Statement by

Abdelkarim AIT ABDESLAM

First Secretary to the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations

Thematic debate on Regional Disarmament and Security of the First Committee

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Mr. Chair,

Algeria fully associates itself with the statements made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Yemen on behalf of Arab Group.

Given the importance of Regional Disarmament and Security agenda, my delegation would like to seize the opportunity of this thematic debate to express the following comments:

Algeria remains committed to the promotion of regional and international peace and security as a permanent feature of its foreign policy and as a cardinal principle around which its action is guided on the international arena. Bearing in mind this commitment, Algeria has always advocated dialogue, cooperation and solidarity within the traditional frameworks and settings of its membership, in particular in African and the Mediterranean regions.

In this regard, Algeria welcomes the entry into force of Pelindaba Treaty in 2009, which represents as an important contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally. However, Algeria remains deeply concerned that such zone is not also granted to the Middle-East region. Therefore, we reiterate the need to accelerate its establishment without any further delay.

Mr. Chair,

Algeria takes note with great interest of the Secretary General’s Report A/72/97, which contains an account of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa from July 2016 to June 2017.

Algeria seizes this opportunity to welcome the role assumed by the Center, after 30 years of its creation, in which it became an expertise body par excellence for Africa covering a wide-range of issues related to peace and disarmament.

In addition, due to the continental character of its programs, this Center has strengthened its partnership with the African Union and with sub-regional organizations that are now working closely with each other. Given these achievements, Algeria expresses its full support for this Regional Centre.
Mr. Chair,

Facing deterioration of the security situation in its neighboring environment, Algeria had alerted the international community about the risks associated with the unregulated and uncontrolled proliferation of all types of conventional weapons in North Africa and Sahel regions and their existing close-link with terrorists groups, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and smuggling networks.

This challenging situation is of a deep concern and represents a serious threat to peace, security, stability and sustainable development of all countries in these regions as well as in the Mediterranean region.

Given the magnitude of these consequences, Algeria strongly believe that ensuring technical and financial assistance from the developed countries, the United Nations and international organizations will contribute in strengthening the capacities of the Sahel countries to fight against the illicit trade in conventional weapons, and, therefore, dismantling the organized arms trafficking networks and terrorists groups.

Mr. Chair,

Algeria spares no efforts for consolidating the stability and the security beyond its borders.

In this regard, in Libya’s crisis, Algeria remains totally convinced that the only solution to this critical issue for the security, peace and stability within the region and beyond, is through dialogue and national reconciliation between our brothers and neighbors Libyans. The international community’s duty is to bring all possible political and diplomatic means to bear in supporting, encouraging and promoting a national and inclusive solution for Libya.

Regarding the situation in Mali, the inter-Malian dialogue process initiated by Algeria has concluded a comprehensive agreement for peace and national reconciliation between the Government and other Malian parties. Committed to ensure its implementation, my country still playing a key role in this regard through its Chairing the follow-up agreement Committee and encourage the international community to continue its support very much needed, either politically or financially.
I take this opportunity to reiterate Algeria’s commitment to support the people of Libya and Mali brothers and to work together with other neighboring countries for a better future for all peoples of the region and beyond.

Mr. Chair,

The Algerian delegation welcomes the Secretary-General’s report (A/72/320), on the “Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region”, which contains the views of some Member States concerning ways and means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region and I take this opportunity to thank those Member States that have contributed in the implementation of the General Assembly resolution (71/85).

In accordance with its Mediterranean policy based on the principles of cooperation, friendship, good neighboring and mutual respect, Algeria has the honor, as in previous years, to submit to the appreciation of the First Committee and the General Assembly of this 72nd session under agenda item 104, a draft resolution A/C.1/72/L.8 entitled “Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region”.

The Algerian delegation and the co-sponsors rely on the support of all Member States for the adoption by consensus of this text.

I thank you Mr. Chair.