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STATEMENT

BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

BEFORE THE
FIRST COMMITTEE

ON
DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007
Mr. President,

My country's delegation is pleased to congratulate you on your assumption of the chairmanship of the First Committee and to assure you of its total readiness to cooperate with you and with the staff of the bureau as well as the other delegations in order to make your mission succeed, furthermore, my country's delegation supports the statement delivered by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the member states of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. President,

The State of Kuwait confirms its total commitment to the issues of disarmament and non-proliferation, in accordance to the requirements of the international community, out of its belief in collective work and the important role of the United Nations. As the regrettable chain of failures the field of disarmament continues, which for example includes; the failure of the 2005 World Summit, the Non-Proliferation Review Conference, and the United Nations Review Conference Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons to reach an agreement in 2006, and while everyone realizes the dangers of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, the arms race continues due to lack of trust, hence seeking to build this trust is one of the most important motives to achieve the goal of peace and security that we all aspire for.

Mr. President,

My country's delegation hopes that all states party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty would comply with their commitments, and work closely with the IAEA to clarify any uncertainty surrounding their programs through negotiations, and constructive dialogue.

In this context, and while we welcome the recent agreement reached between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the IAEA as a positive step to dispel fears and suspicions concerning the Iranian Nuclear Program, we hope that dialogue and cooperation will continue in a transparent manner until all international issues and concerns are addressed, which in turn will help create the conditions to make the Middle East a zone free of nuclear
weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. We also welcome the peaceful solutions that transpired from the negotiations concerning the North Korean Nuclear File.

Here, we wish to stress the importance of putting pressure on Israel to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and subject all its nuclear installations to the safeguards of the IAEA, and confirm the right of all states to obtain the necessary know how and technology to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes within the context allowed by the relevant international conventions.

Here, we praise the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice in July of 1997 concerning the illegal use of nuclear weapons or the threat to use nuclear weapons to resolve conflicts, we also support making effective international arrangements that gives non-nuclear states assurances against the use of nuclear weapons or the threat of their use. We also renew our support to conclude a verifiable multi-lateral non-discriminatory treaty to ban the production of fissionable material for the purpose of producing nuclear weapons or other means of nuclear detonations.

Mr. President,

The State of Kuwait submitted its national report to the General Assembly wherein it clarified the measures taken to assure compliance with Security Council resolution 1540 which aim to prevent weapons of mass destruction and materials to make weapons from reaching terrorist groups. In this regard, the State of Kuwait signed in Sept. 2005 the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

The total and non-selective implementation of the provisions of the NPT, is of vital importance, particularly article 6 regarding nuclear disarmament and article 4 regarding the facilitation of peaceful application of nuclear energy, we also stress the importance of adhering to the principles contained in the final document of the 10th Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly and the outcome of the 1995 Review Conference of the States Party to the NPT, as well as the 2000 Review Conference, especially the items relating to the thirteen practical steps which will have a positive impact in making the work of the Preparatory Committee, scheduled to convene in Geneva in 2008, in preparation of the 2010 Review Conference of the NPT, a success.

The State of Kuwait confirms its support of the text of the Final Communique of the Fourth Conference concerning the facilitation of Entry-into-Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which calls on the states which did not ratify the Treaty to do so, particularly, those whose
ratification of the treaty are required for its entry into force, as well as its call on nuclear states to continue to adhere to a moratorium on nuclear tests or to suspend them until the Treaty enters into force.

As for the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, Kuwait welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly in 2005 of an international mechanism which allows states to identify illicit light arms and small weapons and trace them, despite the fact that the United Nations Conference to review progress on the implementation of the program of work did not accomplish the desired results, it succeeded in shedding light on one of the important issues.

Finally, it is our hope that the consultations in this Committee will be transparent, comprehensive and aim to reach to a consensus of points of view in fulfillment of the hopes and aspiration of the member states towards international peace and security.

Thank you Mr. President,