

Preface

It is important when negotiating and implementing non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament (NACD) agreements, including those relating to confidence building measures, to have a clear understanding of the advantages and limitations of the particular measures at issue. To this end, it would be useful to have in mind a set of political, economic and military criteria by which policy makers could assess potential NACD agreements.

During the negotiation phase, such criteria would be advantageous for developing arguments to assist in persuading other countries to sign onto the agreement. Later, such criteria would be useful in explaining complex trade-offs to legislatures and publics during ratification procedures. Finally, these criteria might also be important during the life of an agreement to assist in evaluating agreement implementation, including at periodic review conferences.

A variety of advantages of NACD agreements and appropriate standards for them have been suggested over the years. This report outlines a set of generally-applicable criteria for evaluating potential NACD and related measures. It draws primarily on experience in the multilateral NACD process, but also considers the bilateral (Russia/USA) process and experience in non-traditional NACD areas such as peace operations and humanitarian measures.

This report is being made available to promote discussion and assist officials and researchers in their work, as part of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's policy to share the results of selected independent research undertaken by the Departmental Verification Research Program. The Department wishes to acknowledge the work performed concerning this report under contract by **Dr. Patricia McFate and Ambassador Sidney Graybeal** of Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA.

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