Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to take the floor on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, DR Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Norway, Oman, Palau, State of Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and my own country, Austria. Our countries at this crucial moment wish to recall their "Joint Statement on the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons" as delivered during this Review Conference in the name of more than three quarters of the UN membership. We have jointly expressed our deep concern about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, which is central to the NPT and adds urgency for the full implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligations pursuant to Article VI. As we state, the catastrophic effects of a nuclear weapon detonation, whether
by accident, miscalculation or design, cannot be adequately addressed. A key message from experts and international organisations at the three Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Oslo, Nayarit and Vienna was that no State or international body could address the immediate humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation or provide adequate assistance to victims. It is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons are never used again under any circumstances. All efforts must be exerted to eliminate the threat of these weapons of mass destruction. We request the crucial concerns and views expressed by 159 countries in the Joint Statement to be adequately addressed and reflected in this Review Conference. As we state, we owe it to future generations to work together to rid our world of the threat posed by nuclear weapons. This Review Conference provides us a crucial opportunity that we must use to make tangible progress in this regard.

I thank you.