committee and that States Parties will devote every effort to demonstrate constructive flexibility and compromise to produce a high quality consensus report for consideration by the Review Conference.
I. Review of the operation of the Treaty, as provided for in its article VIII (3), taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference and the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference.

The Conference reaffirms the full and effective implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as of Decision 2 “Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament” of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, the “Final Document” of the 2000 Review Conference and the “Conclusions and Recommendations for Follow-on Actions” of the 2010 Review Conference.

A. Articles I and II and first to third preambular paragraphs

1. The Conference reaffirms that the full and effective implementation of the Treaty and the regime of non-proliferation in all its aspects has a vital role in promoting international peace and security. The Conference reaffirms that every effort should be made to implement the Treaty in all its aspects and to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, without prejudice or hampering the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by States parties to the Treaty. The Conference recognizes that the full and effective implementation of the NPT is a common responsibility of all States parties to the Treaty and remains convinced that universal adherence to the Treaty and full compliance of all parties with all its provisions are the best way to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.

2. The Conference recalls that the overwhelming majority of States entered into legally binding commitments not to receive, manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in the context, inter alia, of the corresponding legally binding commitments by the nuclear-weapon States to nuclear disarmament in accordance with the Treaty.

3. The Conference notes that the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty reaffirmed their commitment not to receive the transfer from any transferor whatsoever of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or of control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly, not to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and not to seek or receive any assistance in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

4. The Conference notes that the nuclear-weapon States reaffirmed their commitment not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly, and not in any way to assist, encourage or induce any non-nuclear-weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire
nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices.


6. The Conference reaffirms that the strict observance of all the provisions of the Treaty at all times remains central to achieving the shared objectives of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, preventing, under any circumstances, the further proliferation of nuclear weapons and preserving the Treaty's vital contribution to peace and security.

7. The Conference emphasizes that responses to concerns over compliance with any obligation under the Treaty by any State party should be pursued by diplomatic means, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty and the Charter of the United Nations.

8. The Conference recognizes that the slow pace of the implementation of disarmament commitments, concerns over breaches of the Treaty's obligations and the lack of universality undermine confidence in the Treaty.

9. The Conference reaffirms the importance of transparency, verifiability and irreversibility of all measures relating to nuclear disarmament undertaken by the nuclear-weapon States.

10. The Conference welcomes the accession of the State of Palestine to the Treaty and reaffirms the urgency and importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty.

11. The Conference affirms that the accession to the Treaty by all States not party, as non-nuclear-weapon States, is essential for achieving the universality of the Treaty, and for all States Parties to refrain from taking any actions that could negatively affect the prospects for the universality of the Treaty.

12. The Conference emphasizes the importance of ensuring that men and women can participate equally and at all levels in the process of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

B. Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs

13. The Conference notes the reaffirmation by all States parties of their commitment to the full and effective implementation of Article VI and the eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

14. The Conference recalls and reaffirms the importance of the full implementation by all States parties, especially the nuclear-weapon States, of Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, paragraphs 3 and 4 (c) of the 1995 Review Conference decision.
entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament", the practical steps for achieving nuclear disarmament agreed by consensus in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, as well the action plan on nuclear disarmament agreed by the 2010 Review Conference.

15. The Conference notes the updated reports making use of standard categories submitted by the nuclear-weapon States pursuant to actions 5, 20 and 21 of the conclusions and recommendations agreed to at the 2010 Review Conference, including the glossary of key nuclear terms. The Conference notes the increased transparency of some nuclear-weapon States with respect to the number of nuclear weapons in their national inventories.


17. The Conference recognizes and welcomes the steps taken to implement the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, and the significant reductions in deployed and non-deployed nuclear weapons including the dismantling of nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles by both sides.

18. The Conference notes that, despite the significant achievements in bilateral and unilateral nuclear arms reduction, the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and in stockpiles still amounts to many thousands and many hundreds remain on high alert. This reality does not ameliorate the environment of international peace and security and overwhelms the demands of the large majority of the States parties for achieving nuclear disarmament as required under Article VI of the Treaty.

19. The Conference affirms the importance of lowering operational readiness of deployed nuclear forces and of lowered alert levels as contributing to the process of enhanced security through further diminishing the role and significance of nuclear weapons in military security concepts, policies and doctrines.

20. The Conference emphasizes that the indefinite extension of the Treaty at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference did not imply the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons. The Conference notes that, particularly in light of increasing international tensions, many States parties remain concerned regarding the continuing role of nuclear weapon in military concepts, doctrines and policies of States and regional alliances.

21. The Conference welcomes the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly (26 September 2013), in which the General Assembly called for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive
convention on nuclear weapons, and decided to convene no later than 2018 a high-level United Nations conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard. The Conference also welcomes the decision by the General Assembly to designate 26 September as the “International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”.

22. The Conference recalls the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, and affirms the importance of achieving a world without nuclear weapons through the negotiation of a mechanism with clearly defined benchmarks, timelines and a strong system of verification. The Conference further affirms treaty-based nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation and the need to revitalize multilateral disarmament negotiating efforts and bodies.

23. The Conference welcomes the extensive international discourse on the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, especially the conferences held in Oslo (March 2013), Nayarit (February 2014) and Vienna (December 2014) which deepened collective understanding of this matter. In this regard, the Conference also welcomes of the Austrian Pledge endorsed by 70 States Parties including the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). The fact-based discussions at the Oslo, Nayarit and Vienna conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons underscored the unacceptable humanitarian consequences caused by the immense uncontrollable destructive capability and indiscriminate nature of nuclear weapons, with deep implications for human survival and for the health of future generations.

24. The Conference recalls its deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. The Conference acknowledges the new information presented and facts-based discussions on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, including at international conferences. The Conference affirms that the use of nuclear weapons would have immediate- and long-term consequences, which are significantly graver than previously understood and that no State or international organization could adequately address the humanitarian emergency caused by such use. The Conference stresses the importance of spreading awareness of the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons across borders and generations.

25. The Conference expresses its concern over the growing risk of use of nuclear weapons. The Conference affirms that in light of the devastating humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons, the risks associated with nuclear weapons concerns all humanity.

26. The Conference recalls the International Court of Justice advisory opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996. The Conference acknowledges that new information has emerged regarding the humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and that this information raises significant implications for assessments of nuclear weapons under international law. The Conference reaffirmed that all States at all times must comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law.
27. The Conference reiterates its deep concern at the continuing stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament, including the persistent failure to agree on, and implement, a comprehensive and balanced programme of work, despite further attempts to achieve consensus. The Conference notes the efforts and discussions pursued within the United Nations General Assembly related to revitalizing the multilateral disarmament machinery on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, in particular the Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/67/56.

28. The Conference welcomes that 183 States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and that 164 States, including 36 whose ratification is necessary for its entry into force, have deposited instruments of ratification. In this respect, the Conference welcomes the ratification of the CTBT since the 2010 Review Conference by Angola, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, Congo, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq and Niue.

29. The Conference reaffirms the importance of the entry into force as soon as possible of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), recalling the responsibility of all States to promote that Treaty; the urgency of the signature and/or ratification of the CTBT by the remaining eight Annex 2 States necessary for the entry into force of the CTBT; and pending the entry into force of the CTBT, the maintenance of moratoria on nuclear test explosions and refraining from any action that could defeat the objective and purpose of the CTBT.

30. The Conference further reaffirms the importance of the CTBT as a vital multilateral instrument for nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. The Conference recognized that clear actionable steps are required to achieve the entry into force of the CTBT and its universalization. All States Parties can contribute to the full development and continued operational maintenance of the International Monitoring System (IMS) and the International Data Centre (IDC) of the CTBT.

31. The Conference reaffirms the necessity of the early commencement of negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament of a verifiable and non-discriminatory treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; pending the conclusion of such negotiations the maintenance of an effective international and verifiable restriction must apply on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons; the designation and placement under IAEA safeguards of fissile material no longer required for military programmes to ensure the irreversible removal of such fissile material; the initiation of processes to dismantle or convert associated fissile material production facilities; The Conference takes note of the work of the group of governmental experts established pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/67/53.

32. The Conference recalls the commitment of nuclear-weapon States to respect fully their existing commitments with regard to security assurances pursuant to United Nations Security Council
resolutions 255 (1968), 984 (1995) and in connection with treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

33. The Conference notes the urgency for the Conference on Disarmament to consider effective, universal, non-discriminatory legally binding arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons by all nuclear-weapon States, with a view to elaborating recommendations dealing with all aspects of this issue, including an internationally legally binding instrument, and recognition of the need to fully honour and uphold all existing security assurances given unilaterally and multilaterally.

34. The Conference welcomes efforts towards the development of nuclear disarmament verification capabilities that will contribute to providing assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world, including the new and continuing initiatives pursued by Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.

35. The Conference considered additional measures, including those that enhance confidence through improving transparency and developing efficient verification capabilities related to nuclear disarmament, including:

a. Implementing initiatives in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education, as well as collaboration among governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions and the private sector; and

b. Stressing the importance of regular reports in a common and transparent format by all States parties within the framework of the strengthened review process of the Treaty, on the implementation of article VI of the Treaty, the 2010 action plan, the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, and paragraph 4(c) of the 1995 Decision 2. and recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996.

36. The Conference welcomes the increased interaction with civil society during the review cycle and agrees to explore greater engagement with non-governmental organizations in the context of the review process of the Treaty, as well as in the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives.