STATEMENT

BY

COMMANDER HENDRIK RICHTER, STAFF OFFICER, NAVAL OPERATIONS, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2015 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NONPROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

22 APRIL - 3 MAY 2013
Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to join the speakers before me in congratulating you on your election as chair of the second Preparatory Committee meeting on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and assure you of my delegation’s full cooperation in ensuring its success.

Namibia associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegate of Iran on behalf of the NAM State Parties to the Treaty.

According to the Treaty, all Parties undertake not to acquire and possess nuclear explosive devices and prevent the stationing of such on their territories. The Treaty also prohibits nuclear testing, the dumping of radioactive waste and safety of nuclear installations, with the aim to strengthen the international non-proliferation regime, promote cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology, promotion of general and complete disarmament in order to enhance regional and international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

As a State Party to the Non-Proliferation (NPT) Treaty, Namibia fully subscribes to the principles of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful application of nuclear science and technology. Taking into consideration the three pillars of the NPT, Namibia fully concurs that the three pillars are mutually binding instruments of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Namibia attaches great importance to the provision of the NPT relating to the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with Article I and II of the Treaty.

Namibia further reaffirms that Multilateral setting through the NPT provides security for all Nuclear Weapons States and Non-Nuclear
Weapons States, and that all State Parties, especially Nuclear Weapons States, have a special responsibility to disarm and prevent the spread of nuclear weapons while at the same time contributing to the promotion of peaceful applications of nuclear technology.

Namibia recognizes that energy security is important to promote sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Therefore, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has an important role to play in assisting with the development of effective programmes aimed at improving the scientific technologies and regulatory capabilities in NPT States for the peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

In order to strengthen its nuclear safety and security regime and effectively implement its international obligations in respect of the NPT Treaty, Namibia has embarked on the development of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Policy.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The existence of weapons of mass destruction continues to pose a threat to international peace and security. It is therefore, Namibia’s belief that international peace and security will only be achieved if all of us are committed to the full and non-discriminatory implementation of a Non-Proliferation Treaty. Namibia, would like to stress that the total destruction of nuclear weapons is one of the fundamental pillars of the Treaty. In this regard, completion of destruction of all nuclear weapons, including old and abandoned nuclear weapons as set forth in the treaty constitute an integral part of the obligation by the nuclear weapons possessor states and by abandoned states parties.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Namibia undertakes to abide by the principles articulated in the international legal instruments that promote the disarmament,
safeguarding of nuclear material and facilities and peaceful application in nuclear energy. These undertakings is demonstrated by the ratification of the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement’s Additional Protocol, Pelindaba Treaty and the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty and urge State Signatories that have not yet ratified the latter Treaties, to do so.

In conclusion, Namibia is fully committed to the 2010 conference Action Plan in order to contribute to the three pillars of the NPT.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.