



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



Statement by

the

Delegation of the Republic of Uganda

On behalf of the Group of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

At the 2nd Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation on Nuclear Weapons

General Debate

Geneva, July 2024

Mr. Chair,

1. On behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, I congratulate you on your assumption of the Chairmanship of this second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties of the Treaty. Allow me also to congratulate other Bureau Members on their election.
2. We extend our confidence in your leadership to steward the work of the session in a result-oriented and meaningful manner. We assure you of our constructive participation.

Mr. Chair,

3. In 2022, we witnessed the second consecutive failure of the Review Conference to agree on a consensual outcome document. This is without precedent since the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995, and the Group has expressed its disappointment over this failure, despite the efforts made by NAM delegations.
4. Given the crucial role of the NPT in international security and as the cornerstone of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, all efforts must be made to ensure meaningful and ambitious outcome.
5. The Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty emphasized that progress in nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects is indispensable to strengthening international peace and security. The realization of the objectives of the Treaty, and thereby its long-term success, relevance and credibility, depend on full and effective implementation of all the obligations under the Treaty, and the agreements and commitments reached at its Review Conferences, including the 1995 Review and Indefinite Extension Conference. In this context, the Group reiterates that the full, non-discriminatory and balanced implementation of the three pillars of the NPT is crucial



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for maintaining its credibility, realizing its objectives, and promoting international peace and security.

6. The Second Session of the Preparatory Committee is an opportunity to achieve tangible progress including on achieving the universality of the Treaty and identifying the areas in which, and the means through which, further progress should be sought in the future to ensure the full, effective, and balanced implementation of the Treaty.

Mr. Chair,

7. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties reaffirms once again its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which is its highest priority, and remain extremely concerned at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use. We continue to reiterate that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
8. The Group reaffirms its principled positions on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. Non-proliferation derives its legitimacy from the larger objective of nuclear disarmament. The Group emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements, as it was reaffirmed in the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion, negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.
9. The Group welcomes the multilateral efforts towards nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. We take note of the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on 22 January 2021 as well as its first and second meetings of States Parties. It is hoped that the Treaty would contribute to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. NAM States Parties to the TPNW and Signatories are fully committed to its implementation and are engaging constructively in preparation for the Third Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW in 2025 towards achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.
10. The Group stresses the urgent necessity of negotiating and bringing to a conclusion, a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, containing also a phased program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame.
11. The Group reiterates its deep concern over the greatest threat to peace and security posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and related military doctrines, modernization of nuclear forces, and development of more effective and newer, including low-yield nuclear warheads as well as other policies and practices that run



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contrary to the principles and objectives of the Treaty such as the continued and evolving nuclear weapons sharing arrangements and extended deterrence. The Group strongly calls for an immediate end to this trend that in fact is a new nuclear-arms race and thus a clear violation of Article VI of the Treaty.

12. Indefinite extension of the Treaty does not imply the indefinite possession of nuclear arsenals. The Group strongly calls for the implementation of Article VI of the Treaty. This is an explicit legal obligation of all the Parties and its implementation is neither optional nor conditional.
13. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the Group calls for the early commencement of negotiations on effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory, irrevocable and legally binding negative security assurances to all Non-Nuclear Weapon States by all the Nuclear Weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances as a matter of high priority. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, it also calls upon Nuclear Weapon States to commit to a policy of no-first-use of nuclear weapons, as an interim measure and not as a substitute to nuclear disarmament.
14. Strict observance of and adherence to IAEA comprehensive safeguards and to the Treaty are conditions for any cooperation in the nuclear area with States not parties to the Treaty. All States parties to the Treaty shall refrain from the transfer of nuclear technology and materials to States not party to the Treaty unless these conditions are met.

Mr. Chair,

15. The cycle of the eleventh Review Conference, including the [second](#) session of the Preparatory Committee, must reaffirm the importance and continued validity of the commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Treaty, on nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy and should also call for their complete fulfillment.
16. The Group reaffirms the important role of the nuclear-weapon-free zones in fulfilling the objectives of the Treaty and supports the full operation and strengthening of treaties establishing such zones, including through ratification of their relevant protocols and removal of any and all reservations and interpretative declarations incompatible with their object and purpose.

17. The Group once again expresses its longstanding strong support for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East and the great contribution to regional and international peace and security it will represent. The Group further underlines the prime importance of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, which is an integral and essential part of the package of decisions reached without a vote that enabled the indefinite extension of the NPT in 1995. Pending its establishment, The Group demands that Israel, the only non-party to the NPT in the region 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.
18. The Group expresses its disappointment that, as the result of opposition by the US, UK and Canada in the 2015 NPT Review Conference, consensus on new measures regarding the implementation of the 1995 resolution was not achieved.
19. In this regard, the Group welcomes United Nations General Assembly Decision 73/546, the convening of four successful Sessions of the Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and acknowledges their constructive outcomes. The Group stresses that the 1995 resolution and other decisions on the subject adopted within the context of the NPT Review Conferences remain valid until the objectives are achieved, and that the implementation of Decision 73/546 is without prejudice to their validity and shall not also be construed as their replacement. The Group calls upon Israel to participate in the Conference and engage with it constructively and in good faith, with a view to agreeing on arrangements freely arrived at by the countries of the region. We call upon ~~any~~ Nuclear Weapon States, namely the three co-sponsors of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the other two nuclear-weapon States, that have not already done so, to attend the Conference and support its important work.
20. NAM recalls the successful conclusion of nuclear negotiations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and E3/EU+3, resulting in the finalization of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on 14 July 2015 adopted by Security Council Resolution 2231. NAM calls for its full implementation by all its participants and underlines that this agreement shows once again that dialogue and diplomacy are the most appropriate means to resolve such issues, as NAM has always advocated.

Mr. Chair,

21. The Group has submitted 8 Working Papers to this Preparatory Committee, which represent our detailed positions on the various related issues.

22. Allow me to conclude by underscoring the importance of renewed political will by all States parties to achieve the successful conclusion of this Preparatory Committee session. The Group stands ready to engage constructively towards this objective and to attain a peaceful and secure world for present and future generations.

Thank you.