
Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Working paper submitted by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan

1. Reiterating their firm conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of treaties freely arrived at among States concerned significantly promotes nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation at the regional and global levels, stressing their determination to make a joint contribution to the strengthening of peace and security on the basis of article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan signed the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in Semipalatinsk on 8 September 2006.
2. The Preparatory Committee notes with satisfaction that the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolutions 61/88 of 6 December 2006 and 63/63 of 12 January 2009, entitled "Establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in Central Asia", welcomes the signing of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, stressing that the establishment of such a zone constitutes an important step towards strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination and enhancing regional and international peace and security and is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists.
3. The Preparatory Committee notes that the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, having an extensive common border with two nuclear-weapon countries, is the first such zone located entirely in the northern hemisphere and composed of landlocked States and a State that once possessed an arsenal of nuclear weapons.
4. The Preparatory Committee recalls that the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament agreed at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons stated that the development of nuclear-weapon-free zones should



be encouraged as a matter of priority. In this context, it notes that the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II and Corr.3)) and the documents of the three sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Conference of the Parties to the Treaty contain support for the efforts of the five Central Asian States to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in their region.

5. The Preparatory Committee stresses the fact that the initial negotiations on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone were carried out in close consultation with and under the auspices of the United Nations and, in this connection, notes with satisfaction the role of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, and also the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

6. The Preparatory Committee notes with satisfaction that the Central Asian States are the first participating States in a nuclear-weapon-free zone to have included in their regional arrangements obligations to implement the provisions of the IAEA Agreement for the Application of Safeguards, in accordance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (INFCIRC/153 (Corrected)), and the Model Additional Protocol thereto (INFCIRC/540 (Corrected)), as well as obligations to implement the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

7. The Preparatory Committee welcomes the readiness of the Central Asian States, in accordance with paragraph 25 of the principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1999, to continue consultations with nuclear-weapon States on a range of provisions of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.

8. The Preparatory Committee, recalling the decisions adopted during the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences, reiterates its appeal to Governments and international organizations that have experience and expertise in the clean-up and disposal of radioactive contaminants to give appropriate assistance to the States of the region as may be required for the rehabilitation of areas affected by radiation.

9. The Preparatory Committee welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia on 21 March 2009.
