

Closing Remarks
Statement on behalf of Kazakhstan and Kiribati
Keina Tito, First Secretary
26 August 2022

President, Excellencies and Colleagues,

I would like to deliver a joint statement on behalf of Kazakhstan and my delegation.

Both Kazakhstan and Kiribati are states parties to the NPT and TPNW and have experienced the tragic legacy of nuclear testing. As such, we wish that states parties would have agreed to an outcome document. The document contained strong language encouraging increased attention to the people and communities affected by nuclear weapons use and testing and environmental remediation and called on states parties to engage with efforts to address nuclear harm.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to our colleagues, especially from Austria, Costa Rica, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, and many others who advocated tirelessly for language on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

President,

Both of our delegations believe that it is high time for all states parties to hold the nuclear weapon states accountable for their past behavior and outstanding and long-overdue disarmament obligations. We need to push hard for benchmarks and measures with respect to NWS' commitments under pillar 1. They must fulfill their legal obligations according to Article VI. And they should start by immediately providing negative security assurances to us, non-nuclear weapon states. These security assurances should not be based on any conditionalities.

President,

We wish to reiterate the necessity of the full participation of civil society at these meetings. The conference should have welcomed and invited civil society experts to the room. Their presence helps to strengthen the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty's Review Process.

Finally, we would like to express our deep appreciation to you, President, and to your team, chairs of the main committees and subsidiary bodies, and the bureau for your tireless work over the last four weeks.