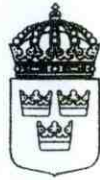


# SWEDEN



## STATEMENT

**on behalf of the Nordic countries  
Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden**

**by**

**Ms. Annika Thunborg  
Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden**

**at the**

**NPT Review Conference 2015  
Main Committee 1 – nuclear disarmament**

**United Nations  
New York**

**4 May 2015**

**-Check against delivery-**

I take the floor on behalf of the Nordic countries – Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and my own country Sweden in order to introduce Working Paper 15 and our joint recommendations for the Conference regarding nuclear disarmament.

Our positions and recommendations relating to non-proliferation, peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty are covered by the working paper of the Vienna Group of Ten.

The Nordic Countries remain committed to the NPT. Since its inception, the Treaty has contributed to our common security. Its continued effectiveness and integrity rests on its implementation and universalization.

The Nordic countries will strive to achieve a forward-looking outcome document of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, focusing on the implementation of all commitments undertaken under the NPT as such, as well as during previous Review Conferences. Increasing international tension makes the implementation of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation commitments all the more urgent.

The Nordic countries recommend that the Conference reaffirms the commitment by all States parties to pursue policies that are fully compatible with the NPT and the objective of achieving a world without nuclear weapons. We recommend the Conference to call for effective disarmament of all nuclear weapons, strategic and non-strategic, deployed and non-deployed. Any reductions must be based on the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency.

We would also like to highlight the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, as well as their recent statement recommitting to achieving a world without nuclear weapons to which all parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty.

The Nordic countries all subscribe to the humanitarian perspective on nuclear weapons and recommend that the Conference expresses its deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any nuclear weapons use. The international discourse during the review cycle must be taken duly into account. The risk and consequences of nuclear weapons are a threat to, and a concern of, all humanity, and the responsibility to prevent the use of nuclear weapons rests with all States.

The Nordic countries also subscribe to a world free of nuclear weapons and the principle of effective disarmament. We recommend the Conference to emphasize that disarmament needs to be pursued without conditions through multilateral, regional, bilateral or unilateral means. We deeply regret that the Conference on Disarmament has failed to produce tangible results, and urge that forum to begin work according to its mandate without delay, including on a fissile material cut-off treaty. We believe that the United

Nations disarmament machinery as a whole should be used to pursue multilateral disarmament, especially when the Conference on Disarmament remains stalled.

The Nordic countries welcome the continued implementation of New Start between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and we recommend the Conference to call upon the two countries to negotiate and finalize further and deeper cuts in their nuclear arsenals without further delay. We urge the nuclear-weapon States to include non-strategic nuclear weapons in future reduction and disarmament agreements.

As confidence-building measures and steps towards disarmament, we recommend that the Conference urges the nuclear-weapon States to increase transparency regarding nuclear weapons, to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons and to reduce the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines.

With these introductory remarks, I invite you all to carefully study the Nordic countries' recommendations in Working Paper 15, for consideration by the Review Conference.

Thank you!