Statement

Republic of Poland

Cluster I – Nuclear disarmament

Mr. Chairman,

Poland fully associates itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union within the framework of Cluster I.

I would also like to draw attention to the working documents issued by the EU and the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative that are relevant to the subject of nuclear non-proliferation. Allow me to add a couple of remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

For Poland, the nuclear disarmament is an important element of our security policy. We share the commitment of the world without nuclear weapons and in this context we stress the uniqueness of the NPT as the only credible instrument to pursue this goal.

But to achieve this goal all State Parties must fully adhere to all the provisions of the NPT.

We call for further reductions in the global stockpiles of nuclear weapons, but at the same time we cannot ignore reality - progress in disarmament is not possible without creation of appropriate security conditions. In other words serious engagement of Nuclear Weapons States as well as addressing legitimated security concerns are conditions sine qua non of any real advancement in the process.

Trust and confidence are indispensable for nuclear disarmament. They are difficult to attain and easy to squander. In this context we regret that trust and
confidence in negative security assurances have been severely weakened with the breach of the Budapest Memorandum.

*Mr. Chairman,*

In our conviction only through real engagement of all states in credible initiatives in a good faith, we could make real and stable progress toward nuclear disarmament. At this point let me stress Poland serious undertakings toward our common goal.

1. Poland, as has been decided at the beginning of our session will be chairing the second Preparatory Committee in 2018
2. We are committed to transparency and verification which we consider prerequisites of any real disarmament process:
   - In this context we have been actively working in .
   - We have been also engaged, nationally and multilaterally in efforts to make nuclear arsenal, in particular so-called sub-strategic ones more transparent and verifiable.
   - We supported the 2016 General Assembly Resolution on Nuclear Disarmament Verification and we welcome the establishment of the Group of Governmental Experts to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament.
3. Poland also is in favour of starting negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament of a Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (FMCT). In this regard we will participate in work of the High Level Expert Preparatory Group, whose mandate is to make recommendations on substantial elements for a future Treaty.

*Mr. Chairman,*

At the end of my intervention I would like to stress, that we are well aware how difficult and complicated is achieving world without nuclear weapons and what is at stake.

Like no other state in this room, Poland lived for decades under the imminent threat of the nuclear annihilation. We know the risk, but we are realistic, and that is why we strongly believe there are no quick fixes, no miraculous
solutions, but hard and laborious work, step by step, block by block, to create, in an inclusive manner, the conditions which will lead us through nuclear disarmament towards safer and more stable world for all of us.

Thank you,