

**Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on
the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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Third session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 19th MEETING

Held at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 21 May 1999, at 10.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. REYES RODRÍGUEZ (Colombia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE FINAL REPORT TO THE REVIEW CONFERENCE

(NPT/CONF.2000/PC.III/WP.1)

1. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Preparatory Committee wished to adopt the draft final report in document NPT/CONF.2000/PC.III/WP.1, as amended.

2. It was so decided.

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3. Mr. MESDOUA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of Arab States, congratulated the Chairman on his skilful conduct of the Committee's deliberations. While the results of the session had not lived up to expectations, they augured well for the 2000 Review Conference.

4. Mr. SEIBERT (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, commended the Chairman for his admirable skill and perseverance, which had enabled the Preparatory Committee at its third and final session to make the necessary procedural recommendations to the 2000 Review Conference. Much remained to be done to achieve a successful outcome of the Review Conference. The European Union, which attached the utmost importance to the success of the Conference, would contribute to that daunting task.

5. Mr. GOOSEN (South Africa), speaking on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned and Other States Parties to the Treaty, paid tribute to the Chairman and expressed his confidence that the Chairman would be equally successful as the Chairman of Main Committee I of the 2000 Review Conference.

6. Mr. TUCKNOTT (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the Western Group, said that, without the Chairman's immense patience and considerable leadership, the session would not have made the same progress. He looked forward to seeing the Chairman guide the deliberations of Main Committee I at the 2000 Review Conference.

7. Mr. ZAHRAN (Egypt) said that his delegation would have liked to see the adoption at the current session of agreed conclusions and recommendations for consideration at the 2000 Review Conference. He hoped that the 2000 Review Conference would achieve better results with respect to the review of the preamble and articles of the Treaty and the decisions and resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference. He also hoped that efforts would be made to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East by 2000 as a first step towards ridding the region of all weapons of mass destruction. Moreover, efforts should be made to ensure that Israel acceded to the Treaty, thus placing all its nuclear facilities under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency. That would be yet another step towards strengthening the non-proliferation regime. Nuclear-weapon States should cooperate with non-nuclear-weapon States in negotiations on the issue of disarmament in an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament established in the

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Conference on Disarmament. That would constitute another step towards the realization of the objectives of the Treaty.

8. Mr. SHA Zukang (China) thanked the Chairman for steering the session to a successful conclusion.

9. Ms. MARTINIC (Argentina) paid tribute to the patient and transparent manner in which the Chairman had conducted the Committee's work.

10. The CHAIRMAN declared the third session of the Preparatory Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 10.35 p.m.