
Mr. Chairman,

I wish to congratulate you on your assumption as Chairperson of this important session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the State Parties of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and assure you of my delegation’s full support.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Permanent Representative of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The Three pillars of the NPT are mutually reinforcing and are essential instruments to strengthening international peace and security.

We once renew our strong call upon the nuclear weapons states to fully comply with their legal obligations and unequivocal undertakings to accomplish the total elimination of nuclear weapons without further delay, in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner.

Reference is made to Resolution 68/32 of 2013, I quote “ The solemn obligation of states parties undertaken in Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the Nuclear Arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament” end of quote

Mr. Chairman,

The failure to reach consensus on the final document at the 9th NPT Review Conference of 2015 is a call upon us all to redouble our efforts to reaffirm our
strong commitment to the Treaty as we move forward to the 2020 NPT Review Conference.

Namibia has signed and ratified the Pelindaba Treaty which provides shield for Africa by preventing the stationing of nuclear explosives devices on the continent and prohibiting testing of those destructive weapons on the African soil. The commitment the people of Africa has undertaken to have Africa Zone Free from nuclear weapons and other WMD.

Therefore Namibia join others who are calling for the establishment of the nuclear weapons free zone in Middle East, and expresses concern over the fact that the commitments and obligations of the Action Plan of the 2010 NPT Review Conference regarding the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East have not been implemented. We call upon the three guarantor of the conference to ensure that the conference is held as agreed in 2010.

Mr. Chairman,

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty is essential instrument in curbing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and advancing the goal of nuclear disarmament. Namibia therefore believes that it is important to strive for the universality adherence which will result of the early entry into force of the CTBT. Namibia therefore calls upon those States (Annex II) to sign and ratify the CTBT.

Mr. Chairman,

Namibia reaffirms the importance of the humanitarian consideration in context of all deliberations on nuclear weapons. We therefore welcome the growing emphasis on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

In this context we reiterate the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law. Any use of nuclear weapon is a violation of the UN Charter and crime against humanity. The total elimination of nuclear weapons and the assurance that they will never be
produced again is the only unqualified assurance against the catastrophic humanitarian consequences arising from the use of such weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

Namibia welcomes the successful conclusions of the nuclear negotiations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and P5+1, which resulted in the finalization of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on 14 July 2015. In the same vein, we call upon all parties to honour their international obligations by abiding to the JCPOA, in the latter and spirit.

With regard to the important role of the IAEA within the context of the three pillars of the NPT, Namibia is of the view that the IAEA is the sole competent authority for verification of compliance with the obligations under the respective agreements of Member States.

Namibia subscribes to Article 4 of the Treaty that provides for the inalienable right of “all the parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity of Article 1 and 2 of the Treaty”. For this reason, Namibia supports the efforts by the International Atomic Energy Agency to promote international cooperation on the use of nuclear energy for development purposes. The three pillars of the NPT should be pursued in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner.

In conclusion, as a State Party to NPT, we are pleased to inform that Namibia is in the process of amending the Small Quantities Protocol and ratifying the amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in order to strengthen the nuclear verification regime and advance nuclear disarmament through the negotiation of a legally-binding instrument to support nuclear security long term goal.

Namibia further supports the development of a Namibian sustainable uranium mining industry in line with international best practices, including cooperation with States that observe the NPT Treaty and the instruments which enforce the provisions of the Treaty such as the Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement.
I thank you