



# MYANMAR

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**Statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of the  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations**

at the General Debate of the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the  
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

(New York, 3 August 2022)

**Mr. President,**

At the outset, I wish to congratulate you on your election as the President of the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation for the successful outcome of this Review Conference. Myanmar associates itself with statements made by Cambodia on behalf of ASEAN and Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. I wish to make the following points on my national capacity.

Convening of this long overdue Review Conference offers the state parties an opportunity to reflect and evaluate their implementations and commitments on the norms and principles of the NPT treaty. It is also the time for the states to discuss and exchange strategies on the future implementations of the treaty, in order to double the multilateral efforts for nuclear disarmament. It is utmost important to transform commitments and agreements into their effective and concrete implementations.

Currently, there exist over 12,700 nuclear warheads across the world, and still counting. It might take only one of them to detonate at a strategic location,

whether by design or accident, to destroy our ways of lives on a global scale. Nuclear disaster will not come alone, but bring environment disaster, humanitarian disaster, economic crisis, health problems and the likes. There have been a number of nuclear close calls in the past to remind us that a nuclear disaster is just a few keystrokes away. Therefore, I wish to reiterate the firm belief of Myanmar that the only guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is nothing other than their total eliminations in a verifiable and irreversible manner.

**Mr. President,**

The NPT has always been the most practical universal instrument to stop nuclear weapons and promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy. As such, we need to strengthen it, which can only be done by fulfilling our obligations and commitments under the Treaty and decisions reached in past Review Conferences. While majority of Treaty members without nuclear weapons have put considerable measures in place to implement the pillars of non-proliferation and peaceful applications of nuclear energy, nuclear-armed states have not pursued the disarmament pillar with corresponding urgency.

We are of the view that peaceful use of nuclear energy should be encouraged. However, it is paramount important that the development of such nuclear energy must be in compliance with IAEA's guidelines. Thus, we all need to further strengthen our support towards the IAEA. At the same time, ensuring safety of nuclear facilities is vital. We condemn the attacks on nuclear facilities at under any circumstance, anywhere, anytime, and by anyone.

Also alarming is the record number of ballistic missiles launched by the DPRK this year. The DPRK's nuclear program comes at the cost of regional security and wellbeing of millions of North Korean citizens. We urge the DPRK to exercise self-restraint and comply fully with relevant UNSC resolutions in the interest of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula.

**Mr. President,**

While recognizing that the NPT is the primary instrument that drives global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agenda, we are of the view that the TPNW is complement the implementation of NPT in particular article 4 of NPT, and will further solidify norms against nuclear weapons.

The entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty will be another critical phase towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Myanmar once again calls on Annex II states whose ratifications are essential for the entry-into-force to ratify the Treaty at their earliest opportunity.

As a state party to the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, we believe these zones are vital steps under Article VII of the NPT in strengthening global peace and security. As such, we are fully supportive of establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones where it has not done so. It also needs to strengthen further the letter and spirit of the existing nuclear weapons free zones.

**Mr. President,**

Over the last five years, the civilian government of Myanmar had set nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as one of its top priorities, despite lack of transparency from the military as to its past nuclear works that had

raised concerns. Myanmar ratified the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials in 2016; the CTBT in 2017 and signed the TPNW in 2018. Numerous workshops and technical trainings took place in Myanmar to enhance the capacity and awareness of relevant government experts working on nuclear disarmament and peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

Unfortunately, all of these hard-won achievements are now under threats due to the illegal coup last year staged by the barbaric military junta. The civilian government had planned to ratify the TPNW, put the IAEA Additional Protocol into force that Myanmar signed in 2013, and adhere to the Modified Small Quantity Protocol. With the dissolution of the parliament by the military junta, these plans have been derailed. The history tells us that the military junta has never been a good partner in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. I urge the international community to keep an eye on the illegal military junta so that it is not in a position to jeopardize what Myanmar has accomplished.

In conclusion, **Mr. President**, taking this opportunity, I appeal to those states exporting weapons to the Myanmar military to stop selling them immediately as urged by the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council respectively. I wish to appeal to all the states to work together for prohibiting the sale of weapons and associated technologies to the military junta and blocking all possible ways through which the Myanmar military could attain weapons.

Myanmar reaffirms its full commitments to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We will continue to work towards our shared goal building a

world free of nuclear weapons. I call on all member states to negotiate in good faiths for the success of this Review Conference.

I thank you, Mr. President.

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