



**CHAIR OF
THE COORDINATING BUREAU
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**



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**Statement by
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to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna**

On Behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties

**before
Main Committee I
Review Conference of the Parties to
the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
New York, 1 May 2015**

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty.
2. I congratulate you for your chairmanship and assure you of our full cooperation.
3. Nuclear disarmament remains our highest priority. For a long time, we have struggled hard to attain this objective. We are determined to vigorously continue pursuing this goal during the 2015 Conference.
4. We strongly believe that the Treaty is an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and its full implementation would and should lead to the total elimination of all nuclear weapons.
5. We stress that the purpose of the Treaty is not about only preventing the non-nuclear-weapon States from acquiring nuclear weapons, it is also about disarming nuclear-weapon States.
6. As we underscored time and again, the indefinite extension of the Treaty does not imply the indefinite possession by the nuclear-weapon States of their nuclear arsenals. Any such assumption is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Treaty.

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7. While underlining the importance of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice that “the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict, and in particular the principles and rules of humanitarian law”, once again, we stress that the total elimination of nuclear weapons and a universal legally binding assurance that they will never be produced again is the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use.

8. We remain deeply concerned by military and security doctrines, including that of NATO that set out the rationales for the use of nuclear weapons.

9. It should also be underlined that the existing negative security assurances are neither effective, unconditional and non-discriminatory, nor universal and legally binding, and despite longstanding demands, unfortunately no tangible progress has been made in this regard.

10. Accordingly, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the nuclear-weapon States shall seriously refrain, at any circumstances, from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty. Any such act would be a crime against humanity and a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular international humanitarian law. To that end, complete exclusion of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from all military doctrines and the conclusion of a treaty on effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and irrevocable legally binding security assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances is of utmost importance and urgency.

Mr. Chairman,

11. We express deep concern at the continued lack of progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament obligations of the nuclear-weapon States under the Treaty and their unequivocal undertakings under the final documents of the successive Review Conferences of the Treaty since 1995. This trend undermines the object and purpose of the Treaty and the credibility of the non-proliferation regime.

12. To avoid that, we call for the full, effective and urgent implementation of the obligation of nuclear disarmament under article VI of the Treaty, as well as the 1995 decision on “Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament”, the 13 practical steps agreed to in 2000, and action plan on nuclear disarmament adopted by the 2010 Review Conference, in particular rapidly moving towards an overall reduction in all types of nuclear weapons globally, further diminishing the role of nuclear weapons in all military and security doctrines, and undertaking further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons.

13. In our view, convening of the first ever high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament on 26 September 2013 and the strong support expressed at that meeting for taking urgent and effective measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons demonstrated that nuclear disarmament remains the highest priority of the international community.

14. Another important measure was the adoption by the General Assembly of two resolutions on the “Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament”, in which, the Assembly called for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, decided to convene, no later than 2018, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard, and declared 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. We call for the full implementation of these resolutions, which provide a concrete pathway for realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament.

15. Accordingly, we reiterate our call to the Conference on Disarmament to immediately establish, as the highest priority, a subsidiary body to negotiate and conclude a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons.

16. We strongly support banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices and eliminating all the past production and existing stockpiles of such materials, in an irreversible and verifiable manner and taking into account both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, without prejudice to the inalienable right of States parties to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including their past production, existing stockpiles and future production of fissile materials under the IAEA comprehensive safeguards.

17. Noting some reports of bilateral and unilateral reductions, we stress that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons. Any such reductions are undermined by the modernization of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, and related infrastructure by the nuclear-weapon States. Therefore, the nuclear-weapon States must immediately cease their plans to further invest in modernizing, upgrading, refurbishing or extending the lives of their nuclear weapons and related facilities.

18. The Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty express concern over the negative implications of the development and deployment of anti-ballistic missile defence systems and the threat of weaponization of outer space and at the negative security consequences of the deployment of such systems, which could trigger an arms race and lead to further development of advanced missile systems and an increase in the number of nuclear weapons. We emphasize the urgent need for the commencement of substantive work, at the Conference on Disarmament, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolution.

19. In our view, development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons further undermine disarmament commitments.

20. We stress the significance of achieving the universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and realizing its entry into force. While this Treaty is a practical step for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament as well as non-proliferation

in all its aspects, it cannot substitute for the objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

21. Pending its entry into force, we strongly call for immediate and unconditional cessation of all nuclear weapon tests and complete prohibition of nuclear weapons research and development, putting an end to conducting nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, or nuclear weapon tests in alternative ways, as well as the use of new technologies for upgrading existing nuclear weapons systems.

22. We wish to underline that the immediate and unconditional accession to the Treaty by all States not party, as non-nuclear-weapon States, is essential for the full realization of its objectives, in particular on nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

23. According to the agenda of the Conference, our mandate is to review of the operation of the Treaty, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Conference and the Final Documents of the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences. This clearly means we must take account of the past operation of the Treaty itself and all decisions adopted by its Review Conferences in 1995, 2000 and 2010. At the same time, under action 5 of the 2010 Review Conference, the 2015 Review Conference should consider necessary steps for the full implementation of article VI of the Treaty.

24. As a contribution to the work of the Conference, the Group of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty has presented several working papers, which contain its positions and substantive recommendations. Among them, I wish to refer to working papers on nuclear disarmament, security assurances and nuclear testing, as well as a paper containing the "Elements for a plan of action for the elimination of nuclear weapons". I urge the Committee to consider all of these recommendations in order to incorporate them into the final report of the Committee.

25. While all such recommendations are submitted to the Conference in advance, in order to save the time, I will only read some of them. At the same time, the Group reserves its right to present further recommendations during the work of the Committee.

26. Recommendations of the Group of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty, inter alia, are as follows:

On Principles and Objectives:

To underline that the immediate and unconditional accession to the Treaty by all States not party, as non-nuclear-weapon States, is essential for the full realization of its objectives. All States parties should make every effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty and refrain from taking any actions that could negatively affect prospects for the universality of the Treaty.

To strongly call on all States that are not party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, to accede, without any further delay and precondition, to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States.

On Nuclear Disarmament:

To urge the nuclear-weapon States to fully comply with their nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty and completely implement their unequivocal nuclear disarmament commitments, including the 13 practical steps, that were agreed and reaffirmed by consensus at the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Treaty, in order to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons.

To strongly call for the prompt and full implementation of the action plan on nuclear disarmament adopted by the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty, particularly the commitments made by the nuclear-weapon States under action 5 to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament.

To emphasize the necessity to start negotiations without further delay on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time.

To call for the immediate establishment, as the highest priority, in the Conference on Disarmament, a subsidiary body to negotiate and conclude a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use and to provide for their destruction.

To acknowledge that the development of new types of nuclear weapons and the lack of progress in diminishing the role of nuclear weapons in security policies run counter to the letter and spirit of the Treaty and undermine the realization of its objectives.

To reaffirm that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be a crime against humanity and a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular international humanitarian law, and that the mere possession of nuclear weapons is inconsistent with the principles of international humanitarian law.

To fully support and call for the full implementation of resolutions 68/32 and 69/58 entitled "Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament", through which the General Assembly called for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, decided to convene, no later than 2018, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard; and designated 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

To establish a standing committee to monitor and verify the fulfilment by the nuclear-weapon States of their nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty, as well as the implementation of their unequivocal undertakings agreed at the Review Conferences of the Treaty, and to make recommendations to the Review Conference on the next steps for the full implementation of article VI of the Treaty in realization of the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

To call for the complete exclusion of the use and the threat of use of nuclear weapons from all the military and security policies, concepts and doctrines, including the “Strategic Concept for the Defence and Security of the Members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization”, which not only set out rationales for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, but also maintain unjustifiable concepts of security based on promoting and developing military alliances that pursue nuclear deterrence policies.

To underscore the necessity of the full and non-discriminatory implementation of articles I and II of the Treaty by all States parties, in particular nuclear-weapon States, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, including through nuclear weapon-sharing with other States under any kind of security and military arrangements or alliances.

On Nuclear Testing:

To strongly support a comprehensive ban on all forms of nuclear-weapon tests without exception, as well as any nuclear explosion, and reaffirm the importance of such ban in the realization of objectives of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

To support the objectives of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which is intended to enforce a comprehensive ban on all nuclear test explosions, and to stop the qualitative development of nuclear weapons and to stress that while the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is a practical step for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament as well as non-proliferation in all its aspects, it cannot substitute the objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

To call upon the nuclear-weapon States to refrain from conducting nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, or nuclear-weapon tests in alternative ways, as well as the use of new technologies for upgrading the existing nuclear weapons system, as they are in contravention of the objectives of the CTBT and would undermine its effectiveness and contradict the commitments undertaken at the NPT Review Conferences by nuclear weapon States.

On Negative Security Assurances:

To reaffirm that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be a crime against humanity and a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular, international humanitarian law. To reiterate that the mere

possession of nuclear weapons is inconsistent with the principles of international humanitarian law.

To call on nuclear-weapon States to refrain, under all circumstances, from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty, including, inter alia, by the complete exclusion of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from all their military and security concepts, doctrines and policies.

To strongly support the urgent commencement of negotiations on effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and irrevocable legally binding security assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances, by all nuclear-weapon States to all non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty, pending the realization of the goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons.

27. The Group of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty remains committed to constructively engage in a collective efforts to ensure that all such elements are given due consideration by the Committee.

I thank you. Mr. Chairman.