



ALGERIA

الجزائر

Permanent Mission of Algeria
to the United Nations
New York

بعثة الجزائر الدائمة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

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**77th session of the General Assembly
First Committee Thematic discussion**

Cluster 1: Nuclear Weapons

Statement of Mr. Nazim Khaldi,

First Secretary

New York, 17 October 2022

Mr. Chairman,

Nuclear disarmament will remain our highest priority, as long as the threat posed by the nuclear weapons exists.

The dangers of NW have been demonstrated through their past use and testing and their potential catastrophic humanitarian consequences have been reflected in multiple UN resolutions, including the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly in 1946, and the SSOD1, in 1978.

Nuclear disarmament is not only a legal obligation, as declared by the ICJ legal opinion back in 1996, but also an ethical imperative.

Mr. Chairman,

The continued lack of progress on implementing nuclear disarmament obligations, despite unrelenting efforts of the majority of Member States for achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, is a matter of great concern.

Against this backdrop, Algeria wishes to underline the following position on nuclear disarmament:

First, Algeria remains fully committed to all the provisions of the NPT and continues to advocate for the full, balanced, and non-discriminatory implementation of its three pillars. While we urge all parties outside the NPT to join it without delay or condition, we call on the NWS, which bear the primary responsibility in achieving nuclear disarmament, to fulfil their obligations under

Article VI of the treaty and translate into facts their unequivocal undertakings related to nuclear disarmament.

In this respect, Algeria expresses its deep regrets over the failure of the 10th NPT Review Conference and calls on all the NPT State parties, especially the NWS to engage meaningfully and in *bona-fide* in the next review cycle of the NPT, towards achieving a world free of nuclear weapons and thus preserving the credibility of the Treaty.

Second, Algeria welcomes the entry into force of the TPNW and further welcomes the convening of its First Meeting of States Parties, last June. Algeria is encouraged by the adoption of the “Vienna Declaration” and the “Vienna Action Plan”, as an ambitious steps towards facilitating an effective and timely implementation of the Treaty.

Third, Algeria remains convinced of the vital necessity of the entry into force of the CTBT as a core element of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

We call on the remaining eight (8) annex II countries, to sign and ratify the CTBT without delay, so to reap the benefit of this significant instrument.

Fourth, Algeria strongly supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones all over the world as a concrete measure towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

My country that was among the first African States to ratify the PELINDABA Treaty, establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone in

Africa continuous to provide a strong support to its wide implementation.

Furthermore, my country reaffirms the vital importance of the establishment of the Middle East free zone of nuclear weapons and other WMDs, which remains a legitimate demand and a priority for a sustaining peace both regionally and globally.

In this context, Algeria welcomes the successful convening of the second session of the Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other WMDs. We call on all invited parties to constructively participate in its third session, in November 2023, to negotiate a legally binding Treaty that satisfies the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East.

Fifth, Algeria stresses the urgent need for the conclusion of a legally binding and irrevocable instrument on Negative security assurances to all non-nuclear weapons States.

Sixth, Algeria stresses the urgent necessity of negotiating and bringing to a conclusion a non-discriminatory, multilateral and verifiable Treaty banning the production of fissile material, in accordance with the mandate of CD/1299.

Finally, my delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the African Group and the Arab Group under this cluster.

I thank you.