



**The Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the  
United Nations, New York**

**Sixty-second session of the General Assembly to the United Nations**

**First Committee**

***Statement of***  
**The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya**

*Delivered By*  
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**Representative of Libya to the First Committee**

*General Debate on*  
*All items on the agenda regarding Disarmament and*  
*International Security*

**New York**  
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**In the name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful,**

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President on your election as chairman of this distinguished committee. We are confident that, with your wide experience and excellent qualifications you will be able to efficiently direct the work of this session, so as to achieve successful results. I would also like to express my sincere greetings to the other members of the bureau.

My country's delegation supports the two statements which were made by the Indonesian representative on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Nigerian representative on behalf of the Africa Group.

**Mr. President,**

Nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction remain a constant danger to all mankind. Moreover, the series of failures which multilateral disarmament mechanisms have faced, from the Conference on Disarmament to the Disarmament Commission and the failures of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty and the 2006 Review Conference to combat illicit trade in small arms and light weapons are all a clear reflection of the crisis which we face in our efforts to achieve international peace and security.

**Mr. President,**

Libya, in its capacity as a party to the Nuclear Weapon Non-Proliferation Treaty, is absolutely convinced that this treaty is the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament efforts and non-proliferation. Libya stresses that nuclear powers must take positive and tangibles steps in the field of nuclear disarmament, not only giving priority to non-proliferation efforts, but also by working to provide the binding guarantees against the use of nuclear weapons or the threat of using them, and considers this a viable means to put a compete stop to nuclear weapons. To achieve this, we must work to swiftly conclude an unconditional legally binding international instrument on security guarantees for states which do not possess nuclear weapons.

My country is convinced that achieving positive progress with regard to nuclear disarmament will consolidate international security vis-à-vis non-proliferation. Therefore it is essential that the provisions of the Non-

Proliferation Treaty are implemented on a non-selective basis and that nuclear weapons programmes and the right to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as authorized under international law, are not confused, especially under article 4 of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. My country constantly stresses the need to resort to negotiations and providing sufficient time for dialogue in order to address disagreements.

**Mr. President,**

My country continues to implement its commitments of the treaties relating to weapons of mass destruction and believes its initiative, announced in 2003, to voluntarily abandon all programmes which may lead to the production of such weapons places responsibilities on those nations which possess nuclear weapons to provide the necessary guarantees to our national security, to work to make the Middle East subject to effective international guarantees regarding the danger of nuclear weapons and other nuclear material and to make it a region free from these weapons. They must also make the Israelis join all treaties regarding weapons of mass destruction disarmament and make their nuclear installations subject to the comprehensive safeguard system of the IAEA and render the Mediterranean a region of peace and cooperation between its peoples. Ending a policy of double standards and selective approaches while providing security guarantees to countries which do not possess weapons of mass destruction, will spread calm and dispel the anxiety of all countries of the region, while discouraging the ideas of manufacturing or retaining such weapons.

My country's delegation stresses the importance of strengthening the work of the Conference on Disarmament in order to initiate its negotiating role regarding the important issues in the field of disarmament, and calls for it to begin negotiations regarding an agreement to stop production of FMCT fission material, within the framework of the mandate which was agreed upon in the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 2000, in order to achieve tangible progress in the field of nuclear disarmament.

**Mr. President,**

The danger inherent in the spread of conventional weapons is a source of great concern, especially in conflict situations, since the spread of such

weapons results in the deaths of a staggering number of civilians. My country's delegation believes it is possible that confidence-building measures, implemented voluntarily, in the field of conventional weapons would contribute to strengthening peace and security on the international and regional levels. In this regard, the regional UN security centers for peace and disarmament in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific regions and Latin America deserve to be commended for the important work which they undertake in this field. We wish to stress the need to support these centers, especially the regional center in Africa which needs the necessary support in order to carry out the tasks which we aspire to carry out to help achieve peace and global disarmament. In this regard, my country's delegation also supports the final recommendations of the consultative mechanism for the reorganization of this center as set out in the letter sent to the Secretary General from the Permanent Representative of Senegal on 5 July 2007 and set out in Document no. A/62/167.

My country has passed legislation and the regulations which aim to prevent the illicit acquisition, export, manufacture and transfer of small arms and light weapons in order to help strengthen international efforts in this regard, and seeks to coordinate with neighboring countries in all aspects of limiting and putting an end to transnational organized crime. It also strives for the full implementation of the 2001 work programme of the United Nations to combat and prevent the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

My country while supporting the orientation which aims to draw up regional and international rules in the field of preventing illicit trade in conventional weapons, wishes to underline the fact that it is necessary to take into consideration the principles implied in the United Nations Charter. These must guide our efforts in this field: namely, respect for the sovereignty of nations, non-intervention in internal affairs, the right to self-defense and the settling of disputes by peaceful means, avoiding a selective approach in dealing with the issue of disarmament and stressing the importance of examining the special circumstances of each region and their particular features regarding security and defense.

**Mr. President,**

My country's delegation stresses the importance of confidence building measures and transparent interaction in the field of disarmament and the importance of refraining from a selective approach if we truly wish to realize the progress required. In this regard, we believe that the approach

characterized by transparency and the register of the United Nations of conventional weapons lacks balance in that it does not comprise other forms of weapons such as weapons of mass destruction and likewise, other aspects related to national capacities to produce, acquire and stockpile weapons.

With regard to landmines and remnants of war, we would like to highlight the fact that my country still suffers from the presence of a large number of these mines and remnants from the last century. These cause the death and injuries of thousands of civilians, hindering development and investment in contaminated areas. My country reiterates our demand that the countries which laid mines must bear responsibility for the damage they cause and must provide the necessary material and technical support for demining and offer appropriate compensation to their victims. My country hopes that these concerns will be included in relevant international documents. My country has joined the Forum of Mine Affected Countries (FOMAC) in order to gather support for the creation of a solution to this problem.

**Mr. President,**

In conclusion, I wish to underline the fact that my country remains committed to the goals of this committee and hold out hope that the work of its current session will result in agreement of views regarding the formulation of serious and tangible recommendations regarding the items on its agenda. We wish to express to you our full cooperation in order to realize this goal.

**Thank you Mr. President.**