
**Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the
Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

27 April 2007

Original: English

First session

Vienna, 30 April-11 May 2007

Security assurances**Working paper presented by the members of the Group of
Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation
of Nuclear Weapons**

1. The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons believes that the Conference should also substantially focus on the issue of security assurances. At the 2000 Review Conference, the States parties to the Treaty had agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the non-proliferation strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and called on the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on this issue.

2. The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons recalls that the fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries reiterated that the improvement in the existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons as envisaged in the United States Nuclear Posture Review contravene the security assurances provided by the nuclear-weapon States. They further reaffirmed that these improvements as well as the development of new types of such weapons violate the commitments undertaken by the nuclear-weapon States at the time of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

3. The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons emphasizes that the indefinite extension of the Treaty does not imply the indefinite possession by the nuclear-weapon States of their nuclear arsenals and considers, in that regard, that any assumption of indefinite possession of nuclear weapons is incompatible with the integrity and sustainability of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, both vertical and horizontal, and with the broader objective of maintaining international peace and security.



4. The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee that there will be no use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and further reaffirms that non-nuclear-weapon States should be effectively assured by nuclear-weapon States that there will be no use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the Group reiterates that efforts to conclude a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States should be pursued as a matter of priority.

5. The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons stresses that it is the legitimate right of States that have given up the nuclear-weapon option to receive security assurances. In that regard, the Group calls for the negotiation of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances, believing that such assurances to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty fulfil the undertaking of the States that have voluntarily given up the nuclear-weapons option by becoming parties to the Treaty. The Group believes that legally binding security assurances within the context of the Treaty would provide an essential benefit to the States parties.

6. In keeping with the above-mentioned position and in accordance with the decision at the 2000 Review Conference, the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons calls for the establishment of a subsidiary body on security assurances for further work to be undertaken to consider legally binding security assurances by nuclear-weapon States.
