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

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**Working paper submitted by Sweden on behalf of Brazil,
Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and
Sweden as members of the New Agenda Coalition**

I. Background

1. The New Agenda Coalition submitted a working paper at the first session of the Preparatory Committee (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.15), which identified the following areas as requiring urgent attention during the current review cycle:

- (a) Universality;
- (b) Nuclear doctrines;
- (c) Reductions in nuclear forces;
- (d) Security assurances;
- (e) Nuclear-weapon-free zones;
- (f) Negotiation of a treaty on fissile material;
- (g) Testing of nuclear weapons.

2. At the second session of the Preparatory Committee, the New Agenda Coalition submitted an additional working paper (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.II/WP.26) which focused on transparency and confidence-building measures in relation to nuclear disarmament.

3. Building upon the elements developed in those papers, the New Agenda Coalition would like to offer additional reflections and substantive recommendations on ways forward for nuclear disarmament work during the current review cycle. These additional elements do not affect the status of NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.15 and NPT/CONF.2010/PC.II/WP.26, which remain current.



II. Reductions in nuclear forces

4. The New Agenda Coalition welcomes the recent joint statement by the President of the Russian Federation and the President of the United States of America reaffirming their commitment to achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world through a step-by-step process, beginning with the negotiation of a legally binding post-START treaty. The Coalition strongly encourages the conclusion of a new treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation in 2009, since the START Treaty is due to expire on 5 December 2009. Such a treaty should include all nuclear weapons, both strategic and non-strategic. Further significant, transparent, verifiable and irreversible reductions in strategic and non-strategic nuclear arsenals by the two nuclear-weapon States which possess over 90 per cent of the global arsenal of nuclear weapons would represent a significant measure, which would increase international confidence and encourage greater transparency, as well as further cuts by other nuclear-weapon States. The New Agenda Coalition underlines that other nuclear-weapon States must also reduce their nuclear arsenals, and recognizes recent announcements of such reductions. Continuous and irreversible progress on nuclear arms reductions would also strengthen non-proliferation efforts. Significant progress in the implementation of article VI commitments is urgently required to bring the world closer to fulfilling the commitment to the complete elimination of existing nuclear weapons and the objective of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

III. Prohibition on the testing of nuclear weapons

5. In accordance with its total opposition to nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, the New Agenda Coalition welcomes the progress made on ratification of the Comprehensive-Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty through the recent ratifications of Colombia, Barbados, Malaysia, Burundi, Mozambique, Malawi and Lebanon, as well as the signatures of Iraq and Timor-Leste. The New Agenda Coalition is also encouraged by the stated intention of the President of the United States to immediately and aggressively pursue his country's ratification of the Treaty, as well as reconfirmations by China of its efforts towards early ratification of the Treaty. Continuous reduction in the number of ratifications required for the Treaty's entry into force further strengthens the norm against all nuclear weapon tests established by the Treaty and contributes to its entry into force and eventual universalization.

6. The New Agenda Coalition continues to underline the vital importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive-Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. The Treaty is a core element of the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime — raising the threshold for the acquisition of nuclear weapons, preventing a qualitative arms race and reducing the reliance on nuclear weapons in national security strategies. The entry into force of the Treaty would also strengthen confidence in the international security system through the establishment of an effective verification mechanism.

7. While awaiting the entry into force of the Treaty, it is of utmost importance that moratoriums on nuclear weapon test explosions, and all other nuclear explosions, be maintained. However, moratoriums do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as an effectively verifiable treaty.

IV. Foundation architecture of the Treaty

8. The New Agenda Coalition reiterates the great importance it attaches to the outcomes of previous Review Conferences and in particular to the package of Decisions and Resolutions agreed upon at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, as well as the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference. The New Agenda Coalition considers that previous commitments freely agreed upon by consensus in past Review Conferences, in particular those adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 Review Conference, are an integral part of the commitments and obligations of the indefinitely extended Non-Proliferation Treaty. States parties need to take concrete steps to ensure the full implementation of these commitments and obligations.

9. Decision 1 of the 1995 Review Conference Package of Decisions, entitled “Strengthening the Review Process of the Treaty”, clearly underlines the importance of Review Conferences when it states in paragraph 7 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 further progress should be sought in the future. Review Conferences should address specifically what might be done to strengthen the implementation of the Treaty and achieve its universality”. The New Agenda Coalition believes that States parties should use the opportunity of the 2010 Review Conference to reaffirm their commitments established over the Treaty’s lifespan through previous Review Conference outcomes, and build upon these further with a view to strengthening the Treaty.

V. Nuclear-weapon-free zones

10. The New Agenda Coalition continues to support the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones.

11. The New Agenda Coalition welcomes the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia. This is the first nuclear-weapon-free zone to be established entirely in the northern hemisphere and it will also encompass an area where nuclear weapons previously existed. The New Agenda Coalition also welcomes the stated intention of all concerned States to address any outstanding issues that may affect the operation of the Treaty. The entry into force of the Treaty underlines the value of nuclear-weapon-free zones and is an important step towards achieving the objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

12. The New Agenda Coalition welcomes the recent ratifications by Rwanda, Gabon and Benin in 2007, and by Mozambique and Ethiopia in 2008, of the Pelindaba Treaty, and believes that these ratifications will create additional momentum towards the early entry into force of the Treaty.

13. The First Conference of States Parties and signatories to Treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones was held in 2005. The New Agenda Coalition will continue to encourage greater cooperation and consultation mechanisms through the establishment of concrete measures among the existing nuclear-weapon-free zones in order to contribute to the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty regime.

The New Agenda Coalition therefore supports efforts to convene a second nuclear-weapon-free zone conference, as a contribution to the 2010 Review Conference.

14. The New Agenda Coalition recalls that, despite the adoption of the resolution on the Middle East at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, no progress has yet been achieved on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in that region. The New Agenda Coalition renews its support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction, and underlines the importance of addressing this issue effectively at the 2010 Review Conference by taking concrete and practical steps towards the full implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East. In this context, the New Agenda Coalition also renews its call to Israel, as the only State of the region not yet a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, to accede to the Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapon State promptly and without conditions, and to place all of its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards.
