



**Permanent Mission
of the Principality of Andorra
to the United Nations**

STATEMENT

BY

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Permanent Representative**

**Of the
Principality of Andorra**

**At the General Debate
Of the First Committee**

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Madam Chair,

I begin by congratulating you on your election to the chair of the First Committee. Please be assured of the full support and cooperation of my delegation in the forthcoming session.

Andorra is a small country without an army that has lived in peace with its neighbours for more than 700 years. We neither produce nor do we export armaments. We do not purchase weapons. The issue of disarmament and non-proliferation is of great concern to us however, as our security is only guaranteed by countries' collective desire to live in peace and security. It is therefore natural for us to persistently advocate for disarmament and pacifism in international fora. The Andorran people believe in the peaceful settlements of disputes coupled with a firm respect for international law.

Madam Chair,

Two issues in the nuclear field are of pressing concern in the current session. Andorra urges all parties currently engaged in the Iran nuclear talks to do their utmost to resolve their differences within a diplomatic framework so as not to escalate the current situation into one of far-reaching magnitude. Similarly, my delegation calls upon all states to abide by their international obligations and agreements. The current impasse on the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula is of deep concern to my delegation and Andorra urges all those parties involved in the "Six Party Talks" to resume their dialogue to reach a solution acceptable to all parties.

Andorra was disappointed at the failure to come to any positive agreement both at the 2005 NPT Review Conference and at the Small Arms and Light Weapons Programme of Action Review Conference earlier this year. Similarly, the lack of disarmament language in the 2005 Summit Outcome Document and the current deadlock at the Conference in Disarmament make it imperative for us now to work at revitalizing the First Committee in order to come to agreement on concrete disarmament measures.

Madam Chair,

Andorra is pleased to be able to play its part in the disarmament process. In order to implement and promote the scope of Security Council Resolution 1540, Andorra is participating in a technical assistance program for the monitoring of disarmament in Sub-Saharan Africa for the period 2007-2008. We have also decided that Andorra will organize a UN training seminar on disarmament for the affected countries.

We welcome Vietnam's recent ratification of the CTBT, which was itself ratified by Andorra in July earlier this year, and urge the remaining countries needed for the treaty to come into force to ratify at the earliest possible opportunity.

Thank you.