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

6 May 2004

Original: English

Third session
New York, 26 April-7 May 2004

Position paper on the final outcome of the third session of the Preparatory Commission

Submitted by the Non-Aligned States and other States parties to the Treaty

1. The NAM recalls that this PrepCom has been mandated and tasked to undertake the following:

- “Consider specific matters of substance relating to the implementation of the Treaty and Decisions 1 and 2, as well as the Resolution on the Middle East adopted in 1995, and the outcomes of subsequent Review Conferences, including developments affecting the operation and purpose of the Treaty”. (Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference)

- “At its third and, as appropriate, fourth session, the Preparatory Committee, taking into account the deliberations and results of its previous sessions, should make every effort to produce a consensus report containing recommendations to the Review Conference.” (Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference)

- “The States Parties agreed that the procedural arrangements for the Review Conference should be finalised at the last session of the Preparatory Committee.” (Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference)

- “The Conference agrees that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapons States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. The Conference calls upon the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference on this issue.” (Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference)

- “The establishment of such subsidiary bodies would be recommended by the Preparatory Committee for each Review Conference in relation to the specific objectives of the Review Conference.” (Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference and Decision 1 on ‘Strengthening the Review Process for the Treaty’ adopted in 1995)
2. The NAM calls for a draft report for the Third Session of the PrepCom that will need to be adopted by consensus and that will contain the recommendations that are required to be made by this PrepCom to the 2005 NPT Review Conference.

3. The NAM calls for a recommendation for the establishment of Subsidiary Bodies to Main Committees I and II, respectively, at the 2005 NPT Review Conference on the issues of nuclear disarmament, the implementation of the Middle East Resolution adopted in 1995, and security assurances, which should be included under the recommendations to be made by the PrepCom.

4. The NAM calls for any Chair’s Factual Summary Paper to be considered once the Chair has made it available and has been finalised.

5. The NAM does not support the attachment of the Chair’s Factual Summary Reports of the First and Second Sessions of the PrepCom to the Report of the Third Session of the PrepCom. The Third Session of the PrepCom was required to take into account the deliberations and results of its previous Sessions and the elements contained in the Chair’s Factual Summary Reports of the First and Second Sessions of the PrepCom should consequently be considered in the preparation of the content of this PrepCom’s outcome and, therefore, are not required to be separately attached.

6. The NAM would not support a summarised review of the implementation and operation of the Treaty to be included in the PrepCom Report. Agreement between the States Parties on the implementation and operation of the Treaty requires detailed negotiations and would need to be comprehensive and reflect all aspects of the implementation and operation of the Treaty.

7. The NAM would not support the description of the procedural arrangements for the Review Conference as “recommendations”. Such an approach would not fulfil the mandate that has been tasked to this PrepCom, namely that it “should make every effort to produce a consensus report containing recommendations to the Review Conference.” The requirement to conclude the procedural arrangements was identified as a separate tasking to the PrepCom.

8. The NAM strongly endorses the Chair’s proposal to hold open-ended consultations and underlines the need for such consultations, as this will allow all delegations to participate and be engaged with one another on the issues to be dealt with by the PrepCom.