The adoption of the review and extension conference of the NPT treaty in 1995 of the resolution on the Middle East, among a package of a resolution and decision, was an important step which put the issue of establishing a zone free of nuclear weapon of the Middle East at the heart of the process and mechanism of periodic review conferences of the treaty, and created at the same time, a close link between establishing a nuclear free zone in the Middle east and the indefinite extension of the treaty. The final document of the 2000 review conference confirmed also the importance and necessity of implementing the resolution on the Middle East and urge Israel, being the only party in the region that has not yet acceded to the treaty, to accede to it and to place all its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive safeguards regime.

Mr. Chairman
Addressing the issue by the Iraqi delegation stems from national and regional considerations, and from its strong desire to have the region secure and stable and not to be exposed to threats, and to free it from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. The 1995 Middle East resolution and the outcomes of the 2000 review conference are the main reference in this regard. This will enhance the process towards undertaking concert measure to implement the Middle East resolution so as the next review conference in 2010 will witness the universality of the treaty.

Mr. Chairman.
The Iraqi delegation views that the establishment of nuclear free zone in the Middle East enjoy great support and understanding by large number of states parties. However the role of the states which hold greater responsibility in insuring the realization of the relevant resolutions, is still characterized by lack of seriousness, and moreover the states of the region have become convinced that
some of the influential international powers deal in a discriminatory manner with this issue. Failure to make progress toward establishing a NWFZ in the Middle East during the 2010 review conference will be seen as a violation of the package of a resolution and decisions adopted by the 1995, as well as a violation of the close correlation between the indefinite extension and the establishment of the free zone.

The Iraqi delegation calls upon the five nuclear states parties to the treaty to take serious steps to implement the 1995 resolution and to ensure Israel's accession to the NPT, and to develop the necessary mechanism to activate the relevant measures, and the most important among them, is to stop all forms of technological cooperation with Israel as a proof to credibility of the treaty and recognizing of its universality.

Thank you