Proposals by Argentina, Brazil and Egypt on the draft report of Main Committee II

(NPT/CONF.2020/MC.II/CRP.1)

P12. The Conference expresses its support for the IAEA in fulfilling its safeguards mandate in a fair, objective and impartial manner, continuing to promote the universality of the IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the IAEA safeguards system, and in playing a substantial role in upholding the international nuclear non-proliferation regime through its verification activities.

-We propose to separate current P15, and add three new proposals afterwards.

P15 would now read “The Conference welcomes voluntary measures aimed at facilitating and strengthening the implementation of safeguards and confidence building, including arrangements agreed bilaterally or multilaterally for enhanced verification, and notes that such arrangements build greater trust among parties”.

P15 bis (NEW): “The Conference emphasizes that, in the implementation of safeguards agreements, there is a distinction between legal obligations of States, voluntary and confidence building measures”

P15 ter (NEW): “The Conferences notes that under Article III.I of the NPT, the only mandatory legal standard for safeguards application and verification is the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement”.

P15 quarter (NEW): “The Conference notes that the Additional Protocol is an instrument of voluntary nature, according to INFCIRC/540.Rev”.

P20. The Conference recognizes that comprehensive safeguards agreements based on INFCIRC/153 (Corrected) have been successful in their main focus of providing assurance regarding declared nuclear material and have also provided a limited level of assurance regarding the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities. The Conference notes that
the implementation of the measures specified in the Model Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/540 (Corrected)) provides, in an effective and efficient manner, increased confidence about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities in a State as a whole and that those measures are an integral part of IAEA safeguards.

21. The Conference bears in mind that it is the sovereign decision of any State to conclude an additional protocol, but once in force or applied provisionally, the additional protocol is a legal obligation.

P23. The Conference notes that in the case of a State party with a comprehensive safeguards agreement concluded pursuant to article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty and supplemented by an additional protocol in force, measures contained in both instruments provide the enhanced verification standard for that State. The Conference notes that a growing number of many States recognize that comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols are among the integral elements of the IAEA safeguards system. The Conference encourages all States parties that have not yet done so to conclude and bring into force an additional protocol.

P24. The Conference notes technological developments in nuclear activities and nuclear-related items especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material that have occurred since the Model Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/540 (Corrected)) was adopted and the possible relevance of those developments for its Annexes I and II.

P30. We believe that the following reference of this paragraph should be part of the “forward looking” section, following the structure of the 2010 Outcome document.

P35. The Conference welcomes notes the continuing efforts of the IAEA to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the implementation of IAEA safeguards, including through on the development and implementation of State-level safeguards approaches in close consultation and coordination with State and/or regional authorities in line with their respective legal obligations. The Conference stresses that IAEA safeguards should be regularly assessed and evaluated in light of technological developments and the increasing number of facilities and locations outside facilities under safeguards.