Intervention by

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before

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Please Check Against Delivery
Mr. Chairman

Thank you for giving me the floor to speak on behalf of my delegation.

It has been proven through worldwide experience that nuclear deterrence and acquisition of nuclear weapons are not the appropriate means to maintain the security and stability of any country or even at the regional or international levels. In fact, they exacerbate tensions and escalate the strategic arms race, leading to a world beset with insecurity.

Inspite of substantial efforts made thus far by the international community to strengthen the universality of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and non-proliferation system in order to translate them into a tangible reality and avoid any potential military confrontations, we regret to see that the present international reality is completely inconsistent with the past achievement made in this area. In fact, disarmament efforts suffered a serious setback manifested in the following:

1- Some nuclear States have improved and developed nuclear weapons and their delivery system with a view to making these weapons more effective, while some other States introduced new types of offensive weapons in contravention with the non-proliferation system, which constitutes a flagrant and clear violation of the consensus and unanimity reached within the international community calling for diminishing the role of nuclear weapons in security policies.

2- Nuclear materials and technology including nuclear know-how were acquired by certain States, which are not parties to the non-proliferation system, through bilateral cooperation with some nuclear-weapon States, away from the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and against the spirit of the non-proliferation treaty and its objectives.

3- Attempts by certain nuclear states to develop a new concept for the strategic-defence doctrines based on an offensive not defensive strategy, permitting itself the right to use nuclear weapons in violation of international law, and international humanitarian law. Therefore, we stress the importance of the following:

1- Recommitment to the principles of international law, multilateralism in implementing disarmament treaties and conventions, without resorting to double standards.
2- Full and balanced implementation of all provisions of the NPT, including the balancing of disarmament and non-proliferation. In this context, we stress the need to implement Article 6 of the NPT, which requires as a priority, the engagement of Nuclear States in immediate and serious negotiations with a view to the gradual reduction of existing nuclear weapons and the change of the uses of these weapons towards peaceful purposes within a specific timeframe.

3- Reaffirming the universality and inclusiveness of the NPT. This requires the international community to exert pressure on countries which have not yet acceded to NPT, to do so very soon.

4- Reiterating the importance of the implementation of Article 4 of the NPT. The inalienable right of all State Parties to the Treaty to conduct peaceful nuclear activities, and develop, research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination, must not be reinterpreted. The international community must reject any attempt by any State Party towards using the programme for technical cooperation by the International Atomic Energy Agency as a political instrument for violating the statute of the Agency.

5- Developing a universal unconditional instrument that provides the necessary safeguards for non-nuclear States against any threats or risks that might result from the use of existing nuclear arsenals.

6- Reaffirming the leading role of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the only international entity empowered to monitoring and policing nuclear activities and programmes of States.

7- Urging States, which have not yet acceded to NPT, to do so very soon in order to allow the Treaty to enter into force.

In conclusion, we hope that all States will demonstrate the necessary flexibility and political will in order to reach a consensus on pending matters, and that the sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons would lead to the success of that conference, and strengthen the universality and implementation of the NPT. We also look forward to holding the special session of the General Assembly on disarmament without further delay in order to highlight disarmament issues and revive the global interest in these issues, which success will depend on the commitment of the five nuclear-weapon-States to fulfill their commitments in order to avoid the collapse of the NPT.

Thank you Mr. Chairman,