

**Elements for a Plan of Action for
the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
by Group of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT**

Introduction:

1. Although there have been some positive signals and developments in the area of nuclear disarmament, the world is still confronted by unresolved challenges. The recent pronouncements by some Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) about their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons are positive. However, urgent and concrete actions by the NWS in accordance with their multilaterally agreed commitments to achieve general and complete disarmament remain essential. So long as the role of nuclear weapons in the context of security is not delegitimised and existing nuclear doctrines not abandoned, there will always be a threat of nuclear arms race and escalation of nuclear threat. The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
2. The NWS need to implement the unequivocal undertaking that they had provided in 2000 so as to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons. The 13 practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement Article VI should be fully implemented in accordance with principles of transparency, verifiability and irreversibility. The NWS should be urged to start negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of their nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention. It is also to be remembered that there is a unanimous conclusion of the ICJ on an obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.
3. The NAM proposes the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons within a specified time-frame that includes the following concrete steps and measures, as a basis for consideration by the Review Conference. The list of measures in each phase is indicative and not exhaustive, and the order in which it is mentioned does not necessarily reflect the priority. Nevertheless, it is to be understood that in any programme for nuclear disarmament all steps and measures to be taken would be inextricably linked to each other.

Plan of Action

First Phase 2010 to 2015

A. Measures aimed at reducing the nuclear threat

1. Immediate and concurrent commencement of negotiations and early conclusions of:

- a. A treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons. Ensure that negotiations are conducted on the basis of Shannon mandate, as endorsed at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences respectively.
- b. End qualitative improvements of nuclear weapons by agreements on :
 - i. Cessation of all nuclear weapon tests (Ratification of the CTBT starting from the NWS), early entry into force of the CTBT and closure of all nuclear weapons test sites, and
 - ii. Measures to prevent the use of new technologies for upgrading the existing nuclear weapon systems, including the prohibition of nuclear weapon research and development.
- c. Review by NWS of their Nuclear Postures in order to eliminate the role of nuclear weapons in their military and security policies.
- d. A multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument that is universal and unconditional, to assure NNWS against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
- e. A convention unconditionally prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
- f. An international conference at the “earliest possible date” to achieve agreement on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame, including in particular a treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons (NWC - Nuclear Weapons Convention).
- g. Full implementation of the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, Central Asia, and Mongolia’s nuclear weapon free status, including signature and ratification by NWS and other states of relevant

protocol annexed to these treaties and the establishment of additional nuclear weapon free zones (NWFZ).

- h. Establish NWFZ in the Middle East. Implement the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East in order to fully realise its goals and objectives.
 - i. Clear and verifiable declarations of the stocks of nuclear weapons and of nuclear weapon usable material and agree on multilateral mechanism to monitor reductions carried out by NWS of their nuclear arsenals individually, bilaterally or collectively.
2. Stand down nuclear weapon systems from a state of operational readiness.

B. Measures aimed at Nuclear Disarmament

1. Full implementation by the NWS of their disarmament obligations and commitments under the NPT, including those agreed at the 2000 RevCon. Accelerate process of negotiations in accordance with Article VI, and implement the 13 Practical Steps.
2. Conclusion of negotiations on further reductions of nuclear arsenals (START).
3. Moratorium on production of fissile materials pending conclusion of FMCT.
4. Placement under IAEA safeguards of nuclear fissile material transferred from military to peaceful uses by NWS.
5. Formally commence 2010s as the “Decade for nuclear disarmament” and begin realising its objectives.

Second Phase 2015 to 2020

Measures aimed to reduce nuclear arsenals and to promote confidence between States

1. Entry into force of the treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons and the establishment of a single integrated multilateral comprehensive verification system to ensure compliance, including measures such as:
 - a. Separation of nuclear warheads from their delivery vehicles;
 - b. Placement of nuclear warheads in secure storage under international supervision leading to the removal of special nuclear materials from warheads, and;
 - c. Transfer of nuclear materials including fissile materials and delivery vehicles to 'peaceful purposes'.
2. Preparation under international auspices of an inventory of nuclear arsenals, including fissile materials, nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles.
3. Progressive and balanced reduction of missiles intended for carrying nuclear warheads.
4. Recommendations by the 2020 Review Conference to declare 2020 as the "Decade for the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

Third Phase 2020 to 2025 and beyond

Measures aimed toward consolidation of a Nuclear Weapon Free World

1. Full implementation of the treaty to eliminate all nuclear weapons, and of its verification regime through completion of measures such as:
 - a. Elimination of all nuclear weapons.
 - b. Conversion of all facilities devoted to the production of nuclear weapons to 'peaceful purposes'.
 - c. Application of safeguards on nuclear facilities on a universal basis.