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UNITED NATION DISARMAMENT COMMISSION
(UNDC)

AGENDA A: "REGULATION ON THE ACQUISITION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BY EXTREMIST GROUPS."

AGENDA B: "REVIEWING OF THE NUCLEAR NO-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)"

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ABOUT UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) was initially settled in 1952, and later re-built up and fortified in 1978. In the Final Document of its tenth Special Session in 1978, GA resolution S-10/2 par. 118, the General Assembly chose to set up, as successor to the Commission initially settled in 1952, a Disarmament Commission made out of all UN individuals.

The UNDC is a specialised deliberative body mandated to consider and submit concrete recommendations on specific disarmament issues and to follow up the relevant decisions and recommendations of the tenth Special Session.

Since 1978, the Disarmament commission has managed various demobilization related inquiries, both atomic and regular, and has submitted rules and standards on different subject things, including rules for suitable sorts of certainty building measures, guidelines and suggestions for local ways to deal with demilitarization inside the setting of worldwide security, and rules and proposals for target data on military issues.

AGENDA A: "REGULATION ON THE ACQUISITION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BY EXTREMIST GROUPS."

What are WMD's?

WMD's are weapons that can cause large amounts of fatality and massive destruction, hence are called weapons of mass destruction or WMD'S.

They are mainly of 3 types:

Biological: bioweapons are weapons with disease causing germs or toxins in them to harm animals, humans or plants. Some of these are anthrax, plague, Q fever, rice blast, etc.

Chemical: chemical weapons were first used in World War 1 where approximately 100,000 people died because of the usage of chlorine, phosgene and mustard gas. It is comprised of a toxic chemical which harms, irritates or causes death through its chemical action. They are comprised of blistering, choking, blood or nerve agents.

Nuclear: nuclear weapons were first dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the USA in 1945. These weapons are made by manner of nuclear fission or nuclear fusion or at times both.

ACQUISITION OF WMD'S BY EXTREMIST GROUPS

Making WMD'S needs a lot of research and funding, so how do these extremist groups get enough information and technology to make these WMD'S?

STATE SPONSORSHIP: a state that funds or provides resources to extremist groups poses a threat to the world. These states who sponsor the extremist groups and do not oblige to the international security and peace deserve greater inspection as potential organizers of WMD terrorism.

NON-STATE SPONSORSHIP: state facilitators is just one facet which funds these groups. There are non-state facilitators which have been an emerging threat to WMD proliferation. "In recent years, another path of proliferation has become clear, as well. America and other nations are learning more about black-market operatives who deal in equipment and expertise related to weapons of mass destruction...And with deadly technology and expertise going on the market, there's the terrible possibility that terrorist groups could obtain the ultimate weapons they desire most." President George W. Bush, February 11, 2004.

Several extremist groups have wanted to acquire Weapons of Mass Destruction, like the Japanese cult group Aum Shinrikyo, al Qaeda and to some extent the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, Jemaah Islamiya and Lashkar al Tayyib. Till now only the al Qaeda has been recognized as the one extremist group which wants to acquire these WMD'S for long term uses.

Osama Bin Laden's declaration in 1998 was an Islamic duty according to him. "The capitalist system seeks to turn the entire world into a fiefdom of the major corporations under the label of globalization in order to protect democracy," this is how Bin Laden justified his

acquiring of WMD'S. These statements have a lot of reasoning behind it. Bin Laden indicated a specific purpose for using WMD'S, though they are a taboo in Islam. This clearly indicate al Qaeda's intentions to destroy the global status quo and to create a conducive condition to the overthrow of renouncer regimes throughout the Islamic world and to counter the US domination.

Question to be addressed: WHY WASN'T THERE ANY WMD ATTACK EXPERIENCED AFTER 9/11?

STEPS TAKEN BY NATIONS

After the 9/11 attacks countries have taken measures to prevent such an attack again. Hence the countries have worked bilaterally and multilaterally to address these threats and protect their nations.

The US has built a layered defence against WMD terrorism. In 2003, the US Government announced the first National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction.

UN STEPS

BWC (Biological Weapon Convention): it is the convention to prohibit the development, stockpiling and manufacturing of biological weapons or toxic weapons and the destruction of them. It sets norms on the usage and production of biological weapons. It was the first multilateral treaty banning a whole type of WMD.

CWC (Chemical Weapon Convention): its aim is to achieve general and complete disarmament by banning all WMD'S under strict and effective international control in regards to the Charter of the United Nations.

For nuclear weapons there has been a treaty made, the NPT nuclear non-proliferation treaty which sets standards on promoting nuclear technology and to prevent the spread of nuclear weapon and weapon technology to other countries.

Measures taken to prevent the extremists form acquiring WMD'S

An investigation on alleged usage of WMD'S by countries: this is the secretary general's mechanism of having a check on countries who are manufacturing such weapons and providing this information into wrong hands. This investigation was an immediate response to the allegations on countries which are possibly using biological and chemical weapons. This is to determine in an objective and scientific manner facts of alleged violations of the [1925 Geneva Protocol](#), which bans the use of chemical and biological weapons.

COMMITTEES RELATED

Resolution 1540 adopted by UN Security Council under Article 7 of the Charter recognizes that the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and their delivery systems constitutes to the international peace and security. The resolution also includes the illicit trafficking of WMD'S, their means of delivery and related materials. It also recognizes the threat posed by non-state facilitators and the acquisition of these weapons by terrorists.

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AGENDA B: “REVIEWING OF THE NUCLEAR NO-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

WHAT IS THE NPT?

During the Cold War the deterrent relations between the two major powers was fragile. Having more nuclear states would reduce security for everyone.

Nuclear non-proliferation treaty is the most successful non-proliferation treaty signed in 1968. It is an international treaty which has been signed by several nuclear weapons as well as non-nuclear weapon states with the aim to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapon technology and to foster the spread of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and to further the nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. 163 members signed the treaty initially, but now there are 190 UN member states signatories to the treaty. Only 4 countries are non-signatories, this includes India, Pakistan, Israel and recently founded South Sudan. Although the NPT did not ultimately prevent nuclear

proliferation, in the context of the Cold War arms race and mounting international concern about the consequences of nuclear war, the treaty was a major success for advocates of arms control because it set a precedent for international cooperation between nuclear and non-nuclear states to prevent proliferation.

The Treaty, particularly article VIII, paragraph 3, envisages a review of the operation of the Treaty every five years, a provision which was reaffirmed by the States parties at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 NPT Review Conference. On 11 May 1995, the treaty was extended indeterminately.

THE SAFEGUARDS

Even after the treaty being made there were some loopholes in it, hence the International Atomic Energy Agency was formed in response to the fear of the various discoveries and uses of nuclear technology. The President of USA, Dwight D. Eisenhower "ATOMS FOR PEACE" addressed the United Nations General Assembly in 1953 to both control and promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The IAEA Statute was finally agreed by 81 countries unanimously in October 1956.

THE PILLARS OF THE NPT

1. NON-PROLIFERATION:

Articles 1,2,3 of the treaty suggests that no nuclear weapon states should ever transfer to any recipient nuclear weapons and not to assist or encourage any non-nuclear weapon states to produce or acquire nuclear weapons. Neither should any non-nuclear weapon state accept any nuclear weapons from a transferor and should not acquire or produce them. The NNWS must abide to the IAEA safeguards.

2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT:

According to the Article 6 of the treaty all parties must negotiate to the treaty in good faith to cease the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, and as the treaty suggests on the general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international signatories to actually conclude a disarmament treaty. Rather, it only requires them "to negotiate in good faith."^[16]

3. PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY:

Article 4 of the treaty allows the State Parties to develop and produce nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, provided that the State Parties' activities abide by Articles 1,2. All State Parties have a right to share and exchange equipment as well as scientific and technological information about the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The states can only share this information with the NPT signatories.

NPT EXIT

The State Parties can withdraw from the Treaty by simply giving a three months prior notice. The circumstances of the withdrawal have been mentioned in the Article 10 of the treaty, if "extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of this Treaty, have jeopardized the supreme interests of its country." Due to this controversial system of the withdrawal North Korea withdrew from the treaty in 2003. The NATO members argue that during a state of "general war" the NPT no longer implies on any signatory and any member can withdraw from the treaty with no notice.

PRIOR CONFERENCES

By the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference it was decided the NPT will be reviewed and discussed upon every 5 years.

THE 2000 NPT CONFERENCE: the State Parties to the treaty on Nuclear non-proliferation treaty agreed to come to a final agreement to extend the responsibilities and to strengthen the review process and objective of the NPT.

THE 2005 NPT CONFERENCE: the NWS promised the NNWS to have the "fullest exchange" of nuclear technology and the NNWS promised to acquire or manufacture the weapons.

The topics discussed were:

Promoting Universal Adherence

Preventing Further Withdrawals

Inability to Enforce Compliance

Weakness of the Article 4

THE 2010 NPT CONFERENCE: : the State Parties to the treaty on Nuclear non-proliferation treaty came to a final decision that the State Parties will do whatever they can to disarm their nuclear arsenals as soon as possible. This was set by the "13 steps" to disarm.

2015 NPT CONFERENCE: at this conference State Parties examined the applications of the provisions of the 2010 NPT conference, despite all the heavy discussions the conference failed to come to a Final document.

Any decision to be made in the conference shall be made with the majority of 2/3rds of the State parties present and voting.

COMMITTEES RELATED

1540 is a resolution of the UNSC which was adopted unanimously on 28 April, 2008 regarding the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their related delivery systems.

On 25 April 2008, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1810, which extended the mandate of the 1540 Committee for a period of three years.

On 25 April 2008, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1977, which confirms that the proliferation of biological, nuclear and chemical weapons and their related delivery systems which poses a threat to international peace and security and it extended the mandate of the 1540 committee by 10 years.

STANCE OF THE NON-SIGNATORIES

INDIA: India has always used the “no first use policy” which was lately changed by the former NSA Shivshankar Menon to “no first use policy against non-nuclear weapon states.” India has always considered the NPT as a biased treaty. The former External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said “If India did not sign the NPT, it is not because of its lack of commitment for non-proliferation, but because we consider NPT as a flawed treaty and it did not recognize the need for universal, non-discriminatory verification and treatment”^[41] when he visited Tokyo in 2007.

PAKISTAN: The fact being that the Nuclear Weapon States have been recognized to officially have nuclear weapons and every signatory has accepted these terms, Pakistan considers this treaty to be discriminatory.

ISRAEL: Israel has always followed the policy of deliberate ambiguity which means the practice by a country of being intentionally ambiguous on certain aspects of its foreign policy or whether it possesses certain WMDs (weapons of mass destruction).

NORTH KOREA: "We had already taken the resolute action of pulling out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and have manufactured nuclear arms for self-defence to cope with the Bush administration's evermore undisguised policy to isolate and stifle the DPRK [Democratic People's Republic of Korea]," a North Korean Foreign Military Statement. North Korea was the first to withdraw from the treaty. It had signed on 12 December, 1985 and withdrew from it on 10 January, 2003.

Multilateral Approaches to the Fuel Cycle: A possible solution?

- Idea has been explored since the 1940s, but failed to win approval; however, it has recently re-emerged. The most ambitious versions of this concept involve placing proliferation-sensitive nuclear fuel cycle technologies under international rather than national control
- June 2004: Then-IAEA Director-General Mohamed El-Baradei commissioned an international Expert Group to examine incentives and disincentives for multilateral approaches to the front and back ends of the nuclear fuel cycle
- The El-Baradei Report outlines five approaches to strengthen controls over fuel enrichment, reprocessing, spent fuel repositories, and spent fuel storage, and explores the establishment of an “intergovernmental fuel bank”^[3]

Opposing arguments:

- o Developing nations are worried that extra confinements on access to the regular citizen nuclear fuel cycle would repudiate the arrangements of Article IV of the NPT
- o Some contend that proposition to internationalize the atomic fuel cycle may additionally improve the oppressive idea of the NPT and concrete the innovative strength of the NWS over the NNWS

Here is a list of issues that the delegates should deal with during committee. Please be aware that this list is not by any means exhaustive, and delegates are encouraged to discuss any issues outside this list which are significant to the issue.

Do the non-members of the treaty pose a threat to the world?

Will different interpretation of the articles be effective?

Can the NPT be made more flexible? If yes, will it contradict itself?

Impact of a more efficient system of IAEA.

Is fuel cycle the only possible solution left?

Pros and cons of fuel cycle.

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