## European Green Party 8th COUNCIL MEETING Ljubljana, 11-13<sup>th</sup> April 2008



## **Draft normal resolution**

## Europe does not need an anti-missile defence system, it needs to be a nuclear weapons free region

**Tabled** by De Groenen, the Netherlands

The European Green Parties

A) note recent statements by Mr ElBaradei, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, that he had not received any information that Iran seeks an atomic bomb.

B) note recent reports of the CIA that Iran will not have nuclear arms in the foreseeable future;

C) note the 2008 annual report of the Pentagon's Director of Operational Test & Evaluation (DOT&E) which states that the GMD<sup>1</sup> system designed for the Czech Republic and Poland showed "a limited capability against a simple foreign threat" and that "the flight testing to date is not sufficient to provide a high level of statistical confidence in its limited capabilities"

1) remain unconvinced that Europe will need, in the foreseeable future, a system to protect its territory against hostile long-range or intermediate range ballistic missiles with WMD warheads launched by Iran, any other nation or any group of non-state actors;

2) are convinced that the deployment of such a system is incompatible with the desirable reading of the European Security Strategy and the European Strategy Against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and counterproductive for the security of Europe and its inhabitants;

3) find it regrettable for the indivisibility of European security and the principles of effective multilateralism, that the US is negotiating the deployment of such a system unilaterally with three EU member states (Poland, Czech Republic and the U.K.); reminds these Member States of article 11 of the EU Treaty which states that "Member States shall refrain from any action which is contrary to the interests of the Union or likely to impair its effectiveness as a cohesive force in international relations";

4) call for a debate within NATO member states and their respective parliaments on the question of whether to integrate current US proposals for their National Missile Defence programme with the ongoing NATO-project for a "theatre missile defence" system for protecting troops deployed on external missions against short range missile-attacks by 2010;

5) strongly resist any effort of political-military circles to implement a 'fait-accompli' in a situation where the people of all member states of the EU and European NATO are in massive opposition to the proposed deployment;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ground-Based Midcourse Defense

6) are worried about the lack of readiness of European governments and parliaments to take a firm stand on the issue and deeply deplore that the EU Council and the high representative for the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) refuse to take their responsibility on this issue;

7) are worried about parallels between the current and past situations, when important security decisions on the deployment of cruise-missiles in Europe were taken by European governments against the will of the people; are convinced that this is an unacceptable situation in a post cold war era:

8) have understanding for the international campaign of public protest led by an association of Czech and Polish mayors - including those in the region of the proposed deployments - to prevent the installation of new radar and missile bases:

9) take note of the Russian concerns about the proposals but nevertheless call on the Russian Federation to control their reaction and continue to abide by the Treaty on Conventional Arms in Europe (CFE) and the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF);

10) consider arms control on missiles a better option to strengthen security than missile defence, therefore welcomes the call on 25 October 2007 by Russia and the US to give the INF-treaty a global character and call on all European member states to respond positively to this call;

11) suggest that all states in Europe in possession of long-range missiles and nuclear warheads, should refrain from modernising their arsenals and instead start preparing for a future in which Europe will be nuclear weapon free as part of a global Nuclear Weapons Convention;

12) are worried about the prospect that missile defence will contribute to a renewed technological arms race and, in particular, bring closer the prospect of deployment of missile interceptors in space;

13) believe that to prevent a new arms race, the proliferation of WMD, the long-term threat from terrorists and other possible dangers to European and global security, there must be considerable investment in conflict-prevention policies and disarmament initiatives;

14) are aware that the world looks to the EU to behave as a responsible and inspiring global leader and an active advocate for peace that is proud of its achievements and ready to engage with states outside the EU to build mutual trust and security and that, for the survival of our planet, we need to learn how to develop technologies for a positive future based on tolerance of cultural differences and an ecological balance, and not on isolation and the building of walls and barriers;

15) invite its Secretary General to forward this resolution to all Green parties.