STATEMENT

BY

THE PERMANENT DELEGATION OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS

DELIVERED BY

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SECOND SECRETARY

BEFORE

THE FIRST COMMITTEE
(DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY)

67TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENERAL DEBATE

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UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
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In the Name of Allah, The Merciful, The Compassionate

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, it is my pleasure, to express in the name of the delegation of the State of Kuwait our sincerest congratulations on your election, as well as the members of the Bureau, to conduct the works of the First Committee during the 67th Session of the General Assembly. We also wish to emphasize our total readiness to cooperate for the success of your mission. My country's delegation supports what was contained in the statements delivered on behalf of the Arab Group and the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The State of Kuwait reiterates its belief in the importance of the United Nations and its noble message that seeks to maintain international peace and security, despite the multiple and accelerating challenges and difficulties. These are represented by the impending dangers to our world posed by the nuclear weapons, and other weapons of mass destruction. Their proliferation and possession is considered an indicator of a real danger that, not only can impact regional and international peace and stability, but also the existence of the human race.

Consistent with that, the State of Kuwait has signed and ratified international conventions and agreements, such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (biological) and Toxin Weapons (BWC), in addition to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), as well as the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, and its Additional Protocol. As we emphasize the importance of these conventions and agreements on limiting the dangers of those weapons, and in particular the NPT, which is considered the pillar of the multilateral work for disarmament and international security. We also emphasize the need to deal in a balanced manner with the three components of the Treaty, particularly, the one pertaining to the inalienable right of all states to conduct research and studies, as well as possess nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, consistent with the safeguards system of the International Agency for Atomic Energy.
As a state that does not manufacture arms of any kind or form. The State of Kuwait has purposely acceded to those conventions and agreements, out of its belief that power lies in human resources, and in the survival of man, not his extinction, as well as to achieve a world free of weapons, particularly, weapons of mass destruction, foremost among which are the nuclear weapons, in order to direct the financial resources towards economic, social, humanitarian and political development.

Mr. Chairman,

The Middle East region suffers from chronic challenges, that contributed to blurring the view of its future. A future that relies on development as well as regional and international cooperation. Let alone, the congested political and economic conditions there, due to the prevailing environment of distrust, represented in Israel’s possession of weapons of mass destruction, and its defiance of the resolutions of international legitimacy to accede to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), as well as the obligations to subject all its facilities to the safeguards system of the IAEA.

In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes the preliminary steps aiming at convening the 2012 Conference in Helsinki, to establish a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, in implementation of the resolution of the 2010 Review Conference of the NPT. We are hopeful that the international community will lend its support to the efforts that aim to make the conference a success, and to achieve tangible results with implementation mechanisms that are clear, with a specific timetable, that aim to the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

As what relates to Iran’s nuclear program, my country’s delegation supports the ongoing efforts to resolve this crisis peacefully, as well as guaranteeing the Islamic Republic of Iran, and all the other states in the region, the right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, under the supervision and monitoring of the IAEA. We also call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate fully with the international efforts, as well as to work on implementing the relevant Security Council resolutions, cooperate with the IAEA and implement its decisions, in order to leave the crisis phase behind it and ensure the stability and safety of the Arab Gulf region in particular, and the wider Middle East region, in general.
Mr. Chairman,

The State of Kuwait welcomes the positive results that led to the consensual adoption of the final document of the United Nations Conference to review the progress achieved in the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held this past month of September in New York. We look forward to achieve international cooperation to implement the Program of Action.

In conclusion my country’s delegation hopes that the consultations of the Committee will be characterized by transparency and flexibility and aim to reach consensus that will meet the aspirations and expectations of the Member States towards achieving international peace and security.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.