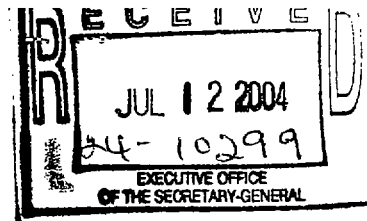


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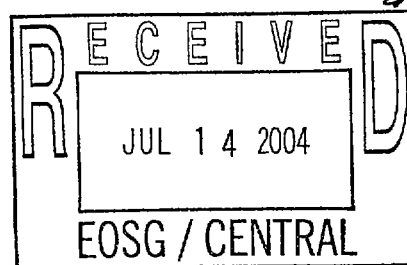
DisarmamentNote to Mr. RizaREPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST

1. As you are aware, the Secretary-General has annually submitted to the General Assembly a report concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East. In resolution 58/34, the Secretary-General has once again been requested to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-ninth session, a report on the implementation of the resolution. The attached draft report, prepared in response to that request, is hereby submitted for the consideration and approval of the Secretary-General.
2. The proposal for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East remains a sensitive issue. As in previous years, we have consulted with DPA on the contents of the attached draft report. DPA concurs with the approach contained therein.
3. It is proposed, that the Secretary-General note the outcome of discussions on the subject at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 NPT Review Conference when the States parties reiterated their support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction, reaffirmed the importance of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, and recognized that the resolution remained valid until its goals and objectives were achieved.
4. It is further proposed that the Secretary-General acknowledge that recent developments in the region may impact on the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free zone. It is also proposed that the Secretary-General call upon concerned parties within and outside the region to resume dialogue as a way to facilitate the process of establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East. The Secretary-General should also reiterate the continued readiness of the United Nations to provide assistance, in that regard.

Nobuyasu Abe
9 July 2004Mr. Abe

Fin. Div.

cc: Mr. K. Prendergast





General Assembly

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Fifty-ninth session

Items 64 and 70 of the preliminary list*

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in

the region of the Middle East

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the

region of the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General

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