



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



**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Mohammad Khazaei
Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United
Nations
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
Before the First Committee
Thematic Debates:
Cluster 1: Nuclear Weapons
New York, 18 October, 2013**

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. The Movement warmly welcomes the successful convening and the participation of many world leaders in the first-ever High-level meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament, organized last month at the initiative of the Movement.
3. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the greatest threat to peace posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and the doctrines of the NWS and NATO that set out rationales for the use or threat of use of such weapons. NAM strongly calls for the complete exclusion of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from such military doctrines. Moreover, threatening non-nuclear-weapon States with nuclear weapons should be ended.
4. The Movement expresses its concern over the lack of progress by the NWS to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals. The World has waited too long for nuclear disarmament. The indefinite possession of nuclear weapons cannot be tolerated nor can their complete elimination be further delayed. Nuclear-weapon States have the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament. NAM once again renews its strong call upon the NWS to fully comply with their long overdue legal obligations and unequivocal

undertakings to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons without further delay, in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner.

5. As modernization of nuclear weapons undercuts efforts for their total abolition, the Movement also calls on the NWS to immediately cease their plans to further modernize, upgrade, refurbish, or extend the lives of their nuclear weapons and related facilities.
6. The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use. Until that goal is achieved, NAM reaffirms the need for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to all NNWS, as a matter of high priority.
7. NAM strongly calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations, in the CD, for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, which prohibits their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and provides for their destruction.
8. NAM believes that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation reinforce each other and are essential for strengthening international peace and security. Legitimacy of nuclear non-proliferation measures stems from nuclear disarmament. Pursuing non-proliferation alone while ignoring nuclear disarmament is both counterproductive and unsustainable. NAM emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements.
9. NAM is of the firm belief that non-proliferation policies shall not undermine the inalienable right of States to acquire, have access to, import or export material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes.
10. NAM States Parties to the NPT call for the full and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Treaty and final documents of its Review Conferences. In this context, they express their determination to continue pursuing, during the 2015 review process of the Treaty, the realization of their priorities, particularly nuclear disarmament.
11. NAM continues its strong support for the establishment in the Middle East of a nuclear-weapon-free zone. Pending its establishment, NAM demands that Israel, the only country in the region that has not joined the NPT nor declared its intention to do so, renounce any possession of nuclear weapons, accede to the NPT without precondition and further delay, and place promptly all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards. The Movement also calls for the total and complete prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel.

12. NAM States Parties to the NPT stresses the importance of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, which reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East and express deep concern over the delay in its implementation and urge the three co-sponsors of the Resolution to fulfil their responsibility in taking all necessary measures to fully implement it without any further delay.
13. In this context, NAM State Parties to the NPT express their profound disappointment that the conference on the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East due to have been held in 2012 has not yet been convened, despite the consensus decision of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. This is also contrary to the 1995 resolution on the Middle East. They strongly reject the alleged impediments presented by the Conveners for not convening the Conference on schedule and urge them to convene the Conference without any further delay to avoid any further possible negative repercussions on the effectiveness and credibility of the NPT, its 2015 Review process and the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole.
14. NAM also calls upon all NWS to ratify related protocols to all treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, withdraw any reservations or interpretative declarations incompatible with their object and purpose, and respect the de-nuclearization status of these zones.
15. NAM also stresses the significance of achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, including by all NWS, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament. The Movement reiterates that if the objectives of the Treaty were to be fully realized, the continued commitment of all States signatories, especially the NWS, to nuclear disarmament would be essential. In this context, the ratification of the CTBT by Chad, Guinea Bissau, and Iraq is welcomed.

Mr. Chairman,

16. The high level participation and strong support to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, expressed at the recent High-level Meeting of the General Assembly, underscore once again that nuclear disarmament remains the highest priority, as recognized in SSOD-I, and is critical to international peace and security.
17. In order to sustain the positive momentum garnered by this high-level meeting in taking forward the nuclear disarmament agenda, the Movement is presenting a draft resolution

entitled "Follow-up to the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament", for which it calls for the support of all delegations.

18. In the draft resolution, the Movement proposes key actions to be taken to further the objective of having a world free of nuclear weapons, as follows:

- a. **First**, early commencement of negotiations, in the Conference on Disarmament, on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons for the prohibition of their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and destruction.
- b. **Second**, designation of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons devoted to furthering the objective of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, and to raise awareness and education about the threat posed by such weapons to humanity.
- c. **Third**, convening a High-level International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament in five years to review progress in this regard.

19. What makes the core elements of this draft resolution unique is its comprehensiveness and inclusiveness. The resolution proposes early commencement of negotiations, in the CD, on a Comprehensive Nuclear-Weapons Convention which would enable this sole multilateral disarmament negotiating body to resume its substantive work on nuclear disarmament. We hope that all Member States, particularly those who have expressed concerns over the logjam of disarmament machinery, would be able to support this resolution.

Mr. Chairman,

20. With greater political will and undertaking our respective given commitments on nuclear disarmament, let us redouble our efforts resolutely to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons at the earliest.

Thank you.