



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY
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TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN VIENNA

ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED STATES PARTIES
TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

ON CLUSTER I

AT

THE THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2005
REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-
PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to deliver a statement on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT on Cluster I of issues in particular on nuclear disarmament. The position of the Group on this issue is as contained in the statement made by my delegation during the General Debate on 26 April 2004. Nonetheless, the Group wishes to highlight important points as follows :

- 1.1 The NPT remains a key instrument in the efforts to halt the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons and an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament.
- 1.2 The lack of progress towards achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons remains a cause of concern despite some reports of bilateral and unilateral reductions. While noting the signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reduction between the Russian Federation and the United States on 24 May 2002, the Group stresses that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons. The non-entry into force of START II is a setback to the 13 practical steps in the field of nuclear disarmament adopted at the 2000 Review Conference.
- 1.3 The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT emphasises that the development of new types of nuclear weapons is contrary to the guarantees given by the nuclear-weapon-states at the time of the conclusion of the CTBT, namely, that the Treaty would prevent the improvement of existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons. Pending the entry into force of the treaty, States should refrain from any actions contrary to its objectives and purpose. The lack of progress in the early entry into force of the CTBT remains a cause of concern.
- 1.4 The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT reiterates its call for a full implementation of the unequivocal undertaking given by the nuclear-weapon-states at the 2000 Review Conference to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament. This undertaking should be demonstrated without delay through an accelerated process of negotiations and through the full implementation of the 13 practical steps to advance systematically and progressively toward a nuclear-weapon-free world as agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference.
- 1.5 The strategic defense doctrines that set out the rationales for the use of nuclear weapons, as demonstrated by the recent policy review by one of the nuclear-weapon-states to consider expanding the circumstances under which these weapons could be used, remains a cause of deep concern.

- 1.6 The abrogation of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missiles (ABM) has brought new challenges to strategic stability and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. The Group remains concerned that the implementation of a national missile defence system could trigger an arms race or arms races, the further development of advanced missile systems and an increase in the number of nuclear weapons. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/36, the Group emphasizes the urgent need for the commencement of substantive work, in the Conference on Disarmament, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.
 - 1.7 The continued inflexible postures of some nuclear-weapon-states have prevented the Conference on Disarmament from establishing an Ad Hoc Committee on nuclear disarmament is regretted. Negotiations on a phased program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention is necessary and should commence without delay. In this regard, the Group reiterates its call to establish, as soon as possible, and as the highest priority, an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament.
 - 1.8 The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT underlines the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.
 - 1.9 The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT is concerned over the continued inability of the Conference on Disarmament to resume its negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons and other explosive devices, taking into account both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives.
2. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT wishes to emphasise once again the importance of the full and non-selective implementation of the Treaty's obligations.
3. I would also like to emphasise that the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT believes that this Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 NPT Review Conference should also substantially focus on the issue of security assurances. At the 2000 NPT Review Conference, the NPT States Parties had "agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear weapon States to the non-nuclear weapon States parties strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime" and had called on the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference on this issue.

4. I would also recall that the XIII NAM Heads of State or Government Summit Declaration had expressed serious concern that the development of new types of nuclear weapons are being considered, and reiterated that the provision for the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States is in contravention of the negative security assurances that have been provided by the nuclear weapon States. The NAM Heads of State or Government had also restated that the development of new types of nuclear weapons is in contravention with the assurances provided by the nuclear weapon States at the time of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty that the Treaty would prevent the improvement of existing nuclear weapons and development of new types of nuclear weapons.

5. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT underscores that the indefinite extension of the NPT does not imply the indefinite possession by the nuclear weapon States of their nuclear arsenals, and considers, in this regard, that any assumption of indefinite possession of nuclear weapons is incompatible with the integrity and sustainability of the nuclear non-proliferation regime both vertical and horizontal, and with the broader objective of maintaining international peace and security. The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The Group of Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its conviction that pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear weapon States should be pursued as a matter of priority.

6. In keeping with the abovementioned position and in accordance with the decision at the 2000 Review Conference that this Preparatory Committee makes recommendations to the 2005 NPT Review Conference on the issue of security assurances, the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT still considers that specific time should be allocated in the Programme of Work at this Session of the Preparatory Committee, for the deliberations on security assurances and calls for the establishment of a subsidiary body at the 2005 NPT Review Conference for further work to be undertaken.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.