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

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**Third session**  
New York, 4-15 May 2009

**Arab working paper submitted by the United Arab  
Emirates on behalf of the Group of Arab States, which  
are States members of the League of Arab States to the  
third session of the Preparatory Committee for the  
2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference,  
New York, 4-15 May 2009**

**Implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by  
the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the NPT**

The resolution on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East is critically important to the preservation of the security and stability of the Middle East region at both the regional and international levels. The Group of Arab States has consistently emphasized the importance of the full and rapid implementation of that resolution during international meetings and conferences devoted to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and through the detailed working papers submitted by the Arab Group to the first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.<sup>1</sup> These included the positions of the Arab countries on the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East. On the occasion of the third session of the Preparatory Committee, the Arab Group would like to reiterate the following:

1. The States members of the League of Arab States believe that the NPT remains the cornerstone of the non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament regime, and that the 2010 Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee offer an opportunity to review the Treaty and the means of putting it into effect and implementing the 1995 resolution on the Middle East which, despite the passage of 14 years since it was adopted, has not witnessed any serious attempt to implement it or the establishment of any implementation mechanism.

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<sup>1</sup> The first working paper was submitted to the first session of the Preparatory Committee held in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May 2007 (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.28); the second working paper was submitted to the second session of the Preparatory Committee held in Geneva from 28 April to May 2008 (NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.2).



2. A number of Arab initiatives on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East have been submitted to various international forums but, regrettably, despite the support of the international community for these Arab initiatives, no real or practical steps have been taken at the international level to give effect to them.

3. The Arab States have repeatedly affirmed their conviction that the only practical solution for achieving non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Middle East is through an unbiased and non-selective international approach, within the framework of a comprehensive and integrated regional response to the problem which would provide security for all parties in the region through the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

4. In preparation for the 2010 Review Conference and in the light of the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Arab States wish to emphasize that failure to give effect to the 1995 resolution on the Middle East would entail abandonment of all the outcomes and resolutions of the Conference, thus undermining the credibility of the Treaty and the resolution to extend it indefinitely. All States parties to the NPT, and especially the three depositary States, must therefore assume their responsibilities and exert every conceivable effort to ensure the full implementation of that resolution, and assist the 2010 Review Conference and its Preparatory Committees to identify the practical steps to ensure the full application of the resolution and the realization of its objectives.

5. Israel's continued insistence upon not acceding to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons constitutes a threat to the security and stability of the Arab States, all of which have become parties to the Treaty. This may lead the Arab States to review their future approach to this issue. The Arab Summit held in Doha in 2009 adopted a resolution urging the Arab ministers for foreign affairs to define common Arab positions and policies, including suitable alternatives for possible action by the Arab States based upon the response of the 2010 Review Conference and the international community towards the Arab request to make the Middle East a nuclear-weapon-free zone and to make submissions thereon to the next summit in 2011.

#### **Proposals by Member States of the League of Arab States**

In the light of the above, the Arab Group proposes the inclusion of the following recommendations in the report to be submitted by the Preparatory Committee to the 2010 Review Conference:

(a) Emphasize that the existence of nuclear weapons in the Middle East constitutes a threat to regional and international peace and security;

(b) Reiterate the call for Israel to accede, without delay, to the NPT as a non-nuclear State and place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive safeguards, of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

(c) Reiterate the commitment of States parties to the NPT, and in particular the three depositary States, to implement the resolution on the Middle East which was adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and adopt the effective mechanisms required for that purpose including the following steps:

- Call upon the United Nations to convene an international conference in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly entitled “Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East” with a view to initiating negotiations on the establishment of a zone free from nuclear weapons in the Middle East by 2011. IAEA will be invited to prepare the reference documents of the conference which will include alternatives for establishing a zone free from nuclear weapons based on the alternatives developed earlier and in the light of follow-up by the Agency regarding the implementation of conventions related to the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in other regions of the world;
- Nuclear States must affirm their commitment to all the provisions of the Treaty and to their commitments arising from the outcomes of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 Review Conference and including their obligations under article I of the Treaty not to transfer any nuclear weapons, or other nuclear explosive devices, directly or indirectly, to Israel and not in any way to assist Israel in a manner that would contribute to its ability to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices under any circumstances;
- In conformity with the seventh preambular paragraph and article IV of the Treaty, all States parties to the Treaty should declare their commitment not to cooperate in the nuclear field with Israel or to transfer to it nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices;

(d) Establish a standing committee of the members of the Bureau of the 2010 Review Conference with a mandate to follow up the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East as well as the outcome document of the 2000 Review Conference which called on Israel to accede immediately to the NPT and to place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards. The committee will also be responsible for following up the implementation of the outcome of the 2010 Review Conference and for making preparations for an international conference on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East and submitting reports thereon to the 2015 Review Conference and to the sessions of the Preparatory Committee;

(e) Follow up and monitor these commitments through reports to be submitted to the 2015 Review Conference and to the sessions of the Preparatory Committee convened prior to the Conference by the States Parties. These reports should include, in a transparent manner, information on the movements of nuclear or related materials or technology between such States and Israel for both peaceful and military purposes, together with any information on prior nuclear cooperation between States parties and Israel, in order to assist in clarifying the scale of Israel’s previous and current nuclear activities;

(f) Request the United Nations Secretariat to circulate these reports during the 2015 Review Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the purpose of the review and evaluation of the progress made in the implementation of the commitments by these States;

(g) Establish a subsidiary body of the 2010 Review Conference under the Second Committee to discuss the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East, determine a mechanism for its implementation and agree on related recommendations.