

**Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

22 April 2004
English
Original: Chinese and English

Third session

New York, 26 April-7 May 2004

**Working paper on the issue of nuclear disarmament and
reduction of the danger of nuclear war submitted by China**

The Chinese Delegation hereby requests that the following elements be incorporated in the recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

1. States Parties should commit to respecting each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, abiding by the Charter of the United Nations and other basic norms governing international relations, settling their disputes by political means and refraining from the wanton use or threat of force.
2. States Parties should pursue a security concept based upon mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation so as to ensure common security for all and create a favorable international environment for progress in nuclear disarmament.
3. States Parties should fully recognize that the efforts in nuclear disarmament, reducing the danger of nuclear war, preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons and peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually complementary and reinforcing.
4. States Parties should commit to a complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons at an early date and the conclusion of an international legal instrument thereupon, thus establishing a world free of nuclear weapons.
5. States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals shoulder special responsibilities for nuclear disarmament and should take the lead to drastically reduce their nuclear arsenals, set their reduction promise in a legal form and destroy all the nuclear weapons reduced from their arsenals.
6. Nuclear disarmament should be a just and reasonable process of gradual reduction towards a downward balance.
7. Nuclear disarmament measures, including various intermediate measures, should have the guidelines of "preservation of global strategic stability" and "undiminished security for all".



8. Missile defense program should not affect global strategic stability and balance, or harm international and regional peace and stability.
9. Non-weaponization of the outer space is in the interests of all countries. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should negotiate and conclude relevant international legal instrument as soon as possible so as to prevent the weaponization of and arms race in the outer space and promote nuclear disarmament.
10. The legal regime of international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation should be preserved.
11. Adhering to multilateralism and opposing unilateralism is an important way to maintain and promote international arms control and disarmament process, particularly the nuclear disarmament process.
12. The reduction of nuclear weapons should be carried out in accordance with the principles of being effectively verifiable, irreversible and legally binding.
13. The role of nuclear weapons as national security policy should be lowered accordingly. The policy of nuclear deterrence based on the first use of nuclear weapons and lowering the threshold of using nuclear weapons should be abandoned.
14. Nuclear-weapon states should honor their commitment to not targeting non-nuclear weapons against any other countries. They should not list any other countries as targets of nuclear strike.
15. All nuclear-weapon states should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones at any time or under any circumstances and on that basis conclude relevant international legal instrument.
16. Nuclear-weapon states withdraw and return home all the nuclear weapons deployed outside their own territories.
17. No state should research into and develop low-yield easy-to-use nuclear weapons.
18. The nuclear-weapon states should take all necessary steps to avoid accidental or unauthorized launches.
19. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is an important step in nuclear disarmament process. Countries that have not done so yet should sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible so that it may enter into force at an early date according to its provisions. Nuclear-weapon states should continue to observe their moratoria on nuclear testing.
20. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should begin at an early date substantive work and negotiations on nuclear disarmament.
21. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should begin at an early date substantive work and negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons.

The realization of universality of the NPT is of extreme importance. States Parties welcome and appreciate the accession to the NPT by Cuba and Timor Leste, and countries that have not done so are urged to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon states at an early date.
