

**Statement by the United States**

**Main Committee II  
Subsidiary Body on Regional Issues**

**The Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the  
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

**Statement by Senior Advisor Thomas Countryman**

**New York  
August 10, 2022**

Madam Chair,

In my statement to this Subsidiary Body yesterday afternoon, my delegation addressed a range of regional nonproliferation challenges to the Treaty and offered a few general comments on the United States' perspective on the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East.

Today, I would like to offer a few additional remarks in response to the Chair's request for concrete proposals regarding potential text on the Middle East issue. This is a topic that we have discussed at length with many Parties and our perspective is well-known. However, given past experiences on this issue, I feel the need to make it very clear from the floor as well.

As I noted yesterday, the United States remains firmly committed to the goal of a Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction and delivery systems, consistent with the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, and based on arrangements freely arrived at by all the regional states. We are fully prepared to reaffirm our commitment to the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East in the context of a final document of this Review Conference. This is non-controversial and should be acceptable to all delegations.

Concerning the UN Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction, we recognize that some see this as a productive endeavor that can lead to genuine progress toward the achievement of such a zone. While we are prepared to take note of the first two sessions of this Conference, because the process does not include all states in the region or address legitimate security concerns of all such states, it is

not our view that this process can serve as a viable mechanism for implementing the 1995 Resolution.

Thank you, Madam Chair.