STATEMENT

BY

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AT

THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE 2005 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF
THE STATES PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE
NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you as Chairman of the First Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2005 Review Conference. May I assure you of my delegation's full co-operation and support on the task ahead. My delegation associates itself with the statement by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Indonesia delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement States Parties to the Party.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with the decisions reached in 1995 and 2000, our task here today is to reflect on the progress made in the full realization of the objectives of the Treaty as well as the commitments and undertakings given at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 Review Conference. We are also charged with the responsibility of making procedural arrangements for the Review Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

Kenya believes that the most effective guarantee against the danger of nuclear weapons is the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Hence, my delegation is committed to Nuclear Disarmament and supports the establishment of an AdHoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament in the Conference of Disarmament as a matter of priority. To this end, we recall the unanimous conclusion by the ICJ that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and conclude negotiations leading to Nuclear Disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. My delegation regrets that to-date no progress has been made on this issue. We therefore, urge all States to fulfill their obligations by launching multilateral negotiations on the Programme on Nuclear Disarmament with a view to an early conclusion of a Nuclear Weapons Convention prohibiting the development, production, use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

Kenya welcomes and supports the position reached during the 2000 NPT Review Conference on the commitment by Nuclear Weapon States to get rid of nuclear weapons. We also welcome the regional commitments to the creation of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones created by the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, which strengthen strategic stability. On the other hand, we recognize the concerns of the States in the Middle East which has yet to establish a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in view of the volatile nature of the region. The security situation unfolding there is alarming and could easily trigger events leading to the use of weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Chairman,

The global scenario today is starkly different from that obtaining during the 2000 NPT Review Conference when we thought we had reached a pinnacle in our efforts towards the elimination of Nuclear Weapons. Events since September 11, particularly, the advancement of the doctrine of defence policies that could lead to the use of nuclear weapons, have eroded our confidence.

In addition, the abrogation of the ABM Treaty by one party threatens the current arms control and disarmament regime as the 1972 ABM Treaty is one of its pillars. We believe that the continued development missile defence systems threatens to introduce a new arms race as other States are bound to increase their nuclear arsenal in order to establish a balance. Kenya is of the opinion that collective provision of strategic stability is a necessary pre-requisite for a stable and progressive disarmament process.

Mr. Chairman,

In view of the above, Kenya urges all States listed in Annex II of the CTBT Treaty which have not yet ratified the Treaty to accelerate their ratification process with a view to achieving the Treaties early entry into force. Pending this, all States should maintain their moratorium nuclear weapon testing and Non-Nuclear Weapon States should be given the assurance that such weapons would not be used against them.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.