

**Mexico's contribution to the Report to the Secretary-General on resolution 79/240 entitled "Nuclear Disarmament Verification"**

Mexico submits this document pursuant to resolution 79/240 of the United Nations General Assembly, entitled "Nuclear Disarmament Verification," which requests the Secretary-General to present "*a substantive report containing possible options for the establishment of a Group of Scientific and Technical Experts on Nuclear Disarmament Verification within the United Nations.*"

Mexico reaffirms its unwavering commitment to nuclear disarmament and reiterates its long-standing principled position: the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons constitutes a violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations; it contradicts the principles of international humanitarian law and would constitute a war crime. The total prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons is the only guarantee against their use or the threat of their use. In Mexico's view, it is essential to have a strict and effective system of international verification associated with nuclear disarmament. This need is supported by the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), as well as the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued in 1996.

To be effective, nuclear disarmament must meet the criteria of transparency and irreversibility, and be carried out under strict international verification, in accordance with the obligations contained in the NPT—especially Article VI— and the commitments made during its review conferences, in particular the "13 Practical Steps" toward disarmament, outlined in the 2000 NPT Review Conference.

In this context, Mexico reiterates its call to renew multilateral commitments and efforts, and to revitalize multilateral negotiating bodies dedicated to disarmament, such as the Conference on Disarmament. Unfortunately, this body has faced nearly 25 years of stagnation, preventing it from fulfilling its mandate to serve as the UN's negotiating forum on disarmament.

Mexico participates in multiple forums and cooperative initiatives on verification. For example, Mexico is a member of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV), a pioneering multilateral initiative that enables non-nuclear-weapon States to play a meaningful role—together with nuclear weapon States—in developing credible, practical, and effective multilateral verification measures for nuclear disarmament. These types of verification mechanisms help provide assurances, promote compliance with obligations, increase credibility among countries, and foster transparency and trust.

Mexico supports strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards system, which plays an indispensable role in ensuring

compliance with non-proliferation obligations. Comprehensive safeguards agreements, along with Additional Protocols, constitute the current verification standard. Mexico places the highest value on the IAEA's work and maintains close cooperation with the Agency, enabling the effective and efficient application of safeguards on its territory.

Mexico also considers the entry into force and universalization of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), as well as the verification capacity of the Preparatory Commission of the CTBTO through its International Monitoring System, to be key components of the international disarmament regime — especially for verification.

Mexico has consistently emphasized that unilateral, bilateral, or regional nuclear weapons reduction efforts must also be subject to international verification.

In this regard, Mexico supports the process of establishing future sessions of the Group of Governmental Experts under resolution 79/240 of the General Assembly and, if possible, will seek to participate in the group to contribute to its work and engage in the sessions scheduled for 2025.

Mexico highlights the importance of ensuring that the group is inclusive and has a clear mandate focused on strengthening technical knowledge without replacing other verification mechanisms. For Mexico, verification is essential to ensuring treaty compliance and must be conducted under strict international oversight, consistent with the NPT and the rulings of the ICJ. In line with its position, Mexico will continue to advocate for a multilateral approach that fosters cooperation between nuclear weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States, thereby promoting trust and transparency.

Mexico stresses the importance of drawing lessons from the IAEA safeguards system and the CTBT verification regime, as well as from experiences in unilateral, bilateral, or regional nuclear arms reductions. In this context, Mexico expresses its preference for the group to operate under the auspices of the UN General Assembly and not within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament.

While verification is not an end in itself, effective and adequate verification is essential to ensuring compliance with treaty obligations throughout the nuclear disarmament process, covering all stages of the nuclear weapons lifecycle.

Nuclear weapon and non-nuclear weapon States must work together in multilateral nuclear disarmament verification, in accordance with their obligations under the NPT.