



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



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**STATEMENT BY H.E AMBASSADOR ABELARDO MORENO, PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP  
OF NON-ALIGNED STATES PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION  
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**General Debate of the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review  
Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear  
Weapons. New York, 4 May 2009**

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chair of the Third Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2010 Review Conference. We are convinced that under your able stewardship, this important Prepcom Meeting will prepare us for a successful NPT Review Conference in 2010.

**[Assessment of current situation]**

Mr. Chairman,

We meet at a challenging time, one in which opportunity to achieve progress in the disarmament pillar –long neglected by key states-- is now in sight. The U.S. and the Russian Federation are increasingly willing to reconsider the number and type of nuclear weapons that they harbor and to reduce their stockpiles, building on previous agreements. Their announcement to work towards implementation of Article VI of the NPT is indeed a welcome gesture. Concrete steps towards total elimination of nuclear weapons by nuclear weapons states should follow in an irreversible, verifiable and transparent manner.

In facing such positive momentum, we should all make every effort to help create an atmosphere conducive for forward movement in our goals to strengthen the NPT regime and thus provide humankind with the needed security from the perennial threats of nuclear weapons.

Procedural matters, such as the Presidency of the Review Conference, provisional agenda, draft rules of procedures and background documentations should be resolved during this Preparatory Committee meeting. Along with it, states parties should focus on reaching common objectives rather than on their differences.

**[Nuclear disarmament]**

Mr. Chairman,

Despite the above-mentioned promising signals, achieving the goal of nuclear disarmament still has a long way to go. The NAM States Parties to the NPT therefore remains convinced of its long-standing principled positions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as contained in the documents pertaining to the NAM summits and conferences on this subject. We remain fully committed to the obligations and commitments under the NPT, as well as the agreements that were reached among States Parties at the Review Conferences of 1995 and 2000.

We affirm that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee that there will be no use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The full implementation of the 13 practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement the disarmament obligation of the Treaty, particularly the unequivocal undertaking by the NWS to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, continues to be important. The Review Conference should call for developing a specific timeframe for the implementation of Article VI and a mechanism to verify the compliance of NWS with their obligation. Therefore we see as crucial, the establishment of a subsidiary body on nuclear disarmament, in Main Committee I, mandated to focus on the issue of fulfillment of the obligations under Article VI and further practical measures required to achieve progress in this regard.

**[NSA]**

Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons should be pursued as a matter of priority. These assurances will undoubtedly strengthen the Treaty. In this regard, we seek the establishment of a subsidiary body on security assurances for further work to be undertaken to consider legally-binding security assurances.

**[3 pillars of NPT]**

Mr. Chairman,

The NPT is the key international instrument aimed at halting the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, and achieving nuclear disarmament. A balanced implementation of its three pillars, namely: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear technology, in a non-discriminatory manner, is essential for the effectiveness of achieving its objectives. NAM calls upon all States Parties, both the nuclear weapon and the non nuclear weapon States, to recognize the importance of the full and non-selective implementation of the three pillars.

The Treaty seeks to ensure a balance between the mutual obligations and responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, and that of the non-nuclear weapon States. It should be clear that the indefinite extension of the NPT does not imply the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the nuclear-weapon States.

**[NWFZ]**

Mr. Chairman,

NAM States Parties to the NPT welcome efforts aimed at establishing nuclear-weapon free zones (NWFZ) in all regions of the world and call for cooperation and consultations in order to achieve agreement freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned. Thus the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones created by the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free-status represents a positive step and important measure towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

**[Middle East]**

Mr. Chairman,

We are aggrieved that the nuclear weapons States and those states remaining outside of the NPT continue to develop and modernize their nuclear arsenals at the expense of international peace and security, particularly in the Middle East.

In this connection, we reiterate our support for the establishment of NWFZ in the Middle East. To this end, we reaffirm the need for a speedy establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East, in accordance with the Security Council resolution 487 (1981), and the relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted by consensus. We further recall that the 1995 resolution on the Middle East was an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the basis on which the NPT was indefinitely extended and that the resolution remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved.

The NAM States Parties recall that the 2000 NPT Review Conference had reaffirmed the importance of Israel's accession to the NPT, and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive IAEA safeguards, for realizing the universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East. In this respect, NAM once again requests the establishment of a subsidiary body to Main Committee II of the 2010 Review Conference, for considering and recommending proposals on the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference.

**[PUNE]**

Mr. Chairman,

Nothing in the aforementioned discussion should detract from the provisions for the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. NAM States Parties to the Treaty reiterate the inalienable right of States Parties to research, produce, and use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, without discrimination. The free, unimpeded and non-discriminatory transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes should be fully assured.

As it was highlighted in the Final Document of the NPT 2000 Review Conference "*each country's choices and decisions in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be respected without jeopardizing its policies or international cooperation agreements and*

*arrangements for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its fuel-cycle policies.*" The provisions of Article IV of the Treaty are very explicit in this regard, leaving neither room for interpretation of the Treaty nor setting conditions for the peaceful use of nuclear energy by non-nuclear weapons States. Undue restrictions which have been applied to developing States parties to the Treaty have caused damages that should be remedied.

**[nuclear cooperation]**

Mr. Chairman,

NWS, in cooperation among themselves, and with NNWS, as well as with the States not Parties to the Treaty, must refrain from sharing of nuclear know-how for military purposes under any kind of security arrangements. Without exception, there should also be a 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, scientific or technological fields to States, which are not Parties to the Treaty.

The recent developments in particular the nuclear cooperation agreement with a non-party to the NPT is a matter of great concern, since in accordance with that agreement nuclear materials can be transferred to un-safeguarded facilities in violation of Article III, paragraph 2 of the NPT which stipulates that cooperation of each State Party to the Treaty in providing equipment or material for peaceful purposes is not possible "*unless the source or special fissionable material shall be subject to the safeguards required by*" the NPT. The 1995 decisions and principles and objective of nuclear non-proliferation further strongly confirms comprehensive safeguards as a condition for cooperation with non NPT parties in the nuclear field.

**[Article X]**

With regard to Article X of the Treaty on the right of "withdrawal", NAM believes that the Treaty is very clear on this issue. We recall the NAM position on this issue when it was first raised in 2005. "*NAM States Parties to the NPT consider that proposals on this issue go beyond the provisions of the NPT. NAM Member Countries believe that the right of "withdrawal" of member States from treaties or conventions should be governed by international treaty law.*"

Mr. Chairman,

We are greatly disappointed that the last Review Conference failed to produce a final outcome document, due to lengthy discussions and disagreements about procedural matters. This situation diverted us from the critical discussion over the operation of the Treaty and the implementation of the commitments and outcomes agreed by consensus at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences. So as not to repeat our mistakes of the past, let us move forward constructively to an early consensus on the remaining procedural issues, so as to open a path toward the review of the operation of the Treaty, and outcomes of the previous Review Conferences.

The NPT is a cornerstone of the nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament regime; it protects the world from the colossal damage of a potential nuclear war that would devastate us all. We must relentlessly pursue our aim of universalization of the regime and its total commitment and adherence by all States, while providing equal weight to the three pillars of disarmament, non-proliferation, and the pursuit of lawful nuclear energy sources. In this respect, we should reactivate our collective efforts towards the accession of the remaining three non-State Parties that possess nuclear weapons as non-nuclear weapon States and without any precondition.

NAM State Parties to the Treaty reiterate the call for all delegations to work toward strengthening the NPT regime, towards the goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons and the dangers associated with it. A window of potential cooperation has been opened, but for it to be truly realized, all States Parties must participate and do their part to hold up the bargain.

The NAM State Parties to the NPT stands prepared to ensure that we will cooperate constructively and actively to achieve concrete outcomes of this important Preparatory Committee.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.