Statement of

The Sultanate of Oman

by

Counsellor Najeem bin Sulaiman Al-Abri
Deputy Permanent Representative

First Committee
General Debate on Disarmament and
International Security agenda Item of
The 65th Session of the General Assembly
2010

Monday 11 October 2010

Check against delivery
Mr. Chairman,

The Delegation of the Sultanate of Oman is pleased to congratulate you on your election as the Chairman of the first committee of the work of this 65th Session of the General Assembly. We are confident that your experience, skills and good conduct of its work will lead to positive and tangible outcomes, emphasizing the full support of my delegation for the successful work of the committee. I must also congratulate the members of the bureau for their election. I also wish to express my thanks and appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Jose Luis, the former Chairman of the Committee for the 64th Session and his fellow members of the bureau on the distinguished role they have done during their term of office.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency, Mr. Sergio Duarte, High Representative for Disarmament, for his comprehensive introductory statement and for his role, as well as his team, to strengthen the machineries for disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and welcomes the developments that have occurred in the area of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation through this year and the last year, and considered this as an opportunity for the Member States after the recession and the lack of optimism. My delegation believes that this opportunity must be well exploited to achieve real progress on the international agenda on disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation through the work of this committee.

The lack of progress in the negotiations on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation over the past three decades encouraged some countries to acquire such weapons under the pretext of safeguarding their independence and national security. The reason for their endeavor is due to the failure of the major powers to formulate concurrences that would give indications of serious credibility of their trends. The call of the U.S. Administration to a world free of nuclear weapons is considered as a real opportunity to give a strong impetus to the international agenda on disarmament and the beginning of a new era to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, weapons of mass destruction and the treaties of the reduction and limitation of these weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

Despite the signing of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty 40 years ago, there are still some countries that refused to accede to the treaty, reflecting great imbalance in the nuclear non-proliferation regime. My country calls on those countries again to manifest the necessary political will to accede to the treaty as soon as possible and without delay.

At the same time, ensure the legitimate right of all States, without exception, in the use of the nuclear technology for peaceful purpose, according to the articles of the treaty, and the
observance of the standards and the international regulations through the safeguard of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Mr. Chairman,

The Sultanate of Oman reiterates its call for a nuclear-weapon-and-other-mass-destruction-weapons free zone in the Middle East, like all Arab countries because it is believed that the achievement of this goal will help create a positive atmosphere of cooperation among the countries of the region, and reduce the arms race and spread an atmosphere of trust and peace which will deliver positive impact on the entire world and uphold international peace and security.

The establishment of nuclear-weapons-and-other-mass-destruction-weapons free zone in the Middle East is a very important matter and is worthy of support by the international society for the goal to be achieved. In support of this proposal, my country calls on Israel to accede to the Treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and to subject all its nuclear facilities to the Comprehensive Control System in accordance with the safeguard agreement of the IAEA, in the context of implementing the deal of 1995, which included the adoption of the Middle East resolution linked objectively between the indefinite extension of the treaty on one hand, and the establishment of the zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East on the other hand, in addition to the accession of Israel into it, but unfortunately there is no progress achieved to this day.

The success of the Review Conference of the NPT, which was held in May of this year and its adoption of the final document, is a true expression of political will of the International Community to move forward on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and an emphasis of the universality of the treaty, so the world will enjoy security, stability and prosperity, but this will not be achieved without tangible progress in the implementation of the three fundamental pillars of the treaty: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy, in addition to the implementation of the resolution on the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

My delegation expresses its hope that the action plans, approved by the Review Conference, will lead to the acceleration of the progress in nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy which in turn will contribute to sustainable development and provide energy for developing countries.

My delegation, Mr. Chairman, is pleased to express its support to the call launched by H.E. the Secretary-General of the United Nations, a few days ago for the necessity of working towards the objective of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) by 2012.
Mr. Chairman,

My government welcomes the continuing cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the five Permanent Members and Germany on the Iranian Nuclear file, and emphasizes the importance of resolving this file in a peaceful and diplomatic way, hoping for a successful outcome of those efforts to reach an agreement that preserves Iran’s right to benefit from the nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and dispel fears.

My country also confirms its full commitment to the United Nations programme of 2000 on the Illicit Trade in Small and Light Weapons, and in this context, my country enacted, long time ago, a number of laws and regulations to combat this phenomenon.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, my delegation calls upon all Member States to fulfill the obligations they have undertaken through treaties and agreements related to disarmament, particularly nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, and hopes that the deliberations of this committee and its decisions, under your leadership, will achieve the aspirations of peace, security and stability by the people worldwide.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.