



THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM  
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**STATEMENT**

**by Ms. Tran Thi Thanh Hai, Second Secretary,  
Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations  
at the thematic discussion on Nuclear Weapons  
of the First Committee of the Seventy-Seventh Session  
of the United Nations General Assembly**

*New York, 18 October 2022*

*Mr. Chair,*

My delegation associates itself with the statements of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

*Mr. Chair,*

The theme of this year's session of the General Assembly is apt and pertinent, especially with regard to the work of our Committee. The nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime is facing interlocking challenges resulting from the increasingly complex international security environment and the development of new technologies. The danger of a nuclear arms race and the shadow of a nuclear war are looming large over our planet. In a recent statement, the Secretary-General cautioned against the danger of forgetting the terrible lessons of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the Cold War.

Therefore, Viet Nam reaffirms its consistent policy of supporting all efforts on non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons. We share the concern that the global non-proliferation and disarmament regime is under severe strain. Accordingly, it is necessary to strengthen efforts to rise up to the emerging challenges, including establishing new mechanisms to promote strategic arms reduction and control among major nuclear weapons states. We join others in underscoring the need to advance legally-binding negative security assurances by Nuclear Weapon States to non-nuclear weapon states.

*Mr. Chair,*

Viet Nam highly appreciates all efforts in convening of the Tenth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) last August. However, we regret that the Ninth and Tenth Review Conference of NPT consecutively failed to adopt a consensus outcome document which could have provided us with better momentum towards general and complete disarmament. We urge all Member States, particular Nuclear Weapons States, to redouble their efforts for the implementation of the Treaty, particularly Article VI thereof, in the next review cycle.

In the face of such setbacks, we welcome the success of the first meeting of State Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) with the adoption of a declaration and an action plan. Given the potential catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons to human health, livelihood and environment, my delegation encourages other states to sign and ratify the TPNW as soon as possible.

The universalization and early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is also important for our common goal of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with the accession of the remaining States listed in the Annex 2 of the CTBT being critical. Besides, we also support an early start of negotiation of a treaty on fissile materials.

*Mr. Chair,*

Such international efforts should go hand in hand with those at regional levels. ASEAN member states are committed to making Southeast Asia a zone free of Nuclear Weapons and look forward to working closely with the Nuclear Weapon States for their early signature and ratification of the Protocol of the Bangkok Treaty in this regard. We fully support further efforts for strengthening other nuclear weapon-free zones and establishing such a zone in the Middle East. We stress the importance of pursuing dialogue and negotiations for peace, security and development on the Korean Peninsula.

Viet Nam joins other member states in reiterating the inalienable right of states to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. We commend the important role of IAEA as a multilateral channel for promoting peaceful applications of nuclear technology. We highly appreciate and looks forward to further cooperation with and support from IAEA.

*Mr. Chair,*

The world can never be truly free from potential disasters made by nuclear weapons until these weapons are completely prohibited and eliminated. Let me conclude by reaffirming Viet Nam's strong commitment to contributing constructively to the efforts of international community toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

*I thank you./.*