

It is the principle laid down by the NPT in Article VII that makes NWFZs credible and more secure. Surely, another "plus" on our review ledger.

Article VI

The NPT is not a static arrangement. In Article VI, the Treaty provides for a dynamic, ongoing process of negotiations, in good faith, to cease the nuclear arms race and to undertake nuclear disarmament. More than that, it establishes a radical agenda that would result in a treaty on "general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

In assessing the Treaty's effectiveness with regard to Article VI, we should first recognize and welcome the fact that among the states party to the Treaty, the nuclear arms race has ended.

Russia and the United States continue to take bold steps to disarm. Indeed, here the race has changed from an arms race to a joint, bilateral undertaking to race forward on an ambitious and courageous agenda for nuclear disarmament.

Other nuclear weapons states [NWS] have made unilateral cuts to their nuclear arsenals. This is all done against the backdrop of security calculations made by the NWS, which begin with the NPT.

There have been other significant, positive steps forward on the nuclear arms control and disarmament agenda, which represent concrete progress in fulfilling both Article VI and the preamble of the Treaty.

We are convinced that it is only the framework of stability, security and predictability provided by the NPT that has made progress on the nuclear arms control and disarmament agenda possible. Thus, those who seek radical disarmament should be the strongest proponents of the indefinite extension of the Treaty.

Under the NPT's broad security umbrella, we have seen truly extraordinary steps taken in recent years:

- First, we are engaged in negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which will fulfil our commitment in the preamble to "achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time" and in all environments. Work is proceeding well. Our experts are close to establishing an effective verification mechanism. Canada is greatly encouraged by work to date, and we believe that this Treaty, once no more than a far-off dream, will soon be reality.

The Canadian delegation has been instructed to make speed and all possible progress to bring these negotiations to a successful, timely conclusion. We hope that other delegations