



(Translated from the French)

**Report on the Middle East – pursuant to paragraph 16 (7)
of the section on Article VII in the Final Document
of the 2000 NPT Review Conference –
concerning the steps taken by France to promote the creation
of a zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of
mass destruction and the realization of the goals and
objectives of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East.**

New York, May 20th 2005

France reiterates its support for the objectives of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference.

It calls for all the States concerned to implement the resolution so that progress can be made towards lasting peace in the Middle East and the creation of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems in the region.

France considers that the multilateral non-proliferation regime should apply to the entire Middle East, and that the implementation of the regime should be backed up by the definition of a new regional security framework based on confidence-building and non-aggression measures. The plan for a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems put forward by President Hosni Mubarak on the basis of Security Council resolution 687 provides a solid foundation for this.

In keeping with its support for the 1995 resolution, France has seized every opportunity at the bilateral and multilateral levels to stress the importance of the following measures:

Establishment of a dialogue among all States in the region to restore lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Compliance by all States parties to the NPT with their nuclear non-proliferation commitments,

Cessation of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems in the region,

Accession by all States to the relevant multilateral instruments, including the NPT, the CTBT, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological Weapons Convention and adherence by all States to the Hague Code of Conduct (HCOC),

Adoption by all States that have undertaken to do so of comprehensive safeguards and the placement of all nuclear facilities in the region under IAEA safeguards,

Adoption and implementation by all States in the region of an IAEA Additional Protocol,

Elimination of existing chemical and biological weapon stockpiles and of proliferating ballistic programmes,

Strengthening of national control measures with regard to exports of goods and technologies that could be used to develop weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems,

Prevention of the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, as well as materials and substances used to make explosive devices,

Identification and securing of all hazardous radiation sources in the region,

Adherence by all States in the region to the G8 principles adopted in Kananaskis aimed at preventing terrorists—or those who back them—from acquiring or developing nuclear, chemical, radiological and biological weapons, missiles or the related materials, equipment and technology.

France will continue to work to promote the objectives of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East in all the relevant forums, with all the States and partners concerned.

Along with the European Union, France is in favour of the objective of NPT universality, and stresses that, in the Middle East, this concerns Israel. It also favours the objective of CWC and BWC universality, and stresses that this concerns several States in the region.

Through the process between the European countries and Iran based on the Paris Agreement of 15 November 2004, France is pursuing action to restore confidence and maintain the objectives of the 1995 resolution.

France also welcomes the progress made in the case of Libya. More particularly, it salutes the following gestures made by Libya: the dismantling of military nuclear programme elements and remedial action in cooperation with the IAEA to ensure full compliance with the NPT and the comprehensive safeguards agreement, the signature and implementation of an additional protocol, the ratification of the CTBT, accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention, the effective elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and ballistic missile programmes with ranges of more than 300 kilometres.

France encourages Iraq to make such commitments to show its determination to comply with the 1995 resolution and play its full part in the multilateral non-proliferation regime.