Statement
by
the Delegation of Thailand
for the General Exchange of Views of Main Committee II
of the 2015 Review Conference
of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
New York, May 2015
Chairperson,

I join other speakers in congratulating you on your assumption of the Chairmanship of this important Main Committee. My delegation has full confidence in your experience, leadership and guidance which we trust will lead us to a successful conclusion of our deliberations.

Thailand would also like to associate itself with the statement delivered by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of NAM. Allow me a brief intervention to highlight some points that are of particular importance for my delegation.

Chairperson,

For Thailand, it bears repeating that comprehensive safeguards agreements under the aegis of the IAEA are fundamental to the non-proliferation regime. We believe, therefore that strengthened international safeguards and verification arrangements under the IAEA will go a long way to build confidence among states parties. We also believe we need to do more to promote the universality of these safeguards agreements.

Also fundamental to a robust non-proliferation regime is action, partnership and a recognition of our shared responsibilities and common interests. Nuclear non-proliferation remains a serious challenge for the international community despite the immense efforts that have been and continue to be exerted. The international security landscape is constantly evolving and the international community must keep up in order to deal effectively with sources of insecurity and in order to promote peace and security in a meaningful manner.

In this regard, we believe the NPT must continue to be strengthened while at the same time supplemented by concerted and collective efforts wherever possible, whether within the NPT or in support of it and its non-proliferation efforts:

1. Nuclear-weapon-free-zones must continue to play a unique role in supporting the non-proliferation regime and we continue to urge the zones to learn from one another and share their experiences in this regard. In the Middle East, where such a zone would have such potential for positive impact yet has sadly failed even to materialize in its most preliminary stages, we strongly urge the parties to live up to their obligations not only under the NPT but in the interest of sustainable peace and security in that region.
2. Initiatives that foster practical partnership and effective and strong networks to promote non-proliferation, such as the Nuclear Security Summit, the Global Initiative against Nuclear Terrorism and the Proliferation Security Initiative, are all critical. They promote the necessary cooperation needed in obstructing the acquisition of nuclear weapons and related materials by non-state actors and collectively send a strong signal of political commitment to the goals of non-proliferation.

3. Further efforts on Security Council resolution 1540 to promote and expand engagement on its objectives by all UN member states can broaden ownership and further strengthen implementation.

4. Within the context of the IAEA, the agency should continue to serve as the focal point in promoting the physical protection of nuclear material and assist member states in efforts to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials.

5. Finally, an area that Thailand feels has more potential than is currently being explored is in the area of promoting education, raising awareness as well as in particular, exploring the positive and practical role and engagement of the general public on non-proliferation efforts. Thailand has garnered a recognized and notable level of success in dealing with traditional and non-traditional threats to peace and security by adopting a multi-stakeholder approach to managing and addressing those threats. Let us place a more critical and creative eye on how we can more effectively and appropriately expand our engagement with all sectors of society, public and private, industry and academia and civil society on non-proliferation efforts at the national, regional and international levels.

I thank you, Chairperson.