

THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE AND CHINA

9.

In view of their responsibilities as nuclear-weapon States under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and as Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council, the Committee recommends that the Government of Canada encourage the United Kingdom, France and China to:

Increase transparency about their nuclear stockpiles, fissile material and doctrine;

Response

The Government of Canada welcomes recent decisions by both the U.K. and France to reduce warhead numbers and types and the number of deployment locations, to increase transparency and adopt unilateral moratoria on the production of fissile material for weapons purposes. Canada urges China to follow suit and, in particular, to declare a fissile material moratorium.



Support the call of Canada and other States for the substantive discussion of nuclear disarmament issues at the Conference on Disarmament;

Response

The Government continues to urge all NWS to support Canada's proposal that the CD establish an Ad Hoc Committee for the substantive discussion of nuclear disarmament issues. Nuclear disarmament is a primary and priority preoccupation of the entire global community, not only a few of its members. The CD, as the multilateral forum on disarmament issues, should be appropriately and substantively engaged on nuclear questions, although it the responsibility of the nuclear-weapon States themselves to negotiate nuclear weapons reductions. An Ad Hoc Committee to discuss nuclear disarmament issues would, however, respond to the broad international desire to encourage nuclear-weapon States' disarmament efforts, to keep abreast of issues and developments and to have a forum for advancing initiatives in the nuclear disarmament field.