Statement by

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the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations

before

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"Disarmament and International Security"

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Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates, it gives me great pleasure to start my statement by congratulating Your Excellency on your election as chairman of this important committee. We are confident that your extensive diplomatic experience will contribute to the success of our deliberations and serve in forging a greater consensus on issues of disarmament and the strengthening of international security. We wish you and the members of your Bureau every success.

I wish to thank the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs for his valuable statement given at the beginning of the work of this committee. We look forward to working with other delegations in this Hall with a view to achieving the international goals of disarmament and international security and stability. Let me also seize this opportunity to express my country’s support to the statement given by the representative of Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement regarding the items on the agenda of this committee.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation shares the disappointment and concerns expressed recently by the UN Secretariat and some delegations in this Hall about the continuing failure of the international community in disarmament deliberations, particularly at the last reviewing conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the First Preparatory Meeting of the next Review Conference, and the lack of consensus on the disarmament segment in the 2005 high-level meeting of the General Assembly.

We believe that this failure has complicated the current status of disarmament in all its aspects and weakened international efforts and arrangements established by the UN over the last six decades for addressing the root causes of armed conflicts and tensions in many regions of the world. Therefore, we stress the need for all countries without exception to show their goodwill and flexibility in line with the decisions and recommendations issued by the Millennium Summit and the Reviewing Conference of the NPT 2000, in order to achieve consensus on the important items on our agenda, and break the current stalemate which obstructed the settlement of many issues relating to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all their aspects, including the continuation of nuclear States to develop their dangerous nuclear arsenals and the declared or undeclared attempts of some States to acquire similar weapons, which threaten the security and peace not only in their regions but also in the entire world.
Mr. Chairman,

The United Arab Emirates has actively participated in all conferences and meetings of disarmament, whether regional or international, and supported all multilateral diplomatic efforts aimed at building confidence in areas of disarmament and non-proliferation, including efforts aimed at strengthening the universality of the non-proliferation treaties, to which the UAE is a party, which include the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Chemical Weapons Convention as well as other international disarmament measures. The UAE expresses its concern about the unjustifiable concepts which call for the promotion and development of nuclear deterrence and weapons of mass destruction, and the growing resort to unilateralism in addressing the consequences of such policies. Therefore, the UAE demands all parties of the international community without exception to abide by the principle of multilateralism and other principles agreed upon in relevant international treaties and arrangements, in order to achieve the objectives of horizontal and vertical non-proliferation and disarmament of all kinds of weapons including nuclear weapons. In this context, we express our satisfaction at the positive manner in which the North Korea’s file is handled, and we look forward to a peaceful and permanent settlement for Iran’s nuclear program which will prevent further tensions and confrontations in the Gulf region, and assures the States of the region against any security or environmental threat that may arise from that program. In the meantime, we look forward to intensifying international efforts aimed at compelling Israel to dismantle and subject its nuclear facilities to the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and for all concerned parties to stop providing technical and scientific assistance contributing to the development of Israeli nuclear armaments in line with the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, including the decision issued by the Sixth Reviewing Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons held in 2000, which call for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

Mr. Chairman,

The UAE reiterates its support for the preventive diplomacy which aims at addressing existing security tensions and conflicts among States through constructive dialogue and peaceful means based on the principle of good neighborliness, as well as principles of respect for international rule of law, territorial sovereignty and political independence of States and non-interference in their internal affairs, and the refrain from the use of force, on the basis of the provisions of the United Nations Charter and of international law. The UAE also reaffirms that international and regional collective security requires, now more than ever, from the international community to pursue a comprehensive and balanced policy for building confidence, which requires above all the following:

1) Nuclear States must initiate serious and effective negotiations to ensure their commitments to immediately stop developing their nuclear arsenals and their delivery systems, reduce and eliminate these weapons in a phased manner or by changing their uses to peaceful uses within a specific
timeframe, in accordance with article 6 of NPT and the instructions of the International Court of Justice, and under a firm and effective international supervision. The UAE also renews its support to the proposal submitted by NAM which calls for convening, as soon as possible, an international conference in order to identify the appropriate scientific and transparent tools that could be used in eliminating the risks of nuclear weapons.

2) Ensure the responsiveness of the international community towards the proposals which call for developing an unconditional and legally binding international instrument that provides the necessary safeguards for the non-use of existing nuclear arsenals in threatening any of the non-nuclear states, until these weapons are completely eliminated.

3) For demanding states which have not yet acceded to disarmament treaties to do so as soon as possible in order to enhance the universality and inclusiveness of these treaties, particularly the NPT and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

4) Strengthening international efforts aimed at preventing illegitimate trade in these weapons. At the same time, we welcome the international consensus reached recently on drafting a binding international instrument that enables States to identify and trace the movement of small and light weapons at the right time. We hope that this instrument will be implemented in the near future and necessary measures are taken by all Member States to ensure its early and effective implementation.

Mr. Chairman,

The UAE reaffirms the inalienable right of developing countries to develop research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and within the limits specified by the International Atomic Energy Agency. We also urge Nuclear States to unconditionally support the scientific and technological needs of developing countries to enable them to advance their development, without prejudice to international cooperation arrangements for peaceful uses of nuclear energy or fuel-cycle policies.

In conclusion, we hope that the deliberations of this committee will lead to a consensus on how to strengthen and developing its activities and realize the aspirations of our peoples towards achieving security, peace and development, and maintaining regional and international stability.

Thank you Mr. Chairman