

- *Practical Means of Dealing With the Issue of Including WMD in the Register.* The immediate policy decision is how to deal with a majority of UN Member States insisting that the Register include WMD and its associated technologies.

One practical means by which to address this issue might be to begin serious seminars within the U.N. system on how transparency in weapons of mass destruction can be improved. A full treatment of various approaches is found in the previously mentioned work by Muller and Frank.⁵⁰ The authors elaborate four purposes a nuclear arms register would serve: a reduction of discrimination; accountability; security; and disarmament. They also admit that they are describing a system "that does not yet exist, and talk about its development in a way that presumes political contexts that lie far in the future, our discussion has some visionary, if not utopian, touch to it."⁵¹ This work also addresses the "de-facto" nuclear weapon state problem as it takes the reader through the stages required for its development. It would serve as ideal reading material for participants in a seminar on the issue. It should be noted that Egypt officially mentioned Muller's work, specifically the nuclear arms register suggested by German Foreign Minister Kinkel in 1993, on the floor of the First Committee on 27 October, 1999. The output of such deliberations might be a "shadow" nuclear weapons register based on public information. The Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Monterey Institute of International Studies maintains several databases and conducts a host of activities that certainly fit in the category of developing transparency in weapons of mass destruction. CNS is the leading non-proliferation NGO with excellent relationships with governments and the United Nations. They could be tasked with developing and conducting such seminars.⁵² A similar set of seminars could be scheduled to deal with the more analytical aspects of the differences between conventional and nuclear weapons. The literature is significant in this field and engaging academics and governments may be a way to get the debate to a more technical level.

This problem is clearly a north-south problem, with Israel's undeclared nuclear weapons at the center. At the May 2000 NPT conference for the first time the international community, with the agreement of the United States and other nuclear powers, urged Israel by name to join the NPT. To the extent that Canada and other northern states made this happen, this may give them some leverage with Egypt and the NAM to soften their insistence on the linkage between these two classes of weapon.

⁵⁰ . *Ibid.*, pp. 233-254

⁵¹ . *Ibid.*, p. 234.

⁵² . <http://cns.miis.edu>