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THE NINTH REVIEW OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

4 May 2015

Main Committee II

**Statement by Mr. Darren Hansen
First Secretary
Australian Mission to the United Nations**

(Check against delivery)

Mr Chairman

I congratulate you on your election. It is an honour to be given the

Mr Chairman

Australia

Mr Chairman

A country pursuing nuclear proliferation activities could threaten international pe

The assurance the safeguards system delivers is not only essential to preventing nuclear weapons proliferation, but also fundamental to ensuring confidence in trade and cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear technology and an important factor in continuing progress on nuclear disarmament. The IAEA needs to receive adequate resources if safeguards are to remain an effective instrument for verification, as required by the NPT.

Consistent with Actions 25 and 28 of the 2010 Action Plan, Australia calls on all states yet to conclude and implement a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol with the IAEA to do so without delay. The combination of a CSA and AP represents the verification standard of the Treaty. But safeguards are not static. As agreed at the 1995 and 2010 RevCons, safeguards should be continually assessed. The Agency should therefore be supported in taking steps to ensure safeguards remain effective.

Mr Chairman

Australia recognises the need to ensure that relevant export control guidelines keep pace with technological and other developments. As part of t

Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), we urge all States Parties to establish, maintain and implement effective export controls over nuclear and nuclear-related dual-use items and technology. In addition, we encourage all States Parties to harmonise their export controls with those of the NSG and Zangger Committee guidelines.

by NSG rules and to meet its international obligations as a nuclear supplier in accordance with Action 35.

Mr Chairman

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones (NWFZs) play an important role in strengthening the non-proliferation and disarmament regime by establishing regions in which the manufacture, acquisition, possession, stationing and testing of nuclear weapons is prohibited.

As a long-standing supporter of NWFZs, Australia strongly supports the early convening of a conference on the establishment of a Middle-East Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone. We encourage all interested States Parties in the region to engage in a spirit of genuine and constructive cooperation to convene a Middle East Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone conference.

Mr Chairman

Preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons is in the interests of all States and should be pursued with vigour, resilience and determination. It is support new initiatives to strengthen the global non-proliferation regime and ensure that no more States or non-State actors ever acquire nuclear weapons.

Finally, Australia commends to you the recommendations of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) which are contained in the joint working paper submitted to this conference.

Thank you Mr Chairman.