WORKING GROUP ON SECURITY ASSURANCES AND ARTICLE VI:

Attached is a working document entitled "Textual option for the report of Main Committee I: review of security assurances and nuclear-weapon-free zones". The document is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Indonesia, on behalf of the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries parties to the Treaty.
1. The Conference considers that the most effective guarantee against the possible use of nuclear weapons and the danger of nuclear war is nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Pending the achievement of this goal, the Conference recognizes that different approaches may be required to strengthen the security of non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty.

2. The Conference reiterates also its conviction that, in the interest of promoting the objectives of the Treaty, including the strengthening of the security of non-nuclear-weapon States, all States, both nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States, should refrain, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, from the threat or the use of force in relations between States, involving either nuclear or non-nuclear weapons.

3. The Conference underlines again the importance of adherence to the Treaty by non-nuclear-weapon States as the best means of reassuring one another of their renunciation of nuclear weapons and as one of the effective means of strengthening their mutual security.

4. Pending the elimination of all nuclear weapons, the Conference believes that the best security assurance is an effective, unconditional, comprehensive, internationally negotiated and legally binding instrument. In this connection, the Conference believes that Security Council resolution 984 (1995) should have included language committing the nuclear-weapon States to take action, in the event of a threat of use of nuclear weapons, to suppress that threat.

5. The Conference welcomes the declaration on negative security assurance issued by the five nuclear-weapon States prior to the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 984 (1995). However, the Conference believes that resolution 984 (1995) and the five declarations are only the first step towards providing non-nuclear-weapon States with the kind of assurances to which they are entitled, namely, an internationally negotiated, legally binding instrument where all the nuclear-weapon States are obligated to the same provisions and the same conditions.

6. The conclusion of an international instrument providing for such arrangements would strengthen the security of non-nuclear-weapon States parties, and offer an additional incentive to non-nuclear-weapon States not parties to the Treaty to adhere to the Treaty. The Conference notes that consultations and negotiations on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons have been under way in the Conference on Disarmament for over 15 years. The Conference agrees that a conference should be convened at an early date to work on a protocol to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, on the
prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States parties.

7. The Conference believes that appropriate measures may also be needed to provide protection for non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty from nuclear threats that emanate from the ambiguous policy of certain States not parties to the Treaty which possess significant unsafeguarded nuclear facilities and might have acquired nuclear-weapon capability.

8. The Conference also holds the view that one of the effective means to assure non-nuclear-weapon States in a legally binding form against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is through the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones which encompass the integrality of the countries in such zones.