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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 Australia on behalf of Vienna Group of Ten

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

(Check against delivery)

Mr Chairman

I have the honor to take the floor on behalf of the members of the Vienna Group of Ten: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

At the outset let me congratulate your election as Chairman of Main Committee II and assure you of our full support.

Mr Chairman

Review Conference. It is important that we maintain and reinforce common understandings here on strengthening the effectiveness of the NPT safeguards system; dealing effectively with non-compliance and

proliferation issues, and the risk posed by non-State actors seeking to acquire nuclear weapons, material or related items. These challenges need to the IAEA safeguards system.

With such challenges in mind, the Group has prepared a comprehensive paper, which has been circulated as conference working paper 1, with a view to encouraging discussion and substantive progress on the so-

containing recommendations on compliance and verification, export controls, nuclear security and the CTBT. Each section proposes specific draft review language, which has been carefully crafted, mindful of other recommendations are supported by brief and concise background notes.

The Vienna Group of 10 represents a wide range of perspectives on nuclear themes. Hence, in order to reach consensus substantive negotiations and compromises were needed. We hope our recommendations and supporting background notes may be helpful as this Committee will probably go through a similar negotiation process.

The members of the Vienna Group, acting in their national capacities, look forward to working with other delegations in a constructive and positive spirit in this Committee, and in the conference more broadly, over the coming weeks.

Thank you Mr Chairman