

“Evolving a new Global Consensus on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation”

The consensus underpinning the disarmament and non-proliferation regime has eroded over a period of time due to several negative developments. The most visible and recent manifestations of this erosion were the absence of any agreement on disarmament at the 2005 UN Summit, the absence of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, and the absence of outcome at the 2005 NPT Review Conference.

Recognizing the negative impact of this erosion on and implications for international and regional security and stability and cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear technology and taking into account the importance and urgency of the need to reconcile and reverse the negative trends, Pakistan has, in the last two years, proposed to rebuild a new global consensus on disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation, and related security matters.

Pakistan believes that such a consensus can be evolved on the basis of the universally recognized principles of equity and non-discrimination. It should also be responsive to the legitimate national security and economic interests of all States and should advance international and regional peace and security.

The United Nations, which has a central role and primary responsibility in the field of disarmament, is uniquely placed to undertake efforts, in consultation with Member States, to identify elements of such a new consensus and consider ways and means of convening, at an appropriate time, a Special Session of the General Assembly or an International Conference under its auspices.

Pakistan hopes that the UN Secretary General and Member States shall actively consider this proposal. Pakistan looks forward to continuing a dialogue on this important issue.