Subsidiary Body 1: Revised draft substantive elements

The Conference underlines the necessity of implementing fully article VI of the Treaty, Decisions 1 and 2 and the Resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Extension and Review Conference, the Final Document adopted by the 2000 Review Conference and the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions adopted at the 2010 Review Conference.

The Conference agrees that understandings and concerns pertaining to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons should underpin and lend urgency to efforts by all States leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. It is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that the nearly seventy-year record of non-use of nuclear weapons be extended forever.

The Conference recalls the reaffirmation by the nuclear-weapon States of their unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI.

The Conference urges the nuclear-weapon States to comply fully with their nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty and completely implement their unequivocal nuclear disarmament commitments, including the 13 practical steps, that were agreed and reaffirmed by consensus at the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Treaty, in order to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons.

While acknowledging that substantive progress has been made in implementing nuclear disarmament commitments since the 2010 Review Conference, the Conference recognizes that greater and accelerated implementation efforts are required, particularly on the part of the nuclear-weapon States, including through the specification of concrete benchmarks and timelines, as agreed in the present document.

The Conference reaffirms that significant steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament should promote international stability, peace and security, and be based on the principle of increased and undiminished security for all.
The Conference recalls the commitment of all States parties to pursue policies that are fully compatible with the Treaty and the objective of achieving a world without nuclear weapons as well as the need for all States to make special efforts to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons.

The Conference recalls that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

1. The Conference agrees that awareness of the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons should compel urgent action for the full implementation of article VI.

2. The Conference affirms the need for all nuclear-weapon States, in implementing their unequivocal undertaking, and pending the establishment of a legal framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons, to reduce further and eliminate, in a transparent, irreversible and verifiable manner, all types of nuclear weapons, strategic and non-strategic, deployed and non-deployed, regardless of location, including through negotiations as well as unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures.

3. The Conference encourages the Russian Federation and the United States of America to commence negotiations at an early date to achieve greater reductions and transparency in their stockpiles of nuclear weapons with a view to concluding such negotiations as soon as possible. The Conference acknowledges the importance of addressing issues pertaining to other types of related strategic offensive and defensive weapon systems with a view to facilitating and accelerating the nuclear disarmament process. The Conference further encourages the nuclear-weapon States to engage over the course of the next review cycle of the Treaty with a view to achieving rapid reductions in the global stockpile of nuclear weapons.

4. The Conference calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to cease the development of new nuclear weapons and the qualitative improvement of existing nuclear weapon systems that are designed to support new military missions or provide for new military capabilities.

5. The Conference calls upon all States concerned to continue to review their military and security concepts, doctrines and policies over the course of the forthcoming review cycle with a view to reducing the role and significance of nuclear weapons therein.

6. The Conference calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to comprehensively address risks associated with nuclear weapons, which are greater than many States parties previously understood, including, inter alia, those stemming from threats posed by non-state actors and by the vulnerability of command and control systems to cyber threats.

7. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the Conference emphasizes the need to reduce rapidly, as an interim measure, the operational status of nuclear weapon systems,
leading to a phased removal of all nuclear weapons from high alert levels, which would, in the view of many States parties, increase international stability and security while lowering the humanitarian risks associated with nuclear weapons.

8. The Conference encourages the nuclear-weapon States to build upon and expand their efforts to enhance transparency and increase mutual confidence, including by intensifying their discussions on definitions and terminology related to nuclear weapons with a view to facilitating and accelerating nuclear disarmament.

9. The Conference calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to provide annual reports on their nuclear disarmament-related undertakings and, starting in 2017, to include the following standard information on: (i) the number, type (strategic or non-strategic) and status (deployed or non-deployed) of nuclear warheads; (ii) the number and the type of delivery vehicles; (iii) the measures taken to diminish the role and significance of nuclear weapons in military and security concepts, doctrines and policies; (iv) the measures taken to reduce the risk of accidental or unauthorized use of nuclear weapons; (v) the measures taken to deal with or reduce the operational readiness of nuclear weapon systems; (vi) the number and type of weapons and delivery systems dismantled and reduced as part of nuclear disarmament efforts; (vii) the amount of fissile material for military purposes. The Conference agrees that each session of the Preparatory Committee and the Review Conference should allocate specific time to review the reports submitted by the nuclear-weapon States.

10. The Conference calls upon non-nuclear-weapon States to increase the quality, quantity and consistency of their reports as a contribution to enhanced transparency.

11. The Conference welcomes the pursuit of all effective measures for the full implementation of article VI, which can be multilateral, plurilateral, bilateral and unilateral. Pending the establishment of the necessary legal framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons, the Conference endorses the accelerated pursuit of various intermediate practical building blocks that can be realized simultaneously.

12. The Conference reaffirms and recognizes that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the humanitarian risks posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear-weapon States, which could strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

13. Pending the urgent conclusion of an international legally binding instrument on negative security assurances, the Conference encourages all States concerned to ratify the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties and their relevant protocols and to review any related reservations and interpretive declarations over the course of the next review cycle.
14. Bearing in mind the legacy of health and environmental consequences resulting from nuclear tests and the disproportionate effects on children's and women's health, the Conference calls upon the eight remaining States listed in Annex 2 of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to sign and ratify that Treaty without waiting for any other State to do so. Pending the entry into force of that Treaty, all States commit to cease and refrain from any action that would defeat its object and purpose, to uphold moratoriums on nuclear test explosions and to close, dismantle or convert any sites used for nuclear test explosions.

15. The Conference urges States to commence immediately and to conclude rapidly substantive negotiations, before the end of the next review cycle, in the Conference on Disarmament, on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein. These negotiations should take into account in particular all substantive work undertaken during the past review cycle.

16. The Conference encourages all States, in cooperation with international organizations and civil society, to pursue and intensify efforts to develop nuclear disarmament verification capabilities, taking into account the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the area of verification, that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, including through the new and continuing initiatives pursued under the leadership of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as well as the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification initiated by the United States of America. The Conference notes additional proposals for concrete and practical measures for disarmament verification.

17. Noting that many States parties believe that a legal framework is necessary for the full implementation of article VI, the Conference encourages all States to engage, without delay, within the framework of the United Nations disarmament machinery, in an inclusive process to identify and elaborate the legal provisions required for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons. These legal provisions could be enacted through various approaches, including, *inter alia*, a stand-alone instrument, which could take the form of a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty or a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention, as referred to in resolution A/RES/68/32, that would include a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe; a framework agreement comprising mutually supporting instruments that would establish the key prohibitions, obligations and arrangements for time-bound, irreversible and verifiable nuclear disarmament; a phased process of interlocking and mutually-reinforcing steps; or other arrangements.

18. The Conference encourages all States, in cooperation with the United Nations and other international organizations, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and the private sector, to continue and intensify efforts to raise the awareness of the public, and younger and future generations in particular, on all topics relating to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education, including on the
humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. The Conference also encourages all States to make use of new information and communication technology in these efforts.