



General Assembly

Distr.: General

18 June 2020

English

Original: Arabic/English/Spanish

Seventy-fifth session

Item 103 (u) of the preliminary list*

General and complete disarmament**Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament
and non-proliferation****Report of the Secretary-General****Contents**

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* A/75/50.



I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution [74/55](#) on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session.
2. Pursuant to that request, notes verbales were sent to Member States on 23 January 2020 and 4 May 2020 inviting them to provide information on the subject. The replies received are set out in section II below. Any views received after 31 May 2020 will be posted on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs in the language of submission. No addenda will be issued.

II. Replies received from Governments

Colombia

[Original: Spanish]
[28 May 2020]

The Republic of Colombia is submitting this report pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution [74/55](#) on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, in which the Assembly requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session.

Colombia recognizes the importance of multilateralism, in spite of the broad difficulties it is encountering, in order to advance towards the common objectives of all nations and to address emerging issues concerning disarmament, non-proliferation and arms and munitions control.

The dialogues that take place in the framework of universal instruments help to foster understanding by providing a space in which to build consensus and a common language in terms of defining and analysing developments in this area.

Colombia has worked in multilateral settings to encourage and support the adoption of collective measures that contribute to the elimination and prevention of threats to peace and promote the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Dialogues and global consensus must be non-discriminatory, universal and transparent, so that decisions taken in this area might carry greater weight, constitute a common frame of reference and be comparable in terms of the means and degree of their implementation and compliance with them.

Multilateralism, as alluded to, must rapidly adapt to the new realities and challenges on the international stage. It should be a force for promoting transparency, international cooperation, the exchange of information and responsible behaviour by States, thereby strengthening the structures of the international system.

The continued erosion of multilateralism in arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament is a matter of concern. Colombia prefers to continue addressing those issues in existing multilateral organizations and mechanisms, which will safeguard their integrity and validity.

Failure to make use of existing multilateral bodies would not only undermine their existence and legitimacy but also endanger international peace and security and erode confidence in the international security system and the foundations of the United Nations itself.

Colombia calls for platforms such as the Conference on Disarmament to be revitalized. It also calls on all States to maintain a constructive approach that is faithful to the objectives of the various instruments of international disarmament and non-proliferation.

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]

[31 May 2020]

Cuba, a founding member of the United Nations, has demonstrated and reaffirms its commitment to the promotion, preservation and strengthening of multilateralism in international relations. In the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, it is a party to many international treaties, including the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

As an active member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, Cuba has supported the promotion of multilateralism as a basic principle in disarmament and non-proliferation negotiations. There is a need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control.

The multilateral decision-making process of the United Nations, with equal rights for all States and in strict observance of the Charter and the principles of international law, is the only viable way to prevent the international system from becoming a mechanism for the imposition and legitimization of unilateral measures contrary to the multipolar, just and equitable world order we need.

We reiterate our concern over the progressive erosion of multilateralism and the main instruments in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control resulting from the adoption by the Government of the United States of unilateral measures that threaten international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system, as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself.

The contradictions and threats with regard to disarmament and non-proliferation, which stem from security policies and military doctrines based on nuclear deterrence, the emergence of new and modern lethal weapons and the arms race in outer space, among other current challenges, require multilateral efforts to achieve negotiated and peaceful solutions, under Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations. To meet those challenges, it is also essential to preserve existing agreements on disarmament and arms control, which have been the result of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations. That is the most effective way to safeguard international peace and security.

The need to redouble multilateral efforts is made all the more pressing by the lack of political will on the part of certain States to make progress in talks that have been stalled for several years in the Conference on Disarmament, which is the main multilateral forum in this area. It is the appropriate platform for negotiating a treaty banning the arms race in outer space and, at the same time, another providing effective security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States such as Cuba.

The adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, thanks to the enormous efforts of most Member States, is a fine example of what can be achieved when there is political will. Cuba welcomes that outcome and, as the fifth State to ratify the Treaty, reaffirms its commitment to general and complete disarmament. We

await the entry into force of this important international instrument as soon as possible.

Multilateral negotiations that are open to all States on an equal footing facilitate the adoption of commitments on disarmament and non-proliferation through corresponding agreements, measures and instruments, and ensure their universality.

Multilateralism must remain the basic principle of all disarmament and non-proliferation negotiations, thereby curbing the promotion of unilateral measures.

Ecuador

[Original: Spanish]

[31 May 2020]

In the view of Ecuador, only a truly multilateral approach can effectively address current disarmament and non-proliferation challenges and ensure international peace and security. Ecuador, therefore, takes an active part in the various disarmament and non-proliferation forums and has ratified the main international instruments in this area.

Ecuador regrets the paralysis that has affected various disarmament mechanisms, for two decades in the case of the Conference on Disarmament. It calls on all States to demonstrate the necessary flexibility and political will, including by not misusing the requirement for consensus, so that those mechanisms might regain their stature and continue to be relevant in multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation negotiations and deliberations.

Ecuador remains especially pleased that the Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament was able to agree by consensus, in June 2017, on the recommendations relating to the objectives and agenda of that session, which clearly indicates that multilateralism can and should be the fundamental principle underpinning disarmament work.

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic should not serve as a pretext for curtailing multilateralism in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation. On the contrary, it is yet one more reason for intensifying efforts globally in that area.

India

[Original: English]

[28 May 2020]

India has always supported multilateral institutions and mechanisms to achieve the goal of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. India has always been a relentless advocate of nuclear disarmament and has taken steps to contribute to global non-proliferation efforts and initiatives. In November 1953, India proposed, as part of the General Assembly resolution entitled “Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments: report of the Disarmament Commission”, the inclusion of the phrase “elimination and prohibition of atomic, hydrogen, bacterial, chemical and other weapons of war and mass destruction, and for the attainment of these ends through effective measures” in paragraph 1. India’s call for a “standstill agreement” in 1954 for a global ban on nuclear testing was a testimony to India’s abiding commitment to promote multilateral efforts in disarmament. India’s action plan for ushering in a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world order, which was presented at the United Nations in 1988, called for the attainment of the goal of nuclear disarmament in a time-bound, universal, non-discriminatory, phased and verifiable manner.

India attaches high importance to the Conference on Disarmament as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, as laid out by the final document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly and reaffirmed most recently in General Assembly resolution 74/74. India remains steadfastly committed to the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through universal, non-discriminatory and verifiable nuclear disarmament and has called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons through a step-by-step process, as also outlined in its working paper on nuclear disarmament, submitted to the Conference on Disarmament in 2007 (CD/1816).

Without diminishing the priority that India attaches to disarmament, it has supported the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, which remains the most suitable basis for negotiations to commence, as also endorsed by the Group of Governmental Experts to make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to, but not negotiate, a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group. Commensurate with the importance that it attaches to nuclear disarmament verification, India participated in the Group of Governmental Experts to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament and has also supported further consideration of the issue through the establishment of another group of governmental experts. India actively participated in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Further Practical Measures for the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space that concluded in March 2019 and maintains that the discussions in the Group can serve as a useful basis for future discussions for the negotiation of legally binding instrument(s) for the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

India is a party to various multilateral disarmament and arms control treaties, including the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects; and the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. India is an active participant in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and Group of 21 discussions at the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, respectively.

India's proposal for a convention on the prohibition of nuclear weapons provides the way ahead for achieving the goal of nuclear disarmament. India is committed to working in a multilateral framework to advance the common objectives of non-proliferation, including through strong export controls and membership in the multilateral export regimes.

India's unwavering commitment to multilateralism has been highlighted by its high-level participation at various forums and initiatives during the year. The participation of the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, in the high-level segment of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly in September 2019 reaffirmed India's staunch commitment to multilateralism during a period of global uncertainty. Prime Minister Modi called for making the United Nations more effective and purposeful through fundamental reform. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, the Minister for External Affairs of India, in his remarks at the Munich Security Conference in February 2020, had emphasized that multilateralism can be strengthened by creative diplomacy and plurilateral understanding. Earlier, at the ministerial meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism, held in New York in September 2019, Mr. Jaishankar underscored

that multilateralism is important for India and that international regimes and institutions should be contemporary in order to preserve their credibility. He also highlighted India's proud association with multilateral bodies.

Indonesia

[Original: English]
[31 May 2020]

Indonesia shares the view that the responsibility for sustaining global economic and social development, as well as diminishing threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that the United Nations and its machineries must play the central role.

Enhanced multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation has become an important issue since we have been witnessing the re-emergence of a new arms race, the use of other weapons of mass destruction in conflicts and non-traditional security issues in the past two decades.

The collapse of the global disarmament architecture as a result of decades of deteriorating trust and its resulting deficit between possessor and non-possessor States and soaring defence budgets for nuclear modernization are a clear reflection of the deterioration of political commitment on the global disarmament agenda.

With the continued existence of any weapons of mass destruction, the grave impact of the catastrophe caused by such weapons will always be an unwanted consequence for all humankind. The precarious security condition should have never been the stumbling block for all States Members of the United Nations to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Indonesia is of the view that reinforcing and strengthening the global disarmament architecture is fundamental and places the agenda for the disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as the highest priority. We believe that multilateral cooperation in achieving the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction is the only guarantee against the use or threat of use of weapons of mass destruction and of minimizing the risk of humanitarian consequences from any single use of such weapons.

It is paramount for all Member States to preserve and continue the implementation of existing multilateral and bilateral arms control agreements. We consider that the extension of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms would be a key contribution in advancing the nuclear disarmament agenda. In particular, we also recognized the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction as the most successful multilaterally agreed framework on disarmament of weapons of mass destruction. We highlight the importance of maintaining the impartiality and credibility of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons by undertaking its mandate, free from any kind of politicization. Moreover, the illegal supply and illegitimate use of conventional weapons by unauthorized actors can be minimized by strengthening the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

We persistently call on the Conference on Disarmament to immediately negotiate and conclude a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit

their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use and to provide for their destruction.

Moreover, Indonesia believes that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is an indispensable instrument for the prevention of global nuclear proliferation, with the eventual objective of achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons, through the balanced implementation of its mutually reinforcing pillars.

We advocate the immediate entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as part of a strengthened and enforced global nuclear disarmament architecture. To achieve such a target, it is important to engage with civil society and to intensify our work in universalizing the ratification and ensuring the entry into force of said treaties.

It is also important for us to take a new and comprehensive approach in reversing the setback to the agenda on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. We consider the agenda to be an essential part of strengthening international peace and security, while maintaining the right of all States to benefit from the peaceful uses of nuclear, chemical and biological technology.

We advocate the building of collective efforts in addressing the potential threats of weaponized outer space and cyberspace. The exploration and use of outer space and other celestial bodies should be for peaceful purposes only and benefit all States. The increase of cyberattacks across regions against critical infrastructure by State and non-State actors is unacceptable. In this regard, we reaffirm that international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintain peace and stability in the promotion of an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment.

Indonesia reiterates its commitment to uphold inclusive multilateralism in achieving a world free of weapons of mass destruction. We also stress the importance of reinvigorating political will as the elemental requirement for constructive dialogue and cooperation in moving forward the global agenda on disarmament and non-proliferation.

Madagascar

[Original: English]
[27 May 2020]

Pacific nuclear applications are used in Madagascar in different socioeconomic sectors, such as nuclear medicine, radiotherapy, environmental preservation, water resources management, industry, energy planning, agriculture, mining, research and education. Indeed, Madagascar joined the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1965 and became a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 1970. Madagascar has committed to the following legally binding instruments: (a) the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (entered into force on 27 November 1970); (b) the application of safeguards in the context of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (entered into force on 8 October 1970); (c) the Protocol Additional to the Agreement between the Republic of Madagascar and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in Connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (entered into force on 18 September 2003); (d) the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; (e) the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities (entered into force in 2003); and (f) the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (entered into force on 3 March 2017).

Madagascar has also concluded small quantities protocols to its comprehensive safeguards agreement.

Madagascar does not have any nuclear plants. However, safeguards are applied on all nuclear material in its territory, jurisdiction or control for the exclusive purpose of verifying that such material is not diverted to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

Safeguards are embedded in legally binding agreements. Madagascar accepts the safeguards through the conclusion of agreements with IAEA. In that regard, Madagascar has implemented the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Agreement for the Application of Safeguards by strengthening measures under the Additional Protocol, which include:

- (a) Provision of information about uranium mines and other locations where nuclear material intended for non-nuclear uses is available;
- (b) Provision of information on the production and export of sensitive nuclear material and access to IAEA to the manufacturing sites;
- (c) Provision to IAEA of periodic (quarterly) reports on the possible import and export of nuclear materials;
- (d) Collection by IAEA of environmental samples beyond the declared locations, when the Agency deems necessary;
- (e) A simplified procedure for the designation of IAEA inspectors, the issuance of multiple entry/exit visas and the use by IAEA of internationally established communication systems.

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[28 May 2020]

An isolationist approach is no way to deal with the latent threat to humanity posed by the existence of weapons of mass destruction or to resolve the humanitarian problems caused by conventional weapons, small arms and light weapons. Mexico therefore views multilateralism as a fundamental tool for addressing those challenges.

Mexico reaffirms its position as a traditional ally of multilateralism, as well as of the United Nations itself, ready to work to achieve and maintain international peace and security through the peaceful settlement of disputes. This commitment is enshrined in the normative principles of Mexican foreign policy contained in article 89 of the Constitution of the United Mexican States.

As we mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, we should recall that a safer and more peaceful world cannot be based on arms, but rather must rest upon international law and cooperation, including multilateral cooperation. The anniversary should also be a time to reflect on the state of disarmament. This is the unfinished business of the United Nations. It was the subject of the first resolution of the General Assembly, and in seven decades we have not made the kind of progress that was expected.

Mexico believes that multilateralism covers an increasing number of issues, actors and forums in which new approaches and levels of action are being sought. It therefore recognizes non-governmental organizations, civil society, academia and international organizations as key actors that have supported disarmament and non-proliferation deliberations and negotiations.

The main steps taken by Mexico in 2019 to promote the implementation and universality of all legally binding instruments in the area of disarmament are as follows:

- Mexico participated actively and purposefully in: meetings convened under the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, including by the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems; the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Treaty); meetings of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; and meetings on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
- Similarly, in compliance with its obligations as a State party to those conventions, and taking into account the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, Mexico submitted its respective national reports on a voluntary basis.
- Mexico remains firmly committed to the cause of nuclear disarmament, participating actively, decisively and constructively in the various multilateral and regional forums dealing with the issue. In the First Committee of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, in 2019, Mexico was a co-author or main sponsor of the following resolutions on disarmament issues:
 - Resolution 74/27 on the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);
 - Resolution 74/47 on ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world;
 - Resolution 74/41 on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;
 - Resolution 74/42 on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons;
 - Resolution 74/46 entitled “Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments”;
 - Resolution 74/48 on a nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;
 - Resolution 74/50 on nuclear disarmament verification;
 - Resolution 74/59 on follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons;
 - Resolution 74/64 on youth, disarmament and non-proliferation;
 - Resolution 74/78 on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

Mexico has made clear its weariness with the paralysis that, for more than two decades, has characterized the Conference on Disarmament. The body’s growing internal politicization and the absence of multilateral disarmament negotiations amount to non-compliance with the mandate for which it was established. Mexico reaffirms its support for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament regime and stresses

the importance of advocating the preservation of existing related multilateral and bilateral agreements.

On the basis of its firm conviction, Mexico has encouraged States that support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to sign or ratify it with a view to its early entry into force, thereby helping to ensure that it now has 81 signatories and 37 States parties.

Mexico participated in the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which was held from 29 April to 10 May 2019 in New York.

Mexico also strongly advocates the entry into force and universality of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. It therefore took part in meetings of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and, in conjunction with New Zealand and Australia, submitted, as it does every year, a draft resolution entitled “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”.

For Mexico, the use of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons as weapons of war, or against individuals or the civilian population, cannot be justified under any circumstances. Mexico firmly condemns such atrocities, which violate international law.

Mexico took part in the ninetieth, ninety-first and ninety-second sessions of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Executive Council, and the twenty-fourth Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, which were held in 2019 and in which it reiterated its firm commitment to multilateralism, international law and building a sustainable peace.

Mexico endorses the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency as the body responsible for implementing the safeguards regime provided for in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. As President of the sixty-third regular session of the Agency’s General Conference, Mexico facilitated the renewal by member States of their commitment to the role of the Agency in the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

Lastly, Mexico participates actively in the following forums, groups and mechanisms:

- Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- Conference on Disarmament
- Disarmament Commission
- Group of Governmental Experts to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament
- New Agenda Coalition
- Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative
- International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification
- Nuclear Suppliers Group
- Australia Group
- Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies

Portugal

[Original: English]

[14 May 2020]

Portugal believes that multilateralism is the most efficient way to attain the objective of peace and security maintenance at the international level, through disarmament and non-proliferation. On this issue, Portugal is party to most relevant treaties and other international and regional mechanisms regarding the prevention and elimination of threats represented by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. Portugal also cooperates with international organizations that work in those areas.

Portugal is party to the following instruments and mechanisms: the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its protocols (including amendments), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities and its amendment.

Portugal also participates in the following export control regimes: the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Zangger Committee and the Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.

Portugal has participated in outreach activities that are aimed at promoting the universalization of the main treaties and other legal instruments regarding disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular with the Portuguese-speaking countries, through formal and informal contacts and initiatives, such as seminars, workshops and meetings.

Following the efforts in the area of disarmament, at the multilateral level, Portugal was one of the first 50 States to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, which is the first legal instrument on the matter of disarmament adopted by the United Nations in the past decade.

With regard to nuclear disarmament, Portugal recognizes the risk represented by countries that possess and seek to develop nuclear weapons, in particular in regions that are politically and socially unstable, which represent a higher threat potential.

With reference to nuclear disarmament, Portugal promotes the full implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, always considering the importance of the existence of confidence-building measures among nuclear and non-nuclear States.

Portugal also hopes that the Conference on Disarmament will adopt, as soon as possible, a programme of work supporting the negotiation of a fissile material cut-off treaty. To that end, Portugal highlights the importance of the implementation of the action plan of the 2010 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and believes that the effective implementation of the action plan includes

ending the stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament. Portugal has also signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and has proceeded with outreach activities regarding its universalization.

Qatar

[Original: Arabic]
[10 April 2020]

Qatar remains firmly committed to strengthening multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation mechanisms and is greatly alarmed by the persistent setbacks in those areas in recent years.

Qatar has acceded to various of the relevant treaties and conventions, in particular the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

There is a need to revitalize and reactivate the Conference on Disarmament, in the meetings of which Qatar takes part as an observer and of which it hopes to become a permanent member, as the main multilateral disarmament negotiating forum.

Qatar calls for a review of the mechanisms of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with the aim of ensuring the Treaty's effectiveness and credibility.
