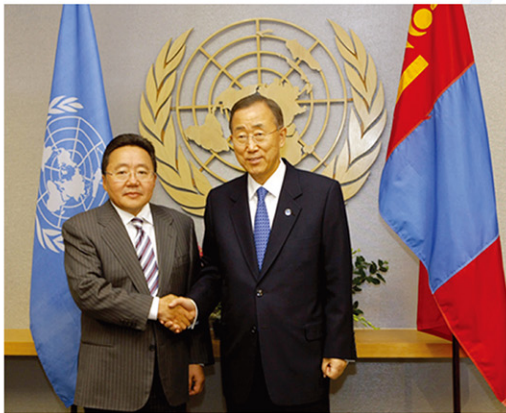


- ▶ The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Asean Regional Forum (ARF) and other international fora have welcomed Mongolia's efforts to institutionalize the status. Thus the NAM summit in 2012 has expressed support for the country's policy, welcomed the start of the talks of Mongolia with its two neighbors to conclude the required legal instrument(s) and expressed the hope that it would soon result in the conclusion of an international instrument institutionalizing the status.
- ▶ The "Conference of NWFS and Mongolia", held in 2010, has also expressed its full support for Mongolia's policy and welcomed its talks with the two neighbors to institutionalize the status.



- ▶ On 17 September, 2012 Mongolia and the P5 signed parallel declarations, whereby the former has pledged not to develop, manufacture or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons. It has also reiterated its pledge not to allow stationing of nuclear weapons on its territory or transport through it such weapons by any means, nor allow dumping or disposing of nuclear-weapons-grade radioactive material or waste on its territory. On their part, the P5 reaffirmed their commitments of October 2000, welcomed the passage of the law in 2000 and have pledged to respect Mongolia's status and not to contribute to any act that would violate it.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR

In political terms, the P5 joint declaration ensures that Mongolia will not be used as a pawn in future regional geopolitical rivalry of the great powers. It also ensures that its territory will remain as a transparent zone of confidence and stability, and will not be permitted to be used to harm interests of others or destabilize the region.



WHAT CAN BE DONE TO FURTHER INSTITUTIONALIZE THE STATUS

The P5 joint declaration of 2012 and the broad international support for the status provide a practical basis for promoting further institutionalization of the status and eventually creating an international regime regulating Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status.

Mongolia's unique status, it's out of the box thinking and the experience gained in promoting equally the interests of small and big states alike, taken in the context of Mongolian President Ts. Elbegdorj's initiative to develop a Ulaanbaatar dialogue on Northeast Asian security, might prove useful in addressing the nuclear security issues in an open, informal and unbiased manner, for the benefit of the states concerned. That will also, in its turn, help create the international regime regulating Mongolia's unique status.



For further information or feedback you can contact the Focal Point of Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status at enkhsaikhanj@mfa.gov.mn or the Blue Banner at enkhee53@yahoo.com.



Focal Point of Mongolia's
Nuclear-Weapon-Free Status



MONGOLIA'S NUCLEAR - WEAPON - FREE STATUS

Mongolia ... will not to allow stationing of nuclear weapons or parts thereof on its territory ...



Signing of the parallel Mongolia and P5 declarations on 17 September 2012 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

P5: ... will respect Mongolia's status and will not contribute to any act that would violate it.

Ulaanbaatar 2014

This flyer has been prepared by the Focal point of Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status in conjunction with Blue Banner, Mongolian NGO, in response to the requests for concise information regarding Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status and its content.

INITIATIVE LAUNCHED

In September 1992 by President P.Ochirbat of Mongolia when the last Soviet/Russian troops were being withdrawn from Mongolia. At the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session he declared that "...in order to contribute to disarmament and trust in the [Asia-Pacific] region and the world over, Mongolia declares its territory a nuclear-weapon-free zone and will work for having that status internationally guaranteed."

It was a logical step following the end of the cold war, during which Mongolia, then Soviet junior ally, was held hostage to the tense relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, both nuclear-weapon states with ideological and other disputes.

OBJECTIVE

Banning of stationing of nuclear weapons or parts of such weapon system on the Mongolian territory, and acquiring security assurances from the five nuclear weapon states (the P5) to respect the status and not to contribute to any act that would violate it.

CHALLENGES TO THE INITIATIVE

- Sandwiched between two nuclear-weapon states, Mongolia cannot form part of any traditional (regional) NWFZ. Hence, as a way to addressing its unique case, it has been promoting the concept of a single-State NWFZ.
- Though the P5 have formally declared and accepted Mongolia's 'unique geographic status', some are still hesitant to recognize Mongolia as NWFZ as it might, they believe, set a precedent that could discourage others from establishing traditional zones.

MEASURES TAKEN TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE STATUS

a) unilateral:

i. Mongolia:

- proposed to the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1997 to consider the concept of establishing single-State NWFZs when elaborating guidelines on establishing new zones;



- The State Great Hural (parliament) of Mongolia adopted in 2000 a law that defined the country's nuclear-weapon-free status at the national level and criminalized acts that would violate that status. In 2006 and 2014 Mongolia has reviewed implementation of the law and defined additional measures to promote its fuller implementation.

ii. nuclear-weapon states:

- USA, China, United Kingdom and France in 1993 and 1994 separately declared that Mongolia would benefit from their unilateral declarations regarding security assurances being offered to non-nuclear-weapon states parties to the NPT;

- b) **bilateral:** in 1993 the Russian Federation by the Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation between Mongolia and the Russian Federation has pledged to "respect Mongolia's policy of not admitting the deployment on and transit through its territory of foreign troops, nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction";

c) multilateral:

- UNGA adopted in 1998 resolution 53/77D entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status" in which it:
 - welcomed the declaration by Mongolia of its nuclear-weapon-free status;

- invited member states, including the P5, to cooperate with Mongolia in consolidating that status;
- invited all states to work with Mongolia in strengthening the broader aspects of its security as reflected in the resolution, and
- requested the Secretary-General and relevant UN bodies to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to implement the resolution.
- Since 1998 every second year UNGA adopts resolutions on the issue and calls on member states and relevant UN bodies to cooperate with Mongolia in consolidating the status.
- The P5 in October 2000 have made a joint statement on security assurances in connection with Mongolia's status whereby they have announced that their unilateral commitments regarding security assurances, as reflected in Security Council resolution 984 (1995), applied to Mongolia.
- The P5 and Mongolia met in Sapporo, Japan in 2001 under United Nations aegis and considered practical steps to help institutionalize the status. This unofficial meeting has recommended that for the status to be credible Mongolia needed to conclude an international treaty that would clearly define the status.
- Based on the Sapporo recommendation, in 2007 Mongolia presented a draft trilateral treaty (to be concluded by Mongolia with China and Russia) that clearly defined Mongolia's own commitments in line with those reflected in NWFZ treaties and the commitments of the two nuclear neighbors to respect the status and not to contribute to any act that would violate it. A draft protocol to the treaty would have invited the other P3 to commit to respect the treaty and contribute to its implementation.
- In 2009 Mongolia held two meetings in Geneva with Russia and China to discuss the draft treaty and the ways to move the negotiations. During the meeting Russia and China expressed the need to involve the other P3 if the negotiations on the drafts were to be undertaken in earnest. However, in 2012 the P5 have indicated their reluctance to institutionalize the status through conclusion of an international treaty since that might set a precedent.