



**STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

2015 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

UN Headquarters: 27 April – 22 May 2015

New York: 11 May 2015

The 2015 NPT Review Conference opened at UN headquarters on 27 April and will continue till 22 May 2015.

On Monday, 11th May, the rubber hit the road at the Conference when the reports of Subsidiary Body (SB) 1 and Main Committee I (MC.I) were discussed. Under the rules of procedure, the sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) are ‘closed’ to civil society and observers.

In the morning session, the report of SB1 was discussed and heavily criticized by the nuclear-weapon States (NWS) as not being a basis for further consideration. The NWS objections pertained to the way, in their opinion, the report addressed nuclear disarmament issues and the inclusion of specific benchmarks and timelines. Some of the NWS suggested that SB1 wind up its work and the sessions allocated to it be given over to Main Committee I, where the report of the Committee I should be the basis of further work. The Chair of SB1 persisted in going through with the session scheduled for Tuesday afternoon and to produce a revised report for Thursday morning.

Main Committee I met during the afternoon session and discussed its report, which though meeting with some criticism was regarded by States parties as constituting the basis for further work. Many States parties were of the view that the report of SB1 should be combined with the report of MC.I and a single document then be considered for further work with a view to achieving consensus. Many proposals were made to revise the report of MCI – the majority of proposals referred to the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and how this should be covered, with the NWS wanting to minimize the reference while the NNWS in different ways wanting to highlight the dangers of nuclear weapons and on that basis urging nuclear disarmament measures.

Main Committee II met in the morning and SB3 met in the afternoon to consider their respective reports, but the discussions did not heat up as in SB1 and MC.I.

Looking Ahead

On Tuesday, SB-1 will meet in the afternoon session, while MC.II will meet in the morning and SB2 in the afternoon, and MC.III will meet in the afternoon as well. The atmosphere at the Conference is now charged given the discussion in SB1 and MC.I and this likely will be exacerbated in the days to come.

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