

17. Non-proliferation: Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty [277]

Commitment

“We reaffirm our support to the early commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty.”¹⁶⁷¹

Heiligendamm Statement on Non-proliferation

Assessment

Country	Final Compliance Score		
	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Russia	-1		
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average Score			+0.11

Background

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, the G8 countries called for the early start of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT).¹⁶⁷² The issue of fissile material proliferation dates back to the 1950s, when governments proposed a treaty to limit the possibility of proliferation. A Commission for Disarmament was created in 1994 with the objective of building consensus for a FMCT.¹⁶⁷³ In 1998, an ad hoc committee for the discussion of such a treaty was set up, but negotiations were ultimately postponed due to disagreement over the agenda of the committee. Despite the fact that some G8 nations have actively sought to establish new committees or negotiations for the creation of a FMCT, none have commenced since the ad hoc committee of 1998.¹⁶⁷⁴

Team Leader: Egor Ouzikov

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment on the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT) as agreed at the Heiligendamm Summit in June 2007. Canada has stated that it is committed to beginning negotiations on the FMCT, but has not undertaken any special diplomatic actions to encourage the early commencement of negotiations.¹⁶⁷⁵

¹⁶⁷¹ Heiligendamm Statement on Non-proliferation, G8 Research Group (Toronto), 8 June 2007. Date of Access: 15 January 2008. <<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-nonprolif.html>>

¹⁶⁷² Statement on Non-proliferation, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 20 January 2008. <<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/nonprolif.html>>

¹⁶⁷³ Fissile Material Cut-Off Negotiations, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) 14 June 2007. Date of Access: 20 January 2008. <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/arms/nuclear6-en.asp>>

¹⁶⁷⁴ Fissile Material Cut-Off Negotiations, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) 14 June 2007. Date of Access: 20 January 2008. <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/arms/nuclear6-en.asp>>

¹⁶⁷⁵ Fissile Material Cut-Off Negotiations, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) 14 June 2007. Date of Access: 20 January 2008. <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/arms/nuclear6-en.asp>>

Canada has encouraged other countries to come to a consensus on the commencement of the FMCT negotiations. On 7 July 2007, then Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter MacKay stated at the Pugwash Conference that Canada supports the negotiations of the FMCT and that Canada is engaging the states that stand in the way of consensus to end the deadlock.¹⁶⁷⁶

Nevertheless, Canada has not taken any key steps to begin negotiations. Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Hilary Peden

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment on the FCMT. While France has discussed opening negotiations on the FMCT, it has not completed any further special actions to encourage early commencement of negotiations on the FMCT.

In conjunction with an announcement on the reduction of France's airborne nuclear warheads in March 2008, French President Nicolas Sarkozy urged a reopening of talks on banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons.¹⁶⁷⁷ Additionally, he encouraged other nuclear nations to engage in transparency measures with regard to the dismantling of fissile material. In order to lead by example, he invited foreign experts to verify the dismantling of two of France's fissile material production plants.¹⁶⁷⁸

Thus, France has earned a score of 0 for its general support of beginning FMCT negotiations.

Analyst: Hilary Peden

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support the commencement of negotiations for a FMCT. German officials have repeatedly declared their country to be in full support of the FMCT and have encouraged other states to begin negotiations. However, Germany has not made any official statements directly committing to the commencement of negotiations before the end of the current compliance cycle.

Germany actively participated in the 2007 session of the Conference on Disarmament where, on behalf of the European Union and the German government, Germany reaffirmed that negotiations on the FMCT are a priority.¹⁶⁷⁹ Also, in a keynote address at the "Conference on Security and Cooperation in South Asia," German Minister of State Gernot Erler recognized the German government's commitment towards the swift opening of negotiations on the FMCT.¹⁶⁸⁰ Erler further identified the FMCT as a key step for progress in nuclear disarmament.¹⁶⁸¹

¹⁶⁷⁶ Address by The Honourable Peter MacKay at the Pugwash Conference, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) 7 July 2007. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.
<http://w01.international.gc.ca/minpub/Publication.aspx?isRedirect=True&publication_id=385287&docnumber=2007/27&language=E>

¹⁶⁷⁷ France to Pare Nuclear Arsenal, Sarkozy Says, Susan Sachs (Toronto) 22 March 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2008.
<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20080322.SARKOZY22/TPStory/TPInternational/Europe/>>

¹⁶⁷⁸ France Upgrades, Trims Nuclear Arsenal, Arms Control Association (Washington D.C.) April 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2008 <http://www.armscontrol.org/act/2008_04/France.asp>

¹⁶⁷⁹ Conference On Disarmament Hears From European Union, United Kingdom, Germany, Turkey, Pakistan, New Zealand And Brazil, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 28 June 2007. Date of Access: 12 January 2008.
<[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/AE7C1D2D4AC7E892C125730800380A1D?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpNewsByYear_en)/AE7C1D2D4AC7E892C125730800380A1D?OpenDocument)>

¹⁶⁸⁰ Rede von Staatsminister Erler anlässlich "Conference on Security and Cooperation in South Asia - A Global Perspective" in Berlin, Auswaertiges Amt (Berlin) 10 August 2007. Date of Access: 4 January 2008.

<<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/de/Infoservice/Presse/Reden/2007/071008-Erler-Konf-Sich-Koop-Suedasien.html?id=181566&v=2>>

¹⁶⁸¹ Rede von Staatsminister Erler anlässlich "Conference on Security and Cooperation in South Asia - A Global Perspective" in Berlin, Auswaertiges Amt (Berlin) 10 August 2007. Date of Access: 4 January 2008.

<<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/de/Infoservice/Presse/Reden/2007/071008-Erler-Konf-Sich-Koop-Suedasien.html?id=181566&v=2>>

At the 2008 session of the Conference on Disarmament, Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament Bernhard Brasack identified the start of FMCT negotiations in the Conference as a clear goal. Although Germany reaffirmed that the FMCT would be an important achievement towards disarmament, it admitted that the FMCT, as currently defined, was still not exactly “palpable.”¹⁶⁸²

Germany was also a participant at the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty (NPT) from 28 April to 9 May 2008 in Geneva. At the Committee, Germany reaffirmed the principles of disarmament and NPT as pillars of the Committee.¹⁶⁸³ The FMCT was under discussion on 2 May 2008, when the PrepCom heard presentations from the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM) on the necessity and progress of a FMCT.¹⁶⁸⁴

On several occasions Germany criticized an expansion of Iran’s nuclear program and asked that Iran suspend enrichment of further nuclear materials while the parameters of the nuclear development are unclear.¹⁶⁸⁵ Although the FMCT is not mentioned directly, these statements are consistent with the principle behind the FMCT – to refrain from nuclear material production that could potentially be used in weapons.¹⁶⁸⁶ During a recent visit to India, German Chancellor Angela Merkel indicated that German support of the Indo-US nuclear deal would only be given if India was willing to negotiate and sign the FMCT.¹⁶⁸⁷

Germany has actively encouraged Iran and India to begin negotiations while also making committed declarations of its own on negotiations. Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Kayla Pries

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with the Heiligendamm commitment on the FMCT.

At the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in September 2007, Italy encouraged negotiations on a FMCT as a means of strengthening disarmament and non-proliferation by banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices.¹⁶⁸⁸ At the conference, Ambassador Carlo Trezza noted that Italy’s main concern with regards to the FMCT was its verification rather than simple achievement of consensus. As such, Ambassador Trezza suggested that verification of the treaty should be a precondition for negotiations.¹⁶⁸⁹

¹⁶⁸² British Defense Minister Addresses Conference on Disarmament, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 5 February 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. [http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/DE89E41E03EE7B0AC12573E60033D785?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpNewsByYear_en)/DE89E41E03EE7B0AC12573E60033D785?OpenDocument)

¹⁶⁸³ Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference to the Parties on the Treaty of the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, List of Participants, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (New York) 8 May 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008. <http://www.un.org/NPT2010/SecondSession/NPT%20CONF%202010%20PC%20II%20INF6.pdf>

¹⁶⁸⁴ IPFM Briefings 2008, International Panel on Fissile Materials, (Princeton) 2 May 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008. http://www.fissilematerials.org/ipfm/pages_us_en/documents/briefings/briefings.php

¹⁶⁸⁵ Federal Minister Steinmeier criticizes expansion of Iran’s nuclear programme, Auswaertiges Amt (Berlin) 9 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2008/080409-BM-Kritik-IRN-Atomprogramm.html>

¹⁶⁸⁶ Federal Minister Steinmeier welcomes adoption of another Iranian resolution, Auswaertiges Amt (Berlin) 3 March 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2008/080303-BM-Iran-Resolution.html>

¹⁶⁸⁷ German Chancellor Merkel arrives and wants India to sign CTBT, The Economic Times (New Dehli) 29 October 2007. Date of Access: 3 January 2008. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/PoliticsNation/German_Chancellor_Merkel_arrives_wants_India_to_sign_CTBT/articleshow/2498316.cms

¹⁶⁸⁸ Conference on Disarmament Adopts Annual Report to General Assembly and Closes 2007 Substantive Session, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 13 September 2007. Date of access: 16 January 2008. [http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument)

¹⁶⁸⁹ Conference on Disarmament Adopts Annual Report to General Assembly and Closes 2007 Substantive Session, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 13 September 2007. Date of access: 16 January 2008. [http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument)

The 57th Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs was convened in the Italian city of Bari in October 2007. The topic of the conference was “Prospects for Disarmament, Dialogue and Cooperation: Stability in the Mediterranean Region.” The Pugwash Council advocates the signing of the FMCT as soon as possible.¹⁶⁹⁰

No special diplomacy has been undertaken by Italy to encourage other nations to commence early negotiations of the FMCT. Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Olga Kesarchuk

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its Heiligendamm commitment to support early commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty.

Sumio Tarui, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Head of the Delegation of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament at the First Committee of the 62nd Session of the General Assembly, acknowledged the importance of a FMCT as a “quantitative cap to nuclear weapons” and as an issue that “the international community should be tackling now.”¹⁶⁹¹ Ambassador Tariu also pointed out that considering how “focused” the discussions in the first session of the 2007 Conference on Disarmament were, “there is nothing preventing the commencement of FMCT negotiations without preconditions.”¹⁶⁹² Although no consensus was reached at the Conference, Japan pledged to support building a consensus on the FMCT draft based on the efforts and proposals made in 2007.¹⁶⁹³

At the 2008 session of the UN Disarmament Commission, Japan’s Ambassador Takahiro Shiniyo said that conditions were “sufficiently ripe for the commencement of negotiations” and that Japan urges all states to voluntarily declare a moratorium on producing fissile materials for nuclear weapons before a treaty’s entry into force.¹⁶⁹⁴ At the March 2008 Conference on Disarmament Japan’s Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Yasuhide Nakayama similarly said that Japan appeals for a start to FMCT negotiations without delay.¹⁶⁹⁵

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of +1.

Analysts: Gleb Zhigailo and Egor Ouzikov

Russia: -1

Russia has failed to comply with its commitment to commence negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT). There were no official public statements about negotiations on a FCMT, though Russia has undertaken certain actions to cut off fissile materials.

¹⁶⁹⁰ The 57th Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, Pugwash Council (Rome) 22 October 2007. Date of Access: 24 May 2008. <<http://www.pugwash.org/reports/pac/57/statement.htm>>

¹⁶⁹¹ Conference on Disarmament at the First Committee of the 62nd Session of the General Assembly, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 October 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007. <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/speech/disarm2007/disarm0710-2.html>>

¹⁶⁹² Conference on Disarmament at the First Committee of the 62nd Session of the General Assembly, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 October 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007. <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/speech/disarm2007/disarm0710-2.html>>

¹⁶⁹³ Conference on Disarmament Adopts Annual Report to General Assembly and Closes 2007 Substantive Session, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 13 September 2007. Date of Access: 16 January 2008.

<[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/B28A2A2696A99158C12573550049BAB7?OpenDocument)>

¹⁶⁹⁴ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Takahiro Shiniyo, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, at the 2008 annual session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 8 April 2008. Date of Access: 6 May 2008. <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/speech/un2008/un0804-2.html>>

¹⁶⁹⁵ Statement by H.E. Mr Yasuhide Nakayama, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 March 2008. Date of Access: 6 May 2008. <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/disarmament/arms/state0803.html>>

Russia and the United States are cooperating to dispose of excess plutonium accumulated during the Cold War. On 19 November 2007, Russian Federal Atomic Energy Agency Director Sergey Kiriyenko and US Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman signed a joint statement on mutual understanding concerning cooperation on the Program for the Disposition of Excess Weapon-Grade Plutonium. The joint statement outlines a plan to convert surplus plutonium from Russia's weapons program into fuel for peaceful purposes, such as to produce clean electricity.¹⁶⁹⁶ Thus, in spite of the absence of specific actions towards commencement of direct negotiations on FMCT, Russia has undertaken significant steps to dispose of its surplus weapon-grade plutonium.

Nevertheless, given that Russia has issued no statements about an early commencement of FMCT negotiations, it has been awarded a score of -1.

Analyst: Yuriy Zaitsev

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its 2007 Heiligendamm commitment to support the commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT). The UK, itself a nuclear power, continues to recognize the importance of such a treaty in achieving the eventual goal of global nuclear disarmament.¹⁶⁹⁷

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office asserts that the UK is working to break the deadlock of non-proliferation negotiations, in general, and the FMCT negotiations, in particular.¹⁶⁹⁸ To that end, the UK actively participated in the 2007 session of the Conference on Disarmament, where non-proliferation initiatives such as the FMCT were discussed.¹⁶⁹⁹ In the official British statement issued at the Conference on Disarmament, Permanent Representative John Stewart Duncan reiterated the UK's longstanding support for the FMCT and expressed hope for future consensus.¹⁷⁰⁰

In November 2007, the UK hosted a conference on "Illicit Nuclear Trafficking: Collective Experience and the Way Forward." The November Conference is one measure that the UK undertook to increase political and public awareness of the threat that nuclear materials continue to pose. The Conference also reaffirms that the UK has constantly made the issue of proliferation a priority.¹⁷⁰¹

Des Browne, Secretary of State for Defense for the United Kingdom, personally addressed the 2008 session of the Conference on Disarmament. At the Conference, Browne and other British representatives demonstrated the UK's strong support for the Conference. Secretary Browne noted that, while there was a stalemate in securing the FMCT, its eventual creation would be a significant step towards disarmament, as it would limit signatories from expanding their nuclear arsenal. The FMCT was identified as the UK's highest priority. However, Browne acknowledged that other states have their own priorities.¹⁷⁰²

¹⁶⁹⁶ Russia continues excess Plutonium utilization, RIA News Agency (Moscow) 22 November 2007. Date of Access: 30 April 2008. <<http://www.rian.ru/analytics/20071122/89082986.html>>

¹⁶⁹⁷ UK Actions Towards Verifiable Global Nuclear Disarmament, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London) 15 November 2007. Date of Access: 12 January 2008. <<http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1087554459698>>

¹⁶⁹⁸ UK Actions Towards Verifiable Global Nuclear Disarmament, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London) 15 November 2007. Date of Access: 12 January 2008. <<http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1087554459698>>

¹⁶⁹⁹ Disarmament, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 13 September 2007. Date of Access: 12 January 2008. <[http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/\(httpPages\)/D5775E00BA59072EC1256F57004174FF?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/(httpPages)/D5775E00BA59072EC1256F57004174FF?OpenDocument)>

¹⁷⁰⁰ President Of Conference On Disarmament Says Some Capitals Need More Time To Consider Proposal To Start Substantive Work, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 21 June 2007. Date of Access: 12 January 2008. <[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/7DB7CFE36D884AA9C1257301003914B4?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpNewsByYear_en)/7DB7CFE36D884AA9C1257301003914B4?OpenDocument)>

¹⁷⁰¹ Nuclear Trafficking Remains Global Priority: International Effort Must Continue, Delegates At IAEA-Organized Event Conclude, International Atomic Energy Agency (Vienna) 7 December 2007. Date of Access: 4 January 2008. <<http://www.iaea.org/NewsCenter/News/2007/nuc Trafficking.html>>

¹⁷⁰² British Defense Minister Addresses Conference on Disarmament, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 5 February 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <[http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/DE89E41E03EE7B0AC12573E60033D785?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/unog/website/news_media.nsf/(httpNewsByYear_en)/DE89E41E03EE7B0AC12573E60033D785?OpenDocument)>

The UK was also a participant at the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) from 28 April to 9 May 2008 in Geneva. The UK representative, Mr. John Duncan, supported a reinvigorated approach to nuclear disarmament, the development of nuclear resources for peaceful purposes and reaffirmed the NPT as a pillar of that effort.^{1703, 1704} The FMCT was under discussion on 2 May 2008, when PrepCom heard presentations from the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM) on the necessity and progress of a FMCT.¹⁷⁰⁵

Despite British support for the FMCT, the UK has failed to commit to the commencement of negotiations before the end of the current compliance cycle or to publicly encourage other states to do the same. Thus, the UK has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Kayla Pries

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment on the commencement of discussions on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT). Although the United States actively sought the commencement of negotiations on the FMCT after the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, no special diplomatic actions have been undertaken to encourage the early commencement of such negotiations since the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit.

On 12 June 2007, at the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva, the UN Ambassador of the United States announced that, “the United States [is] hopeful that the Conference was on the brink of starting substantive work, including the drafting of an FMCT.”¹⁷⁰⁶ This was, however, the only US statement issued on a FMCT, and the United States did not take any further steps during the conference to encourage nations to begin negotiations. The US also participated in the 2008 session of the CD,¹⁷⁰⁷ but it did not make any statements regarding a FMCT.

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Alicja Serafin

European Union: 0

The European Union (EU) has complied with its commitment to support an early start to negotiations of a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT).

The EU representative noted the importance of negotiating a FMCT at the 2007 United Nations Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva. At the conclusion of the CD on 13 September 2007, Portugal made a statement on behalf of the EU, asserting, “The European Union [has] attached a clear priority to the negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons.”¹⁷⁰⁸

¹⁷⁰³ Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference to the Parties on the Treaty of the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, List of Participants, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (New York) 8 May 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008. <<http://www.un.org/NPT2010/SecondSession/NPT%20CONF%202010%20PC%20II%20INF6.pdf>>

¹⁷⁰⁴ Delegates Statements at Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference to the Parties on the Treaty of the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (New York) 29 April 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008.

<<http://www.un.org/NPT2010/SecondSession/statements.html>>

¹⁷⁰⁵ IPFM Briefings 2008, International Panel on Fissile Materials (Princeton) 2 May 2008. Date of Access: 11 May 2008.

<http://www.fissilematerials.org/ipfm/pages_us_en/documents/briefings/briefings.php>

¹⁷⁰⁶ Final Record of the One Thousand and Seventieth Plenary Meeting, Conference on Disarmament (Geneva) 12 June 2007. Date of Access: 10 January 2008. <<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G07/617/60/PDF/G0761760.pdf>>

¹⁷⁰⁷ Conference on Disarmament List of Participants 2008 Session, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 18 February 2008. Date of Access: 10 May 2008.

<[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/6EF1211DD2FDCFB1C1257284004D0209/\\$file/List%20of%20Participants%202008.doc](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/6EF1211DD2FDCFB1C1257284004D0209/$file/List%20of%20Participants%202008.doc)>

¹⁷⁰⁸ Conference on Disarmament Adopts Annual Report to General Assembly and Closes 2007 Substantive Session, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 13 September 2007. Date of Access: 10 January 2008.

At the First Committee Thematic Discussion on Nuclear Weapons, at the 62nd UN Session of the General Assembly in New York, the EU representative reasserted that negotiating a FMCT is a priority for its foreign policy. On 17 October 2007, Portugal made a statement on behalf of the EU, declaring that “the EU attaches a clear priority to the negotiation, without precondition, in the Conference on Disarmament, of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices [FMCT], as a means to strengthen disarmament and non-proliferation” and that, “it constitutes a priority that is ripe for negotiation.”¹⁷⁰⁹ This statement was reiterated by Slovenia, on behalf of the EU, during the first part of the 2008 session of the CD in Geneva on 25 January 2008.¹⁷¹⁰

On 8 April 2008, Slovenia, on behalf of the EU, announced at the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) in New York that, “the EU appeals to all delegations in the Conference on Disarmament to work toward achieving a consensus on a possible programme of work that would enable the Conference to start as soon as possible the negotiations of a FMCT.”¹⁷¹¹

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of 0 for encouraging all nations to begin negotiations on a FMCT and identifying the commencement of such negotiations as a priority for its foreign policy.

Analyst: Alicja Serafin

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¹⁷⁰⁹ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Jose Julio Pereira Gomes Portugal on Behalf of the European Union at United Nations 62nd Session of the General Assembly First Committee Thematic Discussion on Nuclear Weapons, Reaching Critical Will (New York) 17 October 2007. Date of Access: 13 May 2008.

<<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1com07/statements/17octEU.pdf>>

¹⁷¹⁰ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Andrej Longar Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the Conference on Disarmament on Behalf of the European Union, The United Nations Office at Geneva (Geneva) 25 January 2008. Date of Access: 13 May 2008.

<[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/6B3C43C0A2038735C12573DB003A8DEF/\\$file/1084_EU_E.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/6B3C43C0A2038735C12573DB003A8DEF/$file/1084_EU_E.pdf)>

¹⁷¹¹ UNDC Statement on behalf of the European Union by H.E. Ambassador Sanja Stiglic Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations, Reaching Critical Will (New York) 8 April 2008. Date of Access: 14 May 2008.

<<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/dc/statements08/EU.pdf>>