

**Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (77/47)**

India voted in favour of General Assembly resolution 77/47 on the follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament submitted by the countries of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. It calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on effective nuclear disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, including, in particular, a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons.

India has played an active role in the global efforts to advance the shared aspiration for nuclear disarmament. India remains committed to universal, non-discriminatory and verifiable nuclear disarmament. In India's working paper, submitted to the Conference on Disarmament in 2007 (see CD/1816), a step-by-step process is envisioned, underwritten by a universal commitment and an agreed global and non-discriminatory multilateral framework to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons. As a responsible nuclear weapon State, India has a policy of maintaining a credible minimum deterrence based on a no-first-use posture and non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States.

We would urge the international community to intensify dialogue to build consensus towards achieving our common goal of nuclear disarmament based on the following elements (also contained working paper CD/1816):

- Reaffirmation of the unequivocal commitment of all nuclear weapon States to the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons
- Reduction of the salience of nuclear weapons in the security doctrines
- Adoption of measures by nuclear-weapon States to reduce nuclear danger, including the risks of accidental nuclear war, de-alerting of nuclear-weapons to prevent unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons
- Negotiation of a global agreement among nuclear weapon States on "no-firstuse" of nuclear-weapons
- Negotiation of a universal and legally binding agreement on non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States

- Negotiation of a convention on the complete prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons
- Negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, leading to the global, non-discriminatory and verifiable elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified time frame.

India reiterates its call to undertake these steps as outlined in the working paper, including negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament of a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention, also called for by the Non-Aligned Movement.

India's two annual resolutions at the General Assembly on the "Convention on the Prohibition of the use of Nuclear Weapons" and on "Reducing Nuclear Danger" represent our strong commitment towards the common goal of nuclear disarmament.

India attaches high importance to the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum drawing its mandate from the consensus final document of the first special session on disarmament and reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 77/89.

Without prejudice to the priority India attaches to disarmament, India supports the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a fissile material cut-off treaty in accordance with CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, which remains the most suitable basis for negotiations.

India participates actively in the disarmament triad of the Conference on Disarmament, the First Committee of the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission to highlight contemporary challenges to global peace and security and to foster multilateral dialogue towards tangible outcomes..

India is cognizant of the need for enhanced international cooperation and for the promotion of peaceful uses of science and technology through technology transfer, sharing of information and exchange of equipment and materials. India's annual resolution at the General Assembly on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, adopted by consensus, calls upon Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could affect international security. It also underlines

the importance of Member States engaging with relevant stakeholders including experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge. The resolution calls upon Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament related purposes.

We are deeply concerned about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, which endangers international peace and security. The possibility of terrorists acquiring weapons of mass destruction necessitates Member States to work together to address this grave danger. Through its annual consensus resolution at the General Assembly, entitled “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction”, India has been drawing the attention of the world towards these threats and the need to strengthen international cooperation to address them.

India participated in the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons in September 2022. India believes that trust and confidence coupled with political will and intensified dialogue among States will help achieve consensus towards the shared objective of a world free of nuclear weapons. India stands ready to work with all Member States in achieving this noble goal.

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