

Closing Statement

TPNW Supporting States

Mr. President,

I am taking the floor on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cape Verde, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, The Holy See, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zambia, and my own country Mexico, States Parties and Signatories of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Thank you, Mr. President for your hard work to try to achieve a substantive outcome for this Review Conference. We also recognize the efforts and professionalism of the entire bureau and the secretariat. We regret that the final document could not be adopted. Nevertheless, we reiterate our support for the NPT as the cornerstone of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and will continue working to further its implementation in spirit and letter, by all its States parties.

Mr. President,

Both the TPNW's First Meeting of States Parties and this conference have taken place at a critical time, when the risk of the use of nuclear weapons is high, and the possibility of the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons is looming ominously over us. We are dismayed that this very fact has been used at the NPT review conference deliberations as reason against the urgently needed progress on nuclear disarmament, and to uphold an approach to security based on the fallacy of nuclear deterrence. This approach relies on the threat of the actual use of nuclear weapons and, hence, the risks of the destruction of countless lives, of

societies, of nations, and of inflicting global catastrophic consequences. We are adamant that the existence of nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence doctrines diminish and threaten the common security of all states; indeed, they threaten our very survival.

At the opening of this Conference, the UN Secretary-General said that we have survived by mere luck, but, as he concluded, “luck is not a strategy” .

Mr. President,

We entered the NPT review conference in a constructive spirit and backed by evidence and new findings on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks of nuclear weapons, by the entry into force of the TPNW and by an ambitious programme and commitment to a world without nuclear weapons agreed at the TPNW’s first meeting of States Parties.

We strove for a result that should not only be acceptable to all but that would actually advance the objectives of the NPT and strengthen the treaty itself.

While the document before us points to the urgency to act upon the unacceptable humanitarian consequences and risks of nuclear weapons, it then falls dramatically short of advancing nuclear disarmament and actually implementing Article VI of the NPT or even concretely addressing the serious risks inherent in nuclear weapons.

Mr. President,

We, the TPNW-supporting states are committed to the NPT and are fully implementing our obligations under the NPT and under other treaties such as those establishing nuclear weapons free-zones. In fact, our efforts to negotiate and bring into force the TPNW are themselves the clearest expression of commitment to the NPT that reinforces our commitment to non-proliferation and to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons. After the past few weeks, it is, however, again obvious that new momentum is needed to achieve the goals of the NPT.

As TPNW-supporting states, we have no illusions about the challenges and obstacles that lie before us. But we move ahead with optimism and resolve. In the face of the catastrophic risks

posed by nuclear weapons and in the interest of the very survival of humanity, we cannot do otherwise. We will take every path that is open to us, and work persistently to open those that are still closed. We will not rest until the last state has joined the TPNW, the last warhead has been irreversibly dismantled and destroyed and nuclear weapons have been totally eliminated from the Earth.

We therefore urge all states committed to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons to join the TPNW without delay.

This statement will be open for endorsement by more of the States Parties and Signatories of the TPNW.

Thank you.