

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya To the United Nations, New York Security Council -2021-2022

CR 4

TENTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

MAIN COMMITTEE III

Implementation of the Provisions of the Treaty Relating to the Inalienable Right of All Parties to the Treaty to Develop Research, Production and Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes

MONDAY, 8 AUGUST 2022

STATEMENT BY AMB. NJAMBI KINYUNGU CHARGE D' AFFAIRES, A.I.

Thank you, Madam Chair,

1. Kenya aligns with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the Non-Aligned Movement by the distinguished Representatives of Indonesia and Nigeria respectively.

I will now make a statement in our national capacity.

- 2. Kenya underscores the importance of the continued respect of the inalienable right of ALL States to access and engage in research and development of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.
- 3. Article 4 of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty indicates that ALL countries have a duty to promote and cooperate in the peaceful exploitation of nuclear technology, while at the same time, and in conformity with the other Articles of the Treaty, make all efforts in the area of non-proliferation and complete nuclear disarmament.
- 4. Kenya reaffirms that the pursuit of developing nuclear technology must however remain within the framework, protocol, and safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). We therefore encourage an environment where all nations espousing peaceful uses of nuclear technology have the leeway to do so without undue interference.

- 5. Kenya as a member of the IAEA has benefited tremendously from technical cooperation projects with the Agency and other partners, including in the Health, Agriculture, Water, Industry and Energy sectors under our national Vision 2030 and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 6. Given the important role of the IAEA in developing nuclear technology and know-how and being the vehicle for their transfer to and among States, we urge the Review Conference to call for enhanced efforts to fund the activities of the IAEA.
- 7. In support of the IAEA, Kenya participated and financially contributed to the Renovation of Nuclear Application Laboratories (ReNuAL) 1 and 2 projects.
- 8. We believe that the renovated laboratories will play a critical role in assisting and strengthening the capacity of countries to contextually address a range of existing and evolving development challenges in different areas including in human health and agriculture.

Madam Chair and dear Colleagues,

9. My delegation is of the view that its critical for the outcome of this Conference to include clear and action-oriented recommendations to further expand resources and enhance access to the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology, in achieving national development objectives.

- 10. Lessons learnt from implementation of Kenya national projects through cooperation with IAEA and development partners in various sectors such as of 1) Human health (nuclear technology for cancer treatment and Nuclear Science And Technology In Covid 19 Testing & Diagnosis)
 2) Agriculture development and production of drought of seeds crop and animal forage 3) Climate Change-Kenya is developing the mid-century -2050 Long-Term Strategy for a low carbon development pathway under the Paris Agreement with nuclear energy as one of the sources to be used 4) Manufacturing and 5) Water resource management also point to the funding, infrastructure, human resources and capacity needed to facilitate the sustainability of peaceful uses of nuclear energy
- 11. My delegation would therefore recommend that outcome document from this Conference should: -

Firstly, put emphasis on the need to enhance domestic research, infrastructure development, manufacturing facilities and specialised local training when it comes to the peaceful use of nuclear technology in human health and other areas.

Secondly, call for the establishment of laboratories and access to research centres as part of knowledge exchange and cooperation with Non- Nuclear Weapon embarking/developing countries.

Thirdly, the Conference should recognise the important role of nuclear energy in mitigating against climate change, decarbonization and transition to low carbon energy in a framework that is beneficial to developing countries who should not bear this burden.

Fourthly, we therefore urge International Financial Institutions (IFS) and Development Banks to consider including such projects as priority areas to finance. Financing support should also be provided to embarking/developing countries through the clean financing mechanism in the Conference of the Parties (CoPs).

Fifthly, ensuring safety from radiation, and comprehensive regulation of nuclear science and technology to cover the 3Ss- Safety, Security and Safeguards remain pertinent. We therefore call for enhanced research, exchange forums and establishment of the needed infrastructure when it comes to radioactive waste management including deep geological disposal and retrievability of high-level waste (HLW).

- 12. **Chair**, these examples pertaining to the importance of Pillar III cannot be overemphasized.
- 13. **As I conclude**, I also point to the importance of raising awareness and sharing of good practices and benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology through regular high-level conferences on the positive impact of nuclear science and technology. Also, setting up of a centralized portal that reflects such benefits and serves to

demystify the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, should be considered.

- 14. **And** in this regard the Conference could identify or even appoint peaceful nuclear ambassadors who can work with policy makers to further implement Pillar III of the NPT.
- 15. My delegation remains committed to the work of this Conference.

Full detail statement can be found online.

I THANK YOU.