2015 Review Conference of the Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
Main Committee II

Statement by
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Mr. Chairperson,

Let me begin by congratulating you for assuming the important task as the Chair of the Main Committee II. Your able leadership will be valuable to our work. You have the Swedish delegation’s full support and cooperation.

Sweden associates itself with the statement made by the European Union. Our general priorities for this committee are also reflected in the comprehensive working paper prepared by the Vienna Group of 10.

In addition we would like to make the following national remarks.

Like many others, Sweden believes that the model Additional Protocol should be seen as an integral part of the IAEA’s safeguards system, and that it together with the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement represents the current verification standard pursuant to article III of the Treaty. We also welcome the IAEA’s efforts to apply the State-level Concept to all states with a safeguards agreement in force, as part of the continuing evolution of safeguards implementation.

Nuclear Security has been on the top of the agenda for the last few years. We are now preparing for a last summit within the Nuclear Security Summit process. Strengthening global nuclear security, however, requires continuous efforts and remains a common priority. IAEA plays a central role in strengthening the nuclear security framework globally as well as in coordinating international activities in the field of nuclear energy.

IAEA is also the depository of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its 2005 Amendment. We urge all states that have not already done so to become party to the amended Convention and to ratify and implement the amendment as soon as possible.

Peer review mechanisms such as the IAEA IPPAS (International Physical Protection Advisory Service) missions can contribute to further strengthening nuclear security as well as building confidence. We believe there is scope to make further use of this tool. The IAEA carried out an IPPAS mission in Sweden in 2011 and we will request a follow-up mission in 2016. We encourage others to invite missions with regular intervals, follow up the findings and to share the results more generously.

Furthermore, it is important that all states in possession of nuclear weapons undertake voluntary measures, in order to increase transparency and confidence in the effectiveness of security for military nuclear materials.

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing. The role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in verifying non-proliferation obligations under the NPT is crucial. In this context, we welcome the progress achieved in relation to Iran’s nuclear programme, and express support for the continued diplomatic efforts.
Nuclear-weapon-free zones contribute to peace and security. We welcome the fact that zones have been established in Latin America and the Caribbean, the South Pacific, South East Asia, Africa, Central Asia and Mongolia.

We are committed to the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East and commend the efforts by Ambassador Laajava of Finland to bring about the agreed Conference.

There has not been any progress regarding the DPRK. Sweden has strongly condemned the nuclear test explosions by the DPRK. We call upon the DPRK to return to the NPT and IAEA safeguards without delay, and to sign and ratify the CTBT.

We are deeply concerned about the arms race in South Asia. We underline the importance of universalizing the NPT and call upon States that have not yet done so to join the Treaty as non-nuclear weapon states and, pending their accession, to adhere to its terms, and also call on those States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the CTBT without further delay.

I thank you Mr. Chairperson.