L.20 - "Reducing Nuclear Danger"

The Brazilian delegation voted in favor of draft resolution A/C.1/68/L.20, entitled "Reducing nuclear danger", because we believe that nuclear doctrines must be reviewed, as called for in operative paragraph 1, in order to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons.

It is our view, however, that the most serious threat to humanity and to the survival of civilization, as well as to international peace and security, derives not only from the use, but also from the very existence of nuclear weapons. The only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used is through their total elimination.

In this context, measures such as de-alerting and de-targeting nuclear weapons, while relevant, cannot be a substitute for multilateral agreements conducive to the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons. In this particular, we recall the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the NPT.

Paragraph 81 of the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference noted the proposals by the UN Secretary-General to consider negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification.

The NPT RevCon also noted, in paragraph 82 of its Final Document, that the final phase of nuclear disarmament process and other related measures should be pursued within an agreed legal framework, which a majority of States parties, including Brazil, believe should include specified timelines.

L.21 - "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons"

The Brazilian delegation voted in favor of draft resolution A/C.1/68/L.21, entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons", in spite of Brazil's well-known position on the need to eliminate nuclear weapons and note merely prohibiting their use. The very existence of nuclear weapons constitutes a threat to humanity and to international peace and security. The only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used is through their total elimination.

In this particular, we recall the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the NPT.

Paragraph 81 of the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference noted the proposals by the UN Secretary-General to consider negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification.

The NPT RevCon also noted, in paragraph 82 of its Final Document, that the final phase of nuclear disarmament process and other related measures should be pursued within an agreed legal framework, which a majority of States parties, including Brazil, believe should include specified timelines.