



December 2010

Government positions on a nuclear weapons convention

This document provides a comprehensive guide to government positions on a nuclear weapons convention — a global treaty to outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe.

Key to government positions*

★★★★
Very supportive

These nations have clearly advocated for a nuclear weapons convention in international fora such as the UN General Assembly and at Non-Proliferation Treaty review meetings.

★★★☆
Supportive

These nations have indicated support for a nuclear weapons convention in their statements and/or votes in international fora but have not undertaken practical initiatives or actively promoted negotiations.

★★☆☆
Lukewarm

These nations have typically abstained from votes or other expressions of support for a nuclear weapons convention, or they have made their support conditional or highly qualified.

★☆☆☆
Sceptical

These nations have typically voted or spoken against a nuclear weapons convention, and remain to be convinced that it is the right path.

* This rating takes into account how a country has voted on UN General Assembly resolutions supporting negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention, but recognizes that votes on these resolutions are sometimes determined more by group loyalties than by a country's real position and level of support. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) welcomes comments, clarifications, corrections, additional information and updates. Please email them to tim@icanw.org. This document will be updated on a regular basis and is available for download from our website: www.icanw.org.

Compiled and updated by Tim Wright

Government positions at a glance

★★★★
**Very
 supportive**

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Algeria	Guatemala	Myanmar
Austria	Holy See	Nicaragua
Bangladesh	Honduras	Philippines
Benin	Indonesia	Qatar
Bolivia	Iran	Senegal
Brazil	Iraq	Singapore
Brunei Darussalam	Jordan	South Africa
Burkina Faso	Kazakhstan	Switzerland
Cambodia	Kenya	Syrian Arab Republic
Cameroon	Laos	Thailand
Chile	Lebanon	Timor-Leste
Colombia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Tunisia
Congo	Madagascar	UR of Tanzania
Costa Rica	Malaysia	Uruguay
Cuba	Mali	Venezuela
Ecuador	Mexico	Viet Nam
Egypt	Mongolia	Yemen
Fiji	Morocco	Zimbabwe

★★★☆☆
Supportive

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Afghanistan	Grenada	Rwanda
Angola	Guinea	Saint Kitts & Nevis
Antigua & Barbuda	Guinea-Bissau	Saint Lucia
Argentina	Guyana	St Vincent & the Gren.
Bahamas	Haiti	Samoa
Bahrain	India	San Marino
Barbados	Ireland	Sao Tome & Principe
Belize	Jamaica	Saudi Arabia
Bhutan	Kuwait	Serbia
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Lesotho	Seychelles
Botswana	Liberia	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Liechtenstein	Solomon Islands
Cape Verde	Malawi	Somalia
Central African Republic	Maldives	Sri Lanka
Chad	Malta	Sudan
China	Mauritania	Suriname
Comoros	Mauritius	Swaziland
Côte D'Ivoire	Mozambique	Sweden
DPR of Korea	Namibia	Tajikistan
DR of the Congo	Nepal	Togo
Djibouti	New Zealand	Tonga
Dominica	Niger	Trinidad & Tobago
Dominican Republic	Nigeria	Turkmenistan
El Salvador	Norway	Tuvalu
Equatorial Guinea	Oman	Uganda
Eritrea	Pakistan	United Arab Emirates
Ethiopia	Panama	Vanuatu
Gabon	Papua New Guinea	Zambia
Gambia	Paraguay	
Ghana	Peru	

★★☆☆	Andorra	Cyprus	Micronesia
Lukewarm	Armenia	Finland	Nauru
	Australia	Germany	Republic of Korea
21	Azerbaijan	Iceland	Republic of Moldova
	Belarus	Japan	Romania
	Canada	Kyrgyzstan	Ukraine
	Croatia	Marshall Islands	Uzbekistan

★☆☆☆	Albania	Israel	Portugal
Sceptical	Belgium	Italy	Russian Federation
	Bulgaria	Latvia	Slovakia
29	Czech Republic	Lithuania	Slovenia
	Denmark	Luxembourg	Spain
	Estonia	Monaco	TFYR of Macedonia
	France	Montenegro	Turkey
	Georgia	Netherlands	United Kingdom
	Greece	Palau	United States of America
	Hungary	Poland	

Notes on this update

This update incorporates government statements from the Conference on Disarmament in the latter half of 2010, including the high-level meeting convened by the UN Secretary-General in September, and the First Committee of the UN General Assembly.

Changes since last version

Upgraded from three stars to four: Benin, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Myanmar, Singapore, South Africa, Syria, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Upgraded from two stars to four: Kazakhstan

Upgraded from two stars to three: Tajikistan

Upgraded from one star to two: Iceland

Comparison with previous version

<i>December 2010</i>		<i>August 2010</i>	
Four stars	54	Four stars	27
Three stars	88	Three stars	113
Two stars	21	Two stars	22
One star	29	One star	30

Government positions in detail



Afghanistan

Afghanistan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹



Albania

Albania votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.² It is part of the NATO military alliance.



Algeria

Algeria has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued for the insertion of an additional reference in the draft outcome document to a nuclear weapons convention as a fundamental objective of the NPT.³ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, Algeria argued that a convention or framework agreement for the elimination of nuclear weapons is the appropriate way for the NPT nuclear-weapon states to fulfil their commitments made in 1995 and 2000 and reiterated in 2010.⁴ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling on all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁵



Andorra

Andorra abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁶ It has a military arrangement with France, which possesses nuclear weapons.



Angola

Angola votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁷



Antigua & Barbuda

Antigua and Barbuda votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁸

¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³ Oral statement by Algeria at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 24 May 2010.

⁴ Statement by Algeria to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

⁵ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁷ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

**Argentina**

Argentina votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 93% of Argentinians support a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰

**Armenia**

Armenia abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹

**Australia**

Australia has acknowledged that a nuclear weapons convention may be necessary in the longer term for the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world.¹² However, it has not been willing to advocate for the negotiation of such a treaty. In a letter addressed to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) following the NPT Review Conference in 2010, the then foreign minister stated that the Australian government was pleased that the conference had acknowledged the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on disarmament, which proposes the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention or a framework of agreements for elimination. However, he said that, for the time being, Australia will focus its diplomatic efforts on what it considers to be more immediate goals towards achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, namely, the entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the negotiation of a fissile materials cut-off treaty.¹³ In September 2009 the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, a cross-party parliamentary committee with members from both houses of parliament, recommended unanimously that Australia make clear in international fora its support for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴ All major national political parties supported the committee's report. The Australian government, in its official response to the inquiry, stated that it is firmly committed to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons and recognizes that, at an appropriate time, the international community may need to explore possible legal frameworks, including a nuclear weapons convention, for the eventual abolition of nuclear weapons, but it does not see this as something to be pursued in the short term. In 2008 the Australian and Japanese governments established the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, which aimed to reinvigorate global debate on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament in the context of the NPT Review Conference of 2010 and beyond.¹⁵ It argued in its report that an important project for the medium term would be to develop, refine and build international understanding and acceptance of the need for a nuclear weapons convention, and expressed the view that there is no reason why detailed further work on such a treaty should not commence now, and with government support.¹⁶ The commission

⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁰ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹² Statement by Australia to the NPT Preparatory Committee session, New York, 6 May 2009; statement by Australia to the NPT Preparatory Committee session, Geneva, 30 April 2008.

¹³ Letter from Stephen Smith (Foreign Minister) to ICAN dated 9 July 2010

¹⁴ Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, *Report 106: Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament*, Commonwealth Parliament of Australia, September 2009, p. 21.

¹⁵ Gareth Evans and Yoriko Kawaguchi, *Eliminating Nuclear Threats: A Practical Agenda for Global Policymakers*, International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, 2009, p. 273.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* pp. 201–2.

was an independent body and its views did not necessarily reflect the official policies of Australia and Japan. In fact, in respect of a convention, they appear to diverge. Before the Labor Party came to power at the federal election in November 2007, the party's foreign affairs spokesperson argued in a policy speech that the proposal to establish a nuclear weapons convention is "timely and important", and noted that a convention could be used as a tool to assist short-term disarmament goals.¹⁷ Three months later, in response to questioning by a journalist, he pledged that a Labor government, if elected, would "drive the international agenda" for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁸ However, this promise has not been honoured. In the lead-up to federal election of August 2010, the Labor Party stated that it was pleased that the NPT Review Conference had acknowledged the UN Secretary-General's five-point proposal, but would not commit to advancing a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹ In the same survey, the Australian Greens expressed support for the establishment of a nuclear weapons convention and argued that negotiations must begin no later than 2015.²⁰ Under the Liberal–National coalition government led by John Howard, Australia voted against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention. It now abstains from voting on such resolutions.²¹ Australia is one of three countries outside of NATO that claim to rely on US nuclear weapons for their security.



Austria

Austria has expressed strong support for a nuclear weapons convention. At a high-level session of the UN Security Council on nuclear issues convened in September 2009, the Austrian president declared his country's support for the idea of a nuclear weapons convention with a sophisticated verification mechanism.²² At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, Austria argued that the most effective way to move towards the goal of "global zero" is through a nuclear weapons convention, and it undertook to discuss with partners the feasibility of a global instrument to ban nuclear weapons depending on the conference outcome.²³ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it noted that the NPT Review Conference had placed the prospect of a legal framework such as a nuclear weapons convention on the international disarmament agenda for the first time in an agreed document. It argued that the process for such a convention is now under way, and that "it is up to us to identify the appropriate sequencing of events".²⁴ In March 2010, the Austrian parliament had adopted a resolution calling on the government to advance the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, in particular his proposal for the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵ Austria votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶ Previously it had abstained from voting. Austria is a member of the European Union, but not of NATO.

¹⁷ "A New Agenda for Australia in Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament", speech delivered to the United Nations Association of Australia and the Medical Association for Prevention of War, Canberra, 14 August 2007.

¹⁸ Response to questions at the Australian Press Club, Canberra, 15 November 2007.

¹⁹ Survey conducted by People for Nuclear Disarmament, 17 August 2010.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²² Statement by Austria to the UN Security Council summit on nuclear issues, New York, 24 September 2009.

²³ Statement by Austria to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 3 May 2010.

²⁴ Statement by Austria to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 15 October 2010.

²⁵ Introduced by Christine Muttonen and Alexander Van der Bellen and adopted on 25 March 2010.

²⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

**Azerbaijan**

Azerbaijan abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁷ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 70% of people in Azerbaijan support a nuclear weapons convention, with 22% opposed.²⁸

**Bahamas**

The Bahamas votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹

**Bahrain**

Bahrain votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰

**Bangladesh**

Bangladesh has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it endorsed a resolution adopted unanimously by the Bangladeshi parliament that April in support of the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, especially his proposal for negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.³¹ Bangladesh was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling on all states to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³²

**Barbados**

Barbados votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³³

**Belarus**

Belarus abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴

**Belgium**

Belgium votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,³⁵ as it believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process involving practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.³⁶ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament convened in September 2010, Belgium delivered a statement on behalf of the European Union in which it warmly welcomed the intensified international public debate generated by the UN Secretary-General's five-point

²⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁸ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

²⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³¹ Introduced by Saber Chowdhury and adopted on 5 April 2010.

³² A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

plan on disarmament, which encouraged states to consider negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or framework of mutually reinforcing agreements.³⁷ In October 2009, a bill was introduced into the Belgian parliament supporting the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament and proposing an amendment to the Belgian constitution to prohibit nuclear weapons.³⁸ However, the bill has not become law. Belgium is a member of the European Union and hosts US nuclear weapons on its territory as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.



Belize

Belize votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁹



Benin

Benin votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁴⁰ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁴¹



Bhutan

Bhutan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁴²



Bolivia

Bolivia has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2005, it submitted a working paper together with five other nations calling on all states to fulfil their legal obligation to disarm by commencing negotiations on a convention or framework of instruments prohibiting the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under international control.⁴³



Bosnia & Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁴⁴



Botswana

Botswana votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁴⁵ At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it associated itself

³⁷ Statement by the European Union to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

³⁸ Introduced by Philippe Mahoux on 8 October 2009.

³⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁴⁰ Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009. In 2010, it abstained from voting, although this appears to be an error, as it was a lead sponsor of the resolution.

⁴¹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁴² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁴³ Working paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

⁴⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁴⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

with the opening statement made on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, which called for work to begin on a nuclear weapons convention.⁴⁶

**Brazil**

Brazil has expressed strong support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it argued that the immediate commencement of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention would promote the total elimination of all nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe.⁴⁷ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution calling on states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁴⁸ At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called for enhanced verification mechanisms to be “devised and grafted into a future convention on the prohibition of nuclear weapons”, which would “level the playing field by making zero nuclear weapons the norm for all members of the international community”.⁴⁹ It argued that a successful outcome of the review conference was predicated on the definition of clear directives on a number of points, including a commitment to the goal of concluding a nuclear weapons convention outlawing this category of weapons entirely, with a well-defined timeframe, in line with the chemical and biological weapons conventions.⁵⁰

**Brunei Darussalam**

Brunei votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁵¹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁵²

**Bulgaria**

Bulgaria votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁵³ It believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process involving practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.⁵⁴ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Burkina Faso**

Burkina Faso votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁵⁵ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁵⁶

⁴⁶ Statement by Botswana at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

⁴⁷ Statement by Brazil to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 13 October 2010.

⁴⁸ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁴⁹ Statement by Brazil at the NPT Review Conference, 10 May 2010.

⁵⁰ Statement by Brazil at the NPT Review Conference, 7 May 2010.

⁵¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁵² A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁵³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁵⁴ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

⁵⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁵⁶ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

**Burundi**

Burundi votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁵⁷

**Cambodia**

Cambodia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁵⁸ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁵⁹

**Cameroon**

Cameroon has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the 2009 session of First Committee of the UN General Assembly, it called for the immediate launch of multilateral negotiations with the aim of creating a convention banning the development, testing, construction, storage, transportation, use or threat of the use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination.⁶⁰

**Canada**

Canada abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁶¹ While the government has not expressed official support for a convention, the Canadian Senate adopted a motion on 2 June 2010 endorsing the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament and encouraging the government to engage in negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.⁶² The Canadian House of Commons gave its unanimous consent to the same motion on 7 December 2010.⁶³ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in 2010, Canada argued that a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons would be a significant step on the road to a world free of nuclear weapons and "a critical aspect necessary for a future nuclear weapons convention".⁶⁴ In 2002 the Department for Foreign Affairs and International Trade co-hosted a two-day experts' roundtable on the legal and technical aspects of complete nuclear disarmament, using the model nuclear weapons convention developed by civil society as a guide to explore the future requirements of a regime for the effective and verified reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons. However, the government has argued that it is premature to enter into negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention,⁶⁵ and has resisted calls by Canadian civil society to lead global efforts for a convention. Canada is part of the NATO military alliance.

⁵⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁵⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁵⁹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁶⁰ Statement by Cameroon to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 12 October 2009.

⁶¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁶² Introduced by Senator Hugh Segal.

⁶³ Introduced by Bill Siksay MP.

⁶⁴ Statement by Canada to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 5 October 2010.

⁶⁵ See, e.g., Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, *Response to the Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on Canada's Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation Policy*, 1999.

**Cape Verde**

Cape Verde votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁶⁶

**Central African Republic**

The Central African Republic votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁶⁷

**Chad**

Chad votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁶⁸

**Chile**

Chile has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on governments to support the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament and to "lay the foundations for preliminary discussions concerning a convention on the prohibition of nuclear weapons".⁶⁹ It reiterated its support for a nuclear weapons convention during the 2010 session of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly,⁷⁰ and delivered a statement on behalf of the Rio Group emphasizing the need for "urgent and consistent" action aimed at the total elimination and legally binding prohibition of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe.⁷¹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution calling on all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁷²

**China**

China has expressed qualified support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it stated its support for "the development, at an appropriate time, of a viable, long-term plan composed of phased actions, including a convention on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons".⁷³ It is the only NPT nuclear-weapon state to vote in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁷⁴ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 83% of people in China support a nuclear weapons convention, with 14% opposed.⁷⁵ China possesses approximately 240 nuclear weapons.⁷⁶

**Colombia**

Colombia has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that governments should, "as a matter of

⁶⁶ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

⁶⁷ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

⁶⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁶⁹ Statement by Chile at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

⁷⁰ Statement by Chile to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 6 October 2010.

⁷¹ Statement by the Rio Group to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 6 October 2010.

⁷² A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁷³ Statement by China at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 4 May 2010.

⁷⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁷⁵ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

⁷⁶ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

urgency”, negotiate an international legally binding instrument that prohibits the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons.⁷⁷



Comoros

Comoros votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁷⁸



Congo

The Republic of Congo votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁷⁹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁸⁰



Costa Rica

Costa Rica has expressed strong support for a nuclear weapons convention, and has long been a leading advocate for the idea. It first submitted a model nuclear weapons convention prepared by civil society to the United Nations in 1997.⁸¹ In 2007 it submitted a revised version of the model convention to the UN, which took into account relevant technical, legal and political developments over the past decade.⁸² It said that the model was intended to assist states parties to the NPT in their deliberations with respect to the implementation of article VI of the treaty. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, Costa Rica expressed its desire for states to build on the model nuclear weapons convention in order to create an instrument capable of strengthening confidence in verification and ensure the supervision of the processes of dismantling nuclear weapons.⁸³ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it commended the NPT Review Conference outcome for noting the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.⁸⁴ It argued that “it is time to take the necessary steps and begin a preparatory process to obtain a universal and legally binding convention banning nuclear weapons”. Together with five other countries, Costa Rica submitted a working paper to the previous NPT Review Conference, held in 2005, calling on all states to fulfil their obligation to disarm by commencing negotiations leading to the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁸⁵ It also submitted a similar paper to the NPT Review Conference in 2000.⁸⁶ In February 2010 the Costa Rican parliament adopted a unanimous resolution promoting the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament and a nuclear weapons convention.

⁷⁷ Statement by Colombia at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

⁷⁸ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

⁷⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁸⁰ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁸¹ Circulated by the UN Secretary-General as document A/C.1/52/7.

⁸² Model Nuclear Weapons Convention, 1 May 2007, NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.17.

⁸³ Statement by Costa Rica at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

⁸⁴ Statement by Costa Rica to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 11 October 2010.

⁸⁵ Working Paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

⁸⁶ Working Paper submitted by Costa Rica and Malaysia to the NPT Review Conference 2000, New York, NPT/CONF.2000/MC.1/SB.1/WP.4.

**Côte D'Ivoire**

Côte D'Ivoire votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁸⁷

**Croatia**

Croatia abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁸⁸ It is part of the NATO military alliance.

**Cuba**

Cuba has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the Conference on Disarmament in August 2010, it urged nations to negotiate “an instrument to establish a phased program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified period of time and under strict international control”.⁸⁹ At the NPT Review Conference in May 2010, it called on states to establish a concrete schedule for the gradual reduction of nuclear weapons in a transparent, irreversible, verifiable and legally binding manner, with the aim of achieving the complete elimination of such weapons by 2025.⁹⁰ Cuba was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling on states to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.⁹¹

**Cyprus**

Cyprus abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹² It is a member of the European Union, but not part of the NATO military alliance.

**Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹³ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹⁴ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on “a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention”.⁹⁵ However, these general expressions of support for a convention have much to do with group loyalties and do not necessarily indicate that the DRPK would be prepared to

⁸⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁸⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁸⁹ Statement by Cuba to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 10 August 2010.

⁹⁰ Statement by Cuba at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

⁹¹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

⁹² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁹³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁹⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁹⁵ Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 29 June 2010.

engage in the negotiation of such a convention. The DPRK conducted a nuclear test in 2006 and another in 2009, and may possess a small arsenal of nuclear weapons.



Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹⁶ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on “a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention”.⁹⁷



Denmark

Denmark votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.⁹⁸ It believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process involving practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.⁹⁹ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.



Djibouti

Djibouti votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰⁰



Dominica

Dominica votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰¹



Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰² At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it associated itself with the opening statement made on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, which called for work to begin on a convention.¹⁰³



Ecuador

Ecuador has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it argued that negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention are an urgent necessity and must begin as soon as possible.¹⁰⁴ At the NPT Review Conference in May 2010, it declared its support for the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes the consideration of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰⁵ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the Conference on Disarmament in

⁹⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁹⁷ Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 29 June 2010.

⁹⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

⁹⁹ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

¹⁰⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁰¹ Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

¹⁰² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁰³ Statement by the Dominican Republic at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 4 May 2010.

¹⁰⁴ Statement by Ecuador at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

¹⁰⁵ Statement by Ecuador in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 11 October 2010.

September 2010, Ecuador conveyed its support for the adoption of a programme of work that includes, among other things, a convention on nuclear weapons.¹⁰⁶

★★★★ **Egypt**

Egypt has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on the nuclear-weapon states to comply fully with their legal obligations under the treaty by initiating multilateral negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention aimed at banning nuclear weapons and achieving their total elimination within an agreed timeframe.¹⁰⁷ It argued that the lack of progress in implementing the disarmament provisions of the NPT confirms the need to create a legal framework to eliminate nuclear weapons through the conclusion of an international convention.¹⁰⁸ At a high-level meeting of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, it delivered a statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement arguing that the CD should focus on advancing the agenda of nuclear disarmament, including the attainment of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁰⁹ During the 2010 session of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, it expressed its disappointment that the final document of the NPT Review Conference had not adopted the Non-Aligned Movement's demand for marking the year 2025 as the "appropriate timeframe for the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free world" by launching negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁰ It noted that, despite some recent "promising signs of progress" in the field of nuclear disarmament, much more still needs to be done to launch negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention imposing a universal ban on the development, acquisition, stockpiling and use of such weapons.¹¹¹ Egypt was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹² A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 83% of Egyptians support a convention, with only 17% opposed.¹¹³

★★★★☆ **El Salvador**

El Salvador votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁴

★★★★☆ **Equatorial Guinea**

Equatorial Guinea votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁵

★★★★☆ **Eritrea**

Eritrea votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁶

¹⁰⁶ Statement by Ecuador to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

¹⁰⁷ Statement by Egypt at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 12 May 2010.

¹⁰⁸ Statement by Egypt at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

¹⁰⁹ Statement by the Non-Aligned Movement to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

¹¹⁰ Statement by Egypt to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 5 October 2010.

¹¹¹ Statement by Egypt to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 15 October 2010.

¹¹² A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹¹³ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹¹⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹¹⁵ Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

**Estonia**

Estonia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁷ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Ethiopia**

Ethiopia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹¹⁸ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on “a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention”.¹¹⁹

**Fiji**

Fiji votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²⁰ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹²¹

**Finland**

Finland abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²² It is a member of the European Union, but not part of the NATO military alliance.

**France**

France votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²³ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 86% of French people support a nuclear weapons convention, with 12% opposed to the idea.¹²⁴ In 2009 a parliamentary resolution was submitted to the French Senate calling on the government to support at the NPT Review Conference in 2010 practical steps leading to a nuclear weapons convention. However, the resolution was not adopted.¹²⁵ France is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance. It possesses approximately 300 nuclear weapons.¹²⁶

**Gabon**

Gabon votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²⁷

¹¹⁶Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹¹⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹¹⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹¹⁹Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 29 June 2010.

¹²⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹²¹A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹²²Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹²³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹²⁴Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹²⁵Introduced on 24 December 2009 by Senator Michelle Demessine.

¹²⁶Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

¹²⁷Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

**Gambia**

The Gambia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²⁸

**Georgia**

Georgia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹²⁹

**Germany**

Germany votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,¹³⁰ as it believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.¹³¹ In March 2010, however, the German parliament, with cross-party support, called on the government to continue playing a proactive role in discussions about the various approaches aimed at achieving full nuclear disarmament and in the debate about a nuclear weapons convention.¹³² A public opinion poll in 2007 showed that 95.4% of Germans support a nuclear weapons convention.¹³³ Germany is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance. It hosts US nuclear weapons on its territory as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.

**Ghana**

Ghana votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹³⁴

**Greece**

Greece votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,¹³⁵ as it believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.¹³⁶ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Grenada**

Grenada votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹³⁷

**Guatemala**

Guatemala votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹³⁸ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010

¹²⁸Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

¹²⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹³⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹³¹Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

¹³²Tabled by the CDU/CSU, SPD, FDP and Alliance 90/The Greens. Adopted on 24 March 2010.

¹³³Simons Foundation, *Global Public Opinion on Nuclear Weapons, 2007*, p. 15.

¹³⁴Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹³⁵Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹³⁶Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

¹³⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹³⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹³⁹



Guinea

Guinea votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴⁰



Guinea-Bissau

Guinea-Bissau votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴¹



Guyana

Guyana votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴²



Haiti

Haiti votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴³



Holy See

The Holy See has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that the world had arrived at “an opportune moment” to begin addressing in a systematic way the legal, political and technical requirements for achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world. It called on governments to begin preparatory work as soon as possible on a convention or framework agreement leading to the phased elimination of nuclear weapons.¹⁴⁴ The Holy See is a state party to the NPT and has observer status at the United Nations.



Honduras

Honduras votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴⁵ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴⁶



Hungary

Hungary votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴⁷ It believes that nuclear disarmament is best achieved

¹³⁹A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁴⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁴¹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁴²Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁴³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁴⁴Statement by the Holy See at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

¹⁴⁵Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁴⁶A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁴⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.¹⁴⁸ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.



Iceland

Iceland abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁴⁹ Prior to 2010, it voted against such resolutions. It is part of the NATO military alliance.



India

India has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁵⁰ In September 2009, the Indian prime minister delivered a speech in which he reiterated India's proposal for a convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons and providing for their complete elimination within a specified timeframe.¹⁵¹ The "Rajiv Gandhi Plan for Nuclear Abolition and a Non-Violent World Order", which was presented to the UN General Assembly in 1988, included such a treaty. At the 2009 session of the UN General Assembly's First Committee, India argued that just as it was possible to prohibit chemical and biological weapons through non-discriminatory and universal conventions, it is also possible to prohibit nuclear weapons through a convention.¹⁵² A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 62% of Indians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 20% opposed to the idea.¹⁵³ Estimates suggest that India possesses somewhere between 60 and 80 nuclear weapons.¹⁵⁴



Indonesia

Indonesia has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the Conference on Disarmament in August 2010, it called on states to work intensively together to produce a universal nuclear weapons convention with a specific timeline for the attainment of complete nuclear disarmament.¹⁵⁵ It made a similar call at the NPT Review Conference in May 2010,¹⁵⁶ and delivered the opening statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, which called for work to begin now on a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁵⁷ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, it argued that the political will generated as a result of recent developments should allow the CD to advance negotiations towards, *inter alia*, a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁵⁸ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a

¹⁴⁸ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

¹⁴⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁵⁰ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁵¹ Speech delivered by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, 26 September 2009.

¹⁵² Statement by India to the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 8 October 2009.

¹⁵³ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹⁵⁴ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

¹⁵⁵ Statement by Indonesia to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 31 August 2010.

¹⁵⁶ Statement by Indonesia at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 3 May 2010.

¹⁵⁷ Statement by the Non-Aligned Movement at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 3 May 2010.

¹⁵⁸ Statement by Indonesia to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

nuclear weapons convention.¹⁵⁹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 81% of Indonesians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 11% opposed.¹⁶⁰



Iran

Iran has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that governments should set a clear deadline for the total elimination of nuclear weapons through the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁶¹ It reiterated its call for the establishment, “as the highest priority and as soon as possible”, of an ad hoc committee with negotiating mandate on nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament. It argued that the negotiations undertaken by such a body must lead to a legal prohibition on the possession, development and stockpiling of nuclear weapons by any country and provide for the destruction of “these inhuman weapons”.¹⁶² At a high-level meeting of the CD in September 2010 and again in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, Iran stated that the implementation of a nuclear weapons convention should lead to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by 2025.¹⁶³ It expressed its strong support for the early start of negotiations by the CD of a nuclear weapons convention to ban all nuclear weapons.¹⁶⁴ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁶⁵ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 68% of Iranians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 13% opposed to the idea.¹⁶⁶



Iraq

Iraq votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁶⁷ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁶⁸



Ireland

Ireland has expressed qualified support for a nuclear weapons convention, warning that the pursuit of a convention now could distract from the more immediate challenge of implementing agreed measures related to the NPT.¹⁶⁹ It considers a nuclear weapons convention to be a medium- to long-term goal, but nonetheless votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for the immediate commencement of negotiations leading to a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁷⁰ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, the Irish foreign minister argued that the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention, has framed the debate on this issue and been “a great source of

¹⁵⁹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁶⁰ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹⁶¹ Statement by Iran at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 17 May 2010.

¹⁶² Statement by Iran at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 7 May 2010.

¹⁶³ Statement by Iran to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

¹⁶⁴ Statement by Iran to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 6 October 2010.

¹⁶⁵ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁶⁶ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹⁶⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁶⁸ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁶⁹ Oral remarks by Ireland to non-government organizations, Dublin, 15 June 2010.

¹⁷⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

inspiration”.¹⁷¹ Ireland is a member of the European Union, and played an important role in the negotiation of the NPT at the end of the 1960s.



Israel

Israel votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁷² A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 67% of Israelis support a nuclear weapons convention, with 25% opposed to the idea.¹⁷³ Israel possesses approximately 80 nuclear weapons.¹⁷⁴



Italy

Italy votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,¹⁷⁵ believing that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process involving practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.¹⁷⁶ In 2009 the Italian parliament adopted a resolution noting the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament in its preambular paragraphs, but an operative paragraph in the original draft of the resolution supporting a nuclear weapons convention was removed in order to secure government approval.¹⁷⁷ In 2010 a similar resolution was passed by the parliament without any reference to the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan.¹⁷⁸ A public opinion poll in 2007 showed that 94.6% of Italians support a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁷⁹ Italy is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance. It hosts US nuclear weapons on its territory as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.



Jamaica

Jamaica votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁸⁰



Japan

Japan has stated in the UN General Assembly that it is premature to call upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention. It believes that, as a precondition for beginning work on a convention, states must take “concrete measures to achieve steady, step-by-step progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation”.¹⁸¹ It abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,¹⁸² and routinely offers explanations for its vote on the UN General Assembly resolution entitled “Follow-up to the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons”. In 2010 it stated that it supports the unanimous opinion of the International Court of Justice on the existing obligations under international law to pursue nuclear disarmament and to

¹⁷¹ Statement by Ireland to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

¹⁷² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁷³ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹⁷⁴ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

¹⁷⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁷⁶ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

¹⁷⁷ Adopted on 23 June 2009 by the Chamber of Deputies and on 17 December 2009 by the Senate.

¹⁷⁸ Adopted on 4 June 2010 by the Chamber of Deputies.

¹⁷⁹ Simons Foundation, *Global Public Opinion on Nuclear Weapons*, 2007, p. 15.

¹⁸⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁸¹ Explanation of vote in the UN General Assembly on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

¹⁸² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

conclude negotiations on this matter in good faith, but, in order to fulfil those obligations, “we must take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons with the involvement of the nuclear-weapon states”. The approach of a nuclear weapons convention, it has argued, “seems to be different from this”. On several occasions, the Japanese government has also responded to questions in the national legislature pertaining to a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁸³ In 2002, for example, it argued that to seek the preparation of such an international agreement now would aggravate the confrontation between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states, with the possible consequence of delaying the disarmament process.¹⁸⁴ It believes that diplomatic efforts should instead be focused on securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and negotiating a treaty to ban the production of fissile materials. In 2008 the Australian and Japanese governments established the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, which aimed to reinvigorate global debate on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament in the context of the NPT Review Conference of 2010 and beyond.¹⁸⁵ It argued in its report that an important project for the medium term would be to develop, refine and build international understanding and acceptance of the need for a nuclear weapons convention, and that there is no reason why detailed further work on such a treaty should not commence now, with government support.¹⁸⁶ However, the commission was an independent body and its views did not necessarily reflect the official policies of Australia and Japan. Japan is one of three nations outside of NATO that claim to rely on US nuclear weapons for their security.



Jordan

Jordan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁸⁷ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁸⁸



Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. During the 2010 session of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, it argued that a “universal declaration for a nuclear-weapon-free world”, as proposed by Kazakh president Nursultan Nazarbayev, would “reaffirm the determination of all states to move, step by step, towards a convention against nuclear weapons”.¹⁸⁹ It offered its “full and unequivocal support” for such a convention, and described the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention, as providing “much-needed high-level impetus” to disarmament negotiations. Kazakhstan votes in favour of UN

¹⁸³ Toshinori Yamada, “Initiatives in Japan Aimed at Making a Nuclear Weapons Convention a Reality”, in Japan Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms, *Recommendations to the NPT Review Conference 2010*, 2010, p. 35.

¹⁸⁴ Answers to questions in the Japanese legislature dated 23 April 2002.

¹⁸⁵ Gareth Evans and Yoriko Kawaguchi, *Eliminating Nuclear Threats: A Practical Agenda for Global Policymakers*, International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, 2009, p. 273.

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.* pp. 201–2.

¹⁸⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁸⁸ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁸⁹ Statement by Kazakhstan to the UN General Assembly’s First Committee, New York, 5 October 2010.

General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁰ Prior to 2010, it had abstained from voting on such resolutions.

**Kenya**

Kenya has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on the international community to begin early negotiations leading to the conclusion of an international convention for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons.¹⁹¹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 96% of Kenyans support a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹²

**Kuwait**

Kuwait votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹³

**Kyrgyzstan**

Kyrgyzstan abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁴

**Laos**

Laos has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁵ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it called on nations to harness and “vigorously implement” each of the 64 actions agreed at the NPT Review Conference in May 2010, “resulting finally in a convention against nuclear weapons”. It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁶

**Latvia**

Latvia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁷ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Lebanon**

Lebanon has expressed strong support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that, in order to prevent the future use of nuclear weapons, governments should strengthen the international legal system by commencing negotiations on, *inter alia*, a nuclear weapons convention.¹⁹⁸ It also submitted a working paper on behalf of the members of the League of Arab States calling on the conference to establish a timetable and specific plan for nuclear

¹⁹⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁹¹Statement by Kenya at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

¹⁹²Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

¹⁹³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁹⁴Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁹⁵Statement by Laos to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 11 October 2010.

¹⁹⁶A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

¹⁹⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

¹⁹⁸Statement by Lebanon at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

disarmament with a view to accelerating the negotiations called for in article VI of the NPT and commencing negotiations on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons.¹⁹⁹



Lesotho

Lesotho votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰⁰



Liberia

Liberia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰¹



Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Libya has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called for “the elimination of nuclear weapons through a verifiable instrument”,²⁰² and submitted a working paper on the need to promote nuclear disarmament noting the affirmation by the Non-Aligned Movement in 2009 to start negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰³ At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, Libya emphasized the need for the CD to focus on advancing the agenda of nuclear disarmament, including the negotiations for the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰⁴ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰⁵



Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that governments should prepare the ground for achieving the long-term goal of a nuclear weapons convention, in line with the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament.²⁰⁶ It reiterated its support in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, but warned that, at the same time, “we must be realistic: such a convention will not come about tomorrow”.²⁰⁷ Liechtenstein abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰⁸

¹⁹⁹ NPT/CONF.2010/WP.28, 13 April 2010.

²⁰⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁰¹ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

²⁰² Oral statement by Libya at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 12 May 2010.

²⁰³ NPT/CONF.2010/WP.12, 25 March 2010. The affirmation was made at the 15th summit of heads of state and government of the Non-Aligned Movement in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 11–16 July 2009.

²⁰⁴ Statement by Libya to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

²⁰⁵ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²⁰⁶ Statement by Liechtenstein at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

²⁰⁷ Statement by Liechtenstein in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 5 October 2010.

²⁰⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

**Lithuania**

Lithuania votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁰⁹ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Luxembourg**

Luxembourg votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,²¹⁰ believing nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.²¹¹ However, at a high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, it expressed its support for the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention.²¹² It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Madagascar**

Madagascar votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²¹³ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²¹⁴

**Malawi**

Malawi votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²¹⁵

**Malaysia**

Malaysia has long advocated for a nuclear weapons convention. Along with Costa Rica, it submitted a revised model nuclear weapons convention prepared by civil society to the United Nations in 2007.²¹⁶ At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on nuclear-weapon states to demonstrate leadership by implementing past commitments and achieving the total elimination of their nuclear weapons through the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²¹⁷ At the previous review conference, held in 2005, it submitted a working paper together with five other nations calling on all states to fulfil their legal obligation to disarm by commencing negotiations leading to the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under strict and effective international control.²¹⁸ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft

²⁰⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²¹⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²¹¹Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

²¹²Statement by Luxembourg to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

²¹³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²¹⁴A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²¹⁵Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²¹⁶Model Nuclear Weapons Convention, 1 May 2007, NPT/CONF.2010/PC.I/WP.17.

²¹⁷Statement by Malaysia at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

²¹⁸Working Paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²¹⁹



Maldives

The Maldives votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²⁰



Mali

Mali votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²¹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²²²



Malta

Malta votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²³ It is a member of the European Union.



Marshall Islands

The Marshall Islands abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²⁴ Previously it had voted in favour of such resolutions. The country was formerly administered by the United States and used for US nuclear testing.



Mauritania

Mauritania votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²⁵



Mauritius

Mauritius votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²²⁶



Mexico

Mexico has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on the nuclear-weapon states to agree to negotiate a convention that would prohibit nuclear weapons and establish a timeframe for their elimination. It believes that a nuclear weapons convention would provide “necessary certainty to the international community”.²²⁷ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion

²¹⁹A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²²⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²¹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²²A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²²³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²⁴Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²⁵Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²⁶Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²²⁷Statement by Mexico at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

of a nuclear weapons convention.²²⁸ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 87% of Mexicans support a nuclear weapons convention, with 10% opposed.²²⁹



Micronesia

Micronesia abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³⁰ It has a military agreement with the United States allowing the United States to operate its armed forces on its territory.²³¹



Monaco

Monaco votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³² It has a military arrangement with France, which possesses nuclear weapons.



Mongolia

Mongolia has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention in the context of the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it extended its "full support" to the plan, describing it as a "balanced, realistic and promising initiative".²³³ It reiterated its support for the plan during the 2010 session of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. In 2007, the then president of Mongolia delivered a statement in which he welcomed the establishment of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and expressed his hope that the campaign for a nuclear weapons convention would "yield positive results".²³⁴ He said that the government supports the goals and activities of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which initiated ICAN. Mongolia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³⁵



Montenegro

Montenegro votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³⁶ It intends to become a member of NATO.



Morocco

Morocco has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. During the session of the Disarmament Commission in 2010, it called on governments to give "serious consideration to the merits" of concluding an international convention for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and, towards that end, the immediate creation of a subsidiary body on nuclear disarmament in the CD.²³⁷

²²⁸ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²²⁹ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

²³⁰ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²³¹ Compact of Free Association, 1986.

²³² Vote on A/RES/60/463, 8 December 2005.

²³³ Statement by Mongolia at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

²³⁴ See the ICAN website: <http://www.icanw.org/newsitems/president-mongolia-endorses-ican>

²³⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²³⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²³⁷ Statement by Morocco at the Disarmament Commission, New York, 30 March 2010.

**Mozambique**

Mozambique votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³⁸

**Myanmar**

Myanmar votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²³⁹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴⁰

**Namibia**

Namibia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴¹

**Nauru**

Nauru abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴² Previously it had voted in favour of the resolutions.

**Nepal**

Nepal votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴³

**Netherlands**

The Netherlands votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,²⁴⁴ believing that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process involving practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.²⁴⁵ It is a member of the European Union and the NATO military alliance. It hosts US nuclear weapons as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.

**New Zealand**

New Zealand votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴⁶ At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it welcomed the UN Secretary-General's push in his five-point disarmament action plan for progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons.²⁴⁷ During the conference, the New Zealand parliament unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the government to work with other nations in advancing the five-point plan, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁴⁸ In June 2010, the

²³⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²³⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁴⁰ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²⁴¹ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

²⁴² Vote on A/RES/61/394, 6 December 2006.

²⁴³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁴⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁴⁵ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

²⁴⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁴⁷ Statement by New Zealand at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 12 May 2010.

²⁴⁸ Introduced by Phil Twyford MP and adopted on 5 May 2010.

minister for disarmament and arms control wrote in a letter to a New Zealand non-government organization that the government recognizes that, “in order to reach a world without nuclear weapons, there will eventually need to be a legally binding instrument or framework of instruments”.²⁴⁹ However, it believes that it is “a matter of starting negotiations when the time is right and when our efforts will have the most impact”, and that “much more work needs to be done” before a nuclear weapons convention can be negotiated.

★★★★ **Nicaragua**

Nicaragua has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵⁰ At the NPT Review Conference in 2005, it submitted a working paper together with five other nations calling on all states to fulfil their legal obligation to disarm by negotiating a convention prohibiting the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under strict and effective international control.²⁵¹

★★★★☆ **Niger**

Niger votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵²

★★★★☆ **Nigeria**

Nigeria votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵³ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on “a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention”.²⁵⁴ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 86% of Nigerians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 12% opposed.²⁵⁵

★★★★☆ **Norway**

Norway has expressed qualified support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it stated that, as “the ultimate implementation” of article VI of the treaty, a nuclear-weapon-free world would need “an additional legal instrument”. It also observed that the question of a nuclear weapons convention is becoming “increasingly relevant and important”, and argued that there will likely be more discussions on this matter in times to come.²⁵⁶ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it asserted that the “overall objective of the NPT must, eventually, be codified in a legally binding instrument”.²⁵⁷ It has

²⁴⁹ Letter dated 15 June 2010.

²⁵⁰ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²⁵¹ Working Paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

²⁵² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁵³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁵⁴ Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, 29 June 2010.

²⁵⁵ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

²⁵⁶ Statement by Norway at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 12 May 2010.

²⁵⁷ Statement by Norway in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 4 October 2010.

participated in and co-sponsored events with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) to explore the possibility of a nuclear weapons convention, but has typically voted against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵⁸ In 2010, it abstained for the first time from voting on the resolution titled “Follow-up to the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons”, which calls for the immediate commencement of negotiations leading to a nuclear weapons convention. In an explanation of its vote, it stated that it supports “the general objective of the resolution”, but does not find “the general approach and methodology conducive to further nuclear disarmament”. In particular, it “is far from convinced that the CD provides the best arena for developing legally binding disarmament commitments”, and it has “serious reservations concerning the reference to the model nuclear weapons convention” in the resolution. In its view, it is highly doubtful “that the allusion to such a specific treaty text, at this point in time, is an adequate way to catalyze the process towards the abolition of nuclear weapons”. In 2009 it offered an explanation for its opposition to the resolution. It stated that, while it is convinced that at a certain time nations will need to develop a convention or legally binding instrument “ensuring that nuclear technology will only be used for peaceful purposes”, for the time being “our focus should be on securing a positive and forward-looking outcome” at the NPT Review Conference in 2010. Norway is a member of the NATO military alliance.



Oman

Oman votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁵⁹



Pakistan

Pakistan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁰ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶¹ However, these general expressions of support for a convention have much to do with group loyalties and do not necessarily mean that Pakistan would be prepared to engage in the negotiation of such a convention. A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 46% of Pakistanis support a nuclear weapons convention, with 41% opposed.²⁶² Estimates suggest that it possesses somewhere between 70 and 90 nuclear weapons.²⁶³



Palau

Palau votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁴ It has a military agreement with the United States allowing the United States to operate its armed forces on its territory.²⁶⁵

²⁵⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁵⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁶⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁶¹Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, 29 June 2010.

²⁶²Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

²⁶³Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

²⁶⁴Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

**Panama**

Panama votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁶

**Papua New Guinea**

Papua New Guinea votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁷

**Paraguay**

Paraguay votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁸

**Peru**

Peru votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁶⁹ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention.²⁷⁰

**Philippines**

The Philippines has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.²⁷¹ At the 2009 session of the UN General Assembly's First Committee, it backed calls for the irreversible and complete elimination of nuclear weapons under international supervision, and stated its willingness to examine proposals for "a phased process leading to the ultimate objective of achieving total nuclear disarmament under a nuclear weapons convention".²⁷² It has also voiced its support for an international conference to set the parameters for the elimination of nuclear weapons and prohibit their production, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and provide for their destruction. It has stated that it gives much importance to the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention within specified timeframes.²⁷³ At a Middle Powers Initiative conference in September 2010, the Philippines argued that "the time to act on a nuclear weapons convention is now", and called for the Conference on Disarmament to commence discussions on a convention in a subsidiary body to be

²⁶⁵ Compact of Free Association, 1986.

²⁶⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁶⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁶⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁶⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁷⁰ Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, 29 June 2010.

²⁷¹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

²⁷² Speech by the Philippines at the UN General Assembly's First Committee, New York, 15 October 2009.

²⁷³ Speech by the Philippines to the Disarmament Commission, New York, 29 March 2010.

created at the soonest opportunity.²⁷⁴ It reiterated its support for a nuclear weapons convention in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly.²⁷⁵



Poland

Poland votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,²⁷⁶ believing that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.²⁷⁷ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.



Portugal

Portugal votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,²⁷⁸ believing that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.²⁷⁹ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.



Qatar

Qatar has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it stressed the importance of adopting the disarmament action plan adopted by the Non-Aligned Movement,²⁸⁰ which called for an international conference at the earliest possible date to achieve agreement on a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸¹ It expressed its hope that the world would not wait long before being able to celebrate “a universal treaty for disarmament and the prohibition of nuclear weapons”.²⁸²



Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸³ At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it expressed its appreciation to the UN Secretary-General for his leadership in rekindling discussions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including through his five-point plan, which calls on governments to consider a nuclear weapons convention as a way of fulfilling their obligation to disarm.²⁸⁴ It reiterated its appreciation for the Secretary-General’s work at a high-level meeting of the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010.²⁸⁵ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 86% of South Koreans support a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸⁶

²⁷⁴ Speech by the Philippines to Middle Powers Initiative conference, Geneva, 14–15 September 2010.

²⁷⁵ Statements by the Philippines in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 6 & 11 October 2010.

²⁷⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁷⁷ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

²⁷⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁷⁹ Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

²⁸⁰ Statement by Qatar at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 4 May 2010.

²⁸¹ *Elements for a Plan of Action for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons*, working paper submitted by the Non-Aligned Movement to the NPT Review Conference, NPT/CONF.2010/WP.47, 28 April 2010.

²⁸² Statement by Qatar at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 4 May 2010.

²⁸³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁸⁴ Statement by the Republic of Korea at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 4 May 2010.

²⁸⁵ Statement by the Republic of Korea to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

²⁸⁶ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

**Republic of Moldova**

Moldova abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸⁷

**Romania**

Romania abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸⁸ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Russian Federation**

Russia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁸⁹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 69% of Russians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 14% opposed.²⁹⁰ Russia possesses approximately 12,000 nuclear weapons, more than any other nation.²⁹¹

**Rwanda**

Rwanda votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹²

**Saint Kitts & Nevis**

Saint Kitts and Nevis votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹³

**Saint Lucia**

Saint Lucia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁴

**Saint Vincent & the Grenadines**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁵

**Samoa**

Samoa votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁶

²⁸⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁸⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁸⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁹⁰Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

²⁹¹Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

²⁹²Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

²⁹³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁹⁴Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁹⁵Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁹⁶Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

**San Marino**

San Marino votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁷

**Sao Tome & Principe**

Sao Tome and Principe votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁸

**Saudi Arabia**

Saudi Arabia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.²⁹⁹

**Senegal**

Senegal has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on governments to consider ways and means to arrive at such a convention.³⁰⁰

**Serbia**

Serbia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰¹

**Seychelles**

Seychelles votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰²

**Sierra Leone**

Sierra Leone votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰³

**Singapore**

Singapore votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁴ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁵

²⁹⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

²⁹⁸Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

²⁹⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁰Statement by Senegal at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

³⁰¹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰²Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

³⁰³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁴Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁵A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

**Slovakia**

Slovakia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁶ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Slovenia**

Slovenia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁷ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

**Solomon Islands**

The Solomon Islands votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁸

**Somalia**

Somalia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁰⁹

**South Africa**

South Africa has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it stated that, in order to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons, “it is incumbent upon us all to begin timely preparations that will culminate in the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention or a framework or set of instruments for the complete and sustainable elimination of nuclear weapons”.³¹⁰ South Africa votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³¹¹ It is a member of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which support negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention.³¹²

**Spain**

Spain votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,³¹³ believing that nuclear disarmament is best achieved through a gradual process of practical steps, not a comprehensive approach.³¹⁴ It is a member of the European Union and part of the NATO military alliance.

³⁰⁶Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁰⁹Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

³¹⁰Statement by South Africa in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 13 October 2010.

³¹¹Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

³¹²Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, 29 June 2010.

³¹³Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

³¹⁴Explanation for vote on A/RES/59/459, 3 December 2004.

**Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³¹⁵ It is a member of the Group of 21 in the Conference on Disarmament, which has stated its strong commitment to nuclear disarmament and affirmed its readiness to commence work on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified timeframe, including a nuclear weapons convention.³¹⁶

**Sudan**

Sudan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³¹⁷

**Suriname**

Suriname votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³¹⁸

**Swaziland**

Swaziland votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³¹⁹

**Sweden**

Sweden votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³²⁰ However, it has been reluctant to support calls by civil society to advocate for a nuclear weapons convention in international fora. In August 2010, the outgoing Swedish ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament stated that, as the disarmament process continues towards global zero, governments would reach a point where all major players accept the need for a negotiated multilateral legal regime beyond the NPT, “an even grander bargain”, and expressed his hope that the Conference on Disarmament would be “alive and kicking” when the time came to begin negotiations on such a framework nuclear weapons convention.³²¹ Sweden commented during the 2010 session of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly that the addition of a reference to the model nuclear weapons convention in the resolution titled “Follow-up to the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons” is, in its interpretation, done without prejudice to any future negotiating process on a nuclear weapons convention or on a framework of separate, mutually reinforcing instruments. Sweden is a member of the European Union, but not formally a part of the NATO military alliance.

**Switzerland**

Switzerland has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it stated that ultimately the question of banning

³¹⁵Vote on A/RES/64/55, 2 December 2009.

³¹⁶Statement by India on behalf of the Group of 21 to the Conference on Disarmament, 29 June 2010.

³¹⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³¹⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³¹⁹Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³²⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³²¹Statement by Sweden to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 31 August 2010.

nuclear weapons by a new convention, as proposed by the UN Secretary-General in his five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, must be addressed. It expressed its expectation that the final document of the conference would encourage discussion on a convention to ban nuclear weapons.³²² In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, it argued that, if states are serious about “achieving global zero and bolstering nuclear non-proliferation”, “a new approach is required towards a comprehensive legal instrument that can outlaw, once and for all, the most inhumane weapons ever invented”.³²³ It said that it was pleased that the UN Secretary-General’s five-point proposal had “gained traction” at the NPT Review Conference, and in particular that many states had voiced their support for starting deliberations on a nuclear weapons convention. At a Middle Powers Initiative event in September 2010, Switzerland stated that it is time to outlaw nuclear weapons, and “we need to outlaw them for all states — not just for some”.³²⁴ The head of the Swiss foreign ministry said in August that this is “the only sustainable way to eliminate the nuclear threat”.³²⁵ Switzerland votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention,³²⁶ but previously it abstained from voting. It is neither a member of the European Union nor part of the NATO military alliance.

★★★★ **Syrian Arab Republic**

Syria votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³²⁷ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³²⁸

★★★★☆ **Tajikistan**

Tajikistan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³²⁹ Prior to 2010, it abstained from voting on such resolutions.

★★★★ **Thailand**

Thailand has expressed support for the UN Secretary-General’s five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which encourages states to consider negotiating a nuclear weapons convention as a way of implementing article VI of the NPT.³³⁰ It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³³¹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 67% of Thai people support a nuclear weapons convention, with 8% opposed.³³²

³²² Statement by Switzerland at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 7 May 2010.

³²³ Statement by Switzerland in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 5 October 2010.

³²⁴ Statement by Switzerland to the Middle Powers Initiative conference, Geneva, 14–15 September 2010.

³²⁵ Statement by Switzerland to the IPPNW World Congress, Basel (Switzerland), 27 August 2010.

³²⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³²⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³²⁸ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³²⁹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³³⁰ Statement by Thailand at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

³³¹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³³² Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

**The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³³³

**Timor-Leste**

Timor-Leste has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. It was a lead sponsor of a UN General Assembly draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³³⁴ At the NPT Review Conference in 2005, it submitted a working paper together with five other nations calling on all states to fulfil their legal obligation to disarm by commencing negotiations leading to the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under strict and effective international control.³³⁵

**Togo**

Togo votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³³⁶

**Tonga**

Tonga votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³³⁷

**Trinidad & Tobago**

Trinidad and Tobago votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³³⁸

**Tunisia**

Tunisia has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it called on the nuclear-weapon states to launch negotiations on a phased programme for the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals through a nuclear weapons convention. It argued that such an approach would be consistent with the 1996 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons.³³⁹

**Turkey**

Turkey votes against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴⁰ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 65% of Turks

³³³Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³³⁴A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³³⁵Working Paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

³³⁶Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³³⁷Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³³⁸Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³³⁹Statement by Tunisia at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 5 May 2010.

³⁴⁰Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

support a nuclear weapons convention, with 10% opposed.³⁴¹ Turkey hosts US nuclear weapons on its territory as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.



Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴²



Tuvalu

Tuvalu votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴³



Uganda

Uganda votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴⁴



Ukraine

Ukraine abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴⁵ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 80% of Ukrainians support a nuclear weapons convention, with 7% opposed.³⁴⁶



United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁴⁷



United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is opposed to negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention. A 2009 Foreign and Commonwealth Office policy information paper argued that, although such an agreement will “likely be necessary to establish the final ban on nuclear weapons”, it would at present be “premature and potentially counter-productive” to focus efforts on a nuclear weapons convention “when the many other conditions necessary to enable a ban have yet to be put in place”.³⁴⁸ In June 2010, in response to a parliamentary question on the matter, a minister of the newly formed British government stated that “the idea of a nuclear weapons convention is a fine one”, but “a whole series of things need to be done before one comes to the happy situation where the nuclear world is disarmed, and a convention could then get full support”. The minister argued that if the government rushed to a convention it might end up “delaying the detailed work that is needed on the path to get there”.³⁴⁹ British disarmament ambassador John Duncan wrote an opinion piece for *The Independent* newspaper in March 2010 which dismissed the idea of “legislating for

³⁴¹ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

³⁴² Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁴³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁴⁴ Vote on A/RES/65/410, 8 December 2010.

³⁴⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁴⁶ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

³⁴⁷ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁴⁸ Commonwealth and Foreign Office, *Lifting the Nuclear Shadow*, 2009, p. 34.

³⁴⁹ Question by Baroness Williams of Crosby (Liberal Democrat) on 9 June 2010.

security” through a nuclear weapons convention.³⁵⁰ In November 2009, an early day motion was submitted to the British parliament with the support of 138 members noting the growing international support for the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention and calling on the government to give full support for negotiating such a convention.³⁵¹ A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 81% of Britons support a nuclear weapons convention, with 17% opposed.³⁵² The United Kingdom is a member of the European Union and part of NATO. It possesses approximately 225 nuclear weapons.³⁵³

★★★★ **United Republic of Tanzania**

Tanzania has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it called on all states to work to implement the five-point disarmament plan proposed by the UN Secretary-General, and argued that the immediate launch of negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention under the auspices of the Conference on Disarmament “would add value to our collective commitment to eliminating nuclear weapons”.³⁵⁴ It stressed that “the time and conditions are ripe for accelerating progress in nuclear disarmament” and urged nations “to seize the opportunities availed to us” by, *inter alia*, commencing negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.³⁵⁵

★☆☆☆ **United States of America**

The United States has expressed opposition to a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it argued that a nuclear weapons convention is not achievable in the near term and therefore is not a realistic alternative to the step-by-step approach to disarmament currently under way. It also argued that “trying to combine all the issues into a single negotiation” would be “a formula for deadlock”, and expressed concern that such an effort would distract energy and attention from practical and achievable steps.³⁵⁶ It has argued that it is not possible to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention before negotiating a fissile materials cut-off treaty.³⁵⁷ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it expressed support for “a pragmatic step-by-step approach” to nuclear disarmament “rather than the impractical leap of seeking to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention”.³⁵⁸ The question of a nuclear weapons convention was not addressed in the nuclear posture review released in April 2010. A public opinion poll in 2008 showed that 77% of Americans support a nuclear weapons convention, with 20% opposed.³⁵⁹ The United States possesses approximately 9600 nuclear weapons,³⁶⁰ some of them stationed on the territory of five European nations as part of a NATO nuclear-sharing arrangement.

³⁵⁰ John Duncan, “Legislating for Security”, *The Independent*, London, 31 March 2010.

³⁵¹ Introduced by Jeremy Corbyn MP on 19 November 2009; not adopted.

³⁵² Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

³⁵³ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

³⁵⁴ Statement by Tanzania in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 7 October 2010.

³⁵⁵ Statement by Tanzania in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 13 October 2010.

³⁵⁶ Statement by the United States to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 10 May 2010.

³⁵⁷ Statement by the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 7 September 2010.

³⁵⁸ Statement by the United States in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 5 October 2010.

³⁵⁹ Commissioned by Global Zero and conducted by World Public Opinion.

³⁶⁰ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2010*, 2010, ch. 8.

★★★★ **Uruguay**

Uruguay votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶¹ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶² At a high-level meeting on revitalizing the Conference on Disarmament in September 2010, it expressed its support for the UN Secretary-General's five-point plan on nuclear disarmament, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶³ It described the proposals contained in the plan as "interesting and viable", and announced that it would convene a regional conference in November 2010 to discuss the plan.

★★☆☆ **Uzbekistan**

Uzbekistan abstains from voting on UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁴

★★★★☆ **Vanuatu**

Vanuatu votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁵

★★★★ **Venezuela**

Venezuela votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁶ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁷

★★★★ **Viet Nam**

Viet Nam votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁸ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁶⁹ In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly in October 2010, it expressed its support for the UN Secretary-General's five-point nuclear disarmament plan, which includes consideration of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁷⁰

★★★★ **Yemen**

Yemen has expressed support for a nuclear weapons convention. At the NPT Review Conference in 2010, it urged states to negotiate a ban on the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and ultimately to accomplish their complete elimination.³⁷¹

³⁶¹ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶² A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³⁶³ Statement by Uruguay to the Conference on Disarmament, New York, 24 September 2010.

³⁶⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶⁵ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶⁶ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶⁷ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³⁶⁸ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁶⁹ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.

³⁷⁰ Statement by Viet Nam in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, New York, 6 October 2010.

³⁷¹ Statement by Yemen at the NPT Review Conference, New York, 6 May 2010.

Together with five other nations, it submitted a working paper to the previous NPT Review Conference, held in 2005, calling on all states to fulfil their legal obligation to disarm by commencing negotiations on a convention prohibiting the testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination under strict and effective international control.³⁷²



Zambia

Zambia votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁷³



Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe votes in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions calling for a nuclear weapons convention.³⁷⁴ It was a lead sponsor of a draft resolution in 2010 calling upon all states immediately to commence multilateral negotiations leading to the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention.³⁷⁵

³⁷² Working Paper submitted by Malaysia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Timor-Leste, Nicaragua and Yemen to the NPT Review Conference, New York, 18 May 2005, NPT/CONF.2005/WP.41.

³⁷³ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁷⁴ Vote on A/C.1/65/L.50, 29 October 2010.

³⁷⁵ A/C.1/65/L.50, 18 October 2010.