

PERMANENT MISSION OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

General Debate

Remarks by Mr. Davit Knyazyan,

Chargés d'affaires ad interim of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations 2 August 2022

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on the assumption of the Presidency of the 10th NPT Review Conference and wish you all the success in steering the discussions to successful conclusion. We also commend your efforts in preparation of the conference under very challenging circumstances.

Throughout decades the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has played a key role in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and its technology, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and advancing the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. Its effective implementation is crucial for the security of each member of the international community and for the entire humanity.

In this regard Armenia attaches great importance to the full, comprehensive and effective implementation of the NPT. Its three pillars, namely non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful use are equally important and mutually reinforcing.

We note that there are different approaches regarding the disarmament pillar. We strongly believe that disarmament agenda should be further pushed forward in accordance with the spirit and letter of the NPT. There are necessary steps, the realization of which will contribute to the

further disarmament efforts and the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is amongst them.

The NPT has laid necessary grounds for the global development of peaceful atom. The safe use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is a priority for the Republic of Armenia. Being a country with an operating nuclear power plant, Armenia pursues a transparent and open policy for safe and peaceful uses of atomic energy and will continue to further undertake necessary measures to maintain and enhance the nuclear and radiation safety.

In this respect we appreciate the crucial role of the cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency through its safeguards agreements and additional protocol, as well as its technical assistance program.

Mr. President,

We believe that the 10th Review Conference gains particular relevance in light of the current turbulent international environment. It provides a unique opportunity for the international community to reiterate its commitment to the values and principles of the NPT.

We look forward to the constructive and meaningful deliberations and a positive outcome which will bring us closer to the realization of the objectives of the NPT in the interest of all of us.

Thank you.