

Joint Statement of representatives of NWFZ treaty bodies and Mongolia

1. We reaffirm the validity of the Declaration of the Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs) adopted on 28 April 2005 in Mexico.
2. We welcome the positive signs that are emerging in the relations between the two major Nuclear Weapon States that possess the overwhelming ninety percent of existing nuclear weapons and their commitment to reduce further their strategic nuclear arsenals as well as the recent “surge” in various ideas and proposals to address the pending issues of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear disarmament as imperatives that humankind is facing today. These positive developments and trends taken together create a positive climate to pursue further the goals of nuclear non-proliferation and a world free from nuclear weapons.
3. We reaffirm that the existence of nuclear weapons and the possibility of their use constitute a threat to the entire humankind, and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for it. Hence nuclear disarmament, total prohibition and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons remain urgent tasks facing the humankind. We support the United Nations Secretary-General’s five point plan for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament that includes call for a comprehensive package of instruments or a nuclear weapons convention to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons.
4. We recognize the growing importance of multilateralism in promoting non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and reaffirm our commitment to strengthening its role.
5. We reaffirm that the NPT remains an essential instrument of non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and reiterate the validity of the principles, obligations and rights contained therein, in particular in Articles III, IV, VI and VII.
6. We reaffirm the importance of achieving universality of the NPT and urge those States that are not parties thereto to accede to it without delay or conditions as non-nuclear-weapon States;
7. We are convinced that the establishment of internationally recognized NWFZs on the basis of agreements entered into freely among the States of the zone concerned promotes the goals of non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. Respect for such zones by Nuclear-Weapon and neighboring States constitute important nuclear disarmament commitments;

8. We reiterate our concern that though almost a decade has passed since the 2000 NPT Review Conference, no tangible progress has been achieved in implementing the agreed nuclear disarmament measures. Therefore we urge all States to comply with the obligations set forth in Article VI of the NPT and elaborated further in the decisions of the Review Conference mentioned above;
9. We urge Nuclear Weapon States to continue taking steps toward concluding a universal, unconditional and legally-binding universal treaty on security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States and to honor their commitments regarding the security assurances until the treaty is concluded.
10. We welcome the entry into force the Central Asian NWFZ Treaty on 21 March 2009, first such a zone in the northern hemisphere and cover an area where nuclear weapons previously were based. With more rigorous safeguards provisions, it will make an effective contribution to strengthening regional and global peace and security.
11. We are looking forward to the entry into force of the African NWFZ Treaty which sets a new standard by requiring the dismantlement and destruction of all nuclear explosive devices and provides for a more rigorous peaceful use cooperation in the nuclear field. Its entry into force would mark an important measure towards attaining the objective of global non-proliferation.
12. We urge Nuclear Weapon States and any other States listed or mentioned in the relevant Protocols to the treaties establishing NWFZs that have not yet signed or ratified the Protocols to do so as soon as possible, and those that have made reservations or unilateral interpretations to modify or withdraw them.
13. We express full support for Mongolia's policy of institutionalizing its nuclear-weapon-free status. We welcomed the start of the talks by Mongolia with its two neighbours to conclude the required legal instrument and express the hope that it would soon result in the conclusion of an international instrument institutionalizing the status.
14. We reiterate our support for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East and reaffirm the importance of Israel's accession to the NPT and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards in achieving the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;
15. We also reiterate our support for the establishment of NWFZs in North-East Asia, South Asia and Central Europe;
16. We reaffirm the commitments reflected in the NWFZ treaties to further promote and strengthen these zones and to cooperate in promoting ratifications, where appropriate, by all States that belong to a NWFZ as a contribution to strengthening confidence, the NPT regime and achieving nuclear disarmament.

17. We call on the United Nations General Assembly to undertake a comprehensive study on the questions of NWFZs in all its aspects bearing in mind the experience of the past three decades and with active participation of representatives of the existing and prospective zones.
18. We reiterate our demand for the total elimination of all nuclear testing and stress the importance of speedy entry into force of and achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty which would make a tangible practical contribution to the cause of nuclear disarmament. Pending its entry into force, a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test-explosions or on any other explosions need to be maintained.
19. We reaffirm the inalienable right of all States, individually or as part of a NWFZ, to develop the research, production and utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. We further reaffirm that NWFZs do not prevent the use of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes.
20. We recognize the fundamental role of the IAEA in the application and verification of compliance with the international safeguards regime provided for in the NPT and the relevant NWFZ treaties, as well as its efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of the international safeguards system.
21. Bearing in mind that disarmament and non-proliferation education can contribute to promoting a world free of nuclear weapons threats, we encourage all States to promote program instilling the values of peace, disarmament.