

Swedish statement on the first draft report of the Main Committee 1

Chair,

We thank you for your first draft of the report for this Main Committee and appreciate the effort made to reconcile the various positions expressed by States Parties last week.

My delegation believes that the draft report is a good basis for our further deliberations, and notes that much of the language is also in line with the proposals of the two working papers presented by the Stockholm Initiative for Nuclear Disarmament.

Let me highlight a few things in particular:

- 1) The confirmation of past commitments in paragraph 5 is essential. My delegation is convinced that previously agreed measures and commitments, including the 2000 NPT Review Conference's "13 Steps" and the 2010 NPT Review Conference's "64 Point Action Plan", remain

valid and form the basis for making further progress in fully implementing the treaty and achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.

2) To achieve sustainable and effective solutions, it is essential that we integrate gender perspectives in all aspects of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We appreciate the proposals in paragraph 8 of the draft report, which clearly refers to this fact, and also acknowledge progress on gender-balanced delegations to this conference. At the same time, we believe that the language of paragraph 8 can be further strengthened, for example by referring to leadership and decision-making processes, as well as asking States Parties to report on progress.

3) While the more substantial and forward-looking language on risk reduction is to be handled under the Subsidiary Body of this Committee, we welcome the clarity on how to approach this topic in paragraph 16 of the draft report. In paragraph 15, we suggest also

referring to the risks of nuclear weapons due to miscommunication or misperceptions, in addition to miscalculation or by accident.

- 4) On paragraph 17, we would like to see the language on reporting strengthened by asking the Nuclear Weapon States to *intensify* efforts to agree on a standard reporting form and reporting intervals. We note the many good proposals from the NPDI on this issue.
- 5) We welcome the language on the 'principle of no nuclear war' and of the importance of addressing nuclear threats in paragraph 20. However, we believe that the report must clearly highlight that words must be followed by deeds and that any threat of use of nuclear weapons undermines the credibility of the NWS' leaders' statement of January this year
- 6) We appreciate that the contribution of nuclear disarmament verification activities is reflected in paragraph 46. However, we believe that we should

welcome this work and encourage more States Parties – in particular Nuclear Weapon States – to engage in the area. Similarly, we should acknowledge the importance and positive effects of Nuclear Weapon States and Non-Nuclear Weapon States working together.

Sweden will also submit these comments in writing.

I thank you.