Mr. Chairman,

Let me start with a quote: “When there is a start to be made, don’t step over! Start where you are”¹. In that sense, Mr Chairman, we believe that you ensured a good beginning of the new Review Cycle.

First of all, Poland welcomes your pragmatic approach as well as special attention you have given to making sure our discussions are focused and are conducted in an atmosphere of respect for each other’s positions.

Secondly, a decent start would not be possible without inclusiveness and transparency. We welcome that fact that you applied those principles from the very outset of the preparatory phase to the PrepCom. I would like to assure all States Parties that as Chair of the 2018 PrepCom, I will spare no efforts to create the same conducive conditions to our deliberations.

Thirdly, we would like to express our appreciation to you for the efficient way in which you guided proceedings of this first session of the new NPT Review Cycle. We are also satisfied that this PrepCom was able to make necessary procedural decisions.

My delegation has listened carefully to the deliberations held at this NPT PrepCom. We noted a convergence of views of States Parties regarding the relevance and validity of the NPT as the cornerstone of a global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime.

Poland also appreciates the hard work put by the Dutch chairmanship and the Secretariat in preparing the summary of the I PrepCom discussions. We very much respect your ownership and personal responsibility in drafting and presenting this document to the Committee. That is why I will not make any specific comments. However, let me underline that we perceive your summary as a factual and balanced paper that will serve as a useful reference for future deliberations in the Review Cycle.

Finally, your idea to emphasize the core NPT principles seems a sensible one. We are of the opinion that at this critical juncture in the beginning of a new Review Process, it would be prudent to remind ourselves about the

¹ Edgar Cayce (ˈkeɪsiː; March 18, 1877 – January 3, 1945) was an American Christian mystic.
fundamental role of the NPT. I also believe that this idea may facilitate our discussions towards the 2020 Review Conference.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.