

Cluster 2 – specific issue

WMDFZ on the Middle East:

Brazil regrets that the Conference on Establishing a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East, mandated by the 2010 RevCon, has not yet taken place and reiterates its view that this is a central commitment within the package of decisions by States Parties in 1995 that made possible the indefinite extension of the NPT. The Resolution on the Middle East of 1995, as agreed in 2010, remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved.

Progress towards the establishment of the Zone would redress a major implementation deficit of the NPT and is an indispensable measure for restoring the credibility of consensus decisions and review cycles within the framework of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime of which the NPT serves as the cornerstone.

The Conference on a ME-NWFZ should be open-ended and without preconditions. Proposals which subject arrangements for the Conference to a broader agenda will serve only to effectively block progress towards an agreed and long overdue objective of States Parties under the NPT.

The Tlatelolco Treaty which established Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction made allowance for the progressive adherence of States Parties to treaty obligations. This flexible mechanism could serve as a model for the Middle East that takes into account different national readiness time-frames for adherence.