



**KAZAKHSTAN**

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**STATEMENT**

by

**His Excellency Mr. Yerzhan Kh. Kazykhanov**

**Permanent Representative**

**of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations**

**during the Security Council open debate**

**on the item of non-proliferation of**

**weapons of mass destruction**

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Mr. President,

Before I start, I would like to thank you for arranging this open debate on the agenda item under our discussion.

My delegation has carefully studied the Security Council draft resolution on the WMD non-proliferation. We view this document as an essential instrument designed to reinforce the WMD non-proliferation regime in the new international security environment.

We believe that the main objective of the resolution is the adoption by all states at the national level of measures to prevent non-state actors from acquiring WMD and their components.

We also believe that the resolution to be adopted would help countries achieve the declared goal. At the same time, it is the responsibility of each and every state to decide for itself which specific steps it should take at the national level in order to secure its borders and sensitive military assets and scientific and research capabilities, thus eliminating any possibility of their use by terrorists.

Yet in order to be able to fully and effectively implement the provisions of the proposed draft resolution, many countries with extended land and sea boundaries would require assistance in equipping their borders with modern technical means of detection of the components of WMD and their means of delivery.

In our view, effective border controls and well-coordinated law enforcement efforts, including through international cooperation, constitute an important factor that contributes to the reinforcement of the WMD non-proliferation regimes.

Mr. President,

Kazakhstan's contribution to the WMD non-proliferation is widely recognized: we have voluntarily renounced our nuclear inheritance, shut down the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing ground, acceded to the NPT Treaty, CTBT Treaty and all other regimes of non-proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery.

We find it very timely that the draft resolution calls on states to take measures to strengthen controls over manufacturing, storage and export of sensitive materials and technologies.

Since 1992, Kazakhstan has been working to improve the efficiency of its national export control system. It has adopted an export control law and introduced a comprehensive control list of dual-use products and sensitive materials.

Kazakhstan has been actively involved in the negotiations to draft a treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia. This initiative by

the Central Asian states to establish such a zone in the region should become an important milestone in the efforts to strengthen the non-proliferation regime

Mr. President,

Weakened international control is the main reason for the existence of a threat of non-state actors getting hold of WMD. There is only one solution – to tighten controls and to increase transparency, which should become the pillars of the draft resolution under consideration. At the same time, we should continue to improve the existing international agreements in this area in order to adapt them to today's realities. We also believe that non-proliferation and disarmament are mutually reinforcing processes.

The compliance with and the implementation of the provisions of the draft resolution will largely depend on the political will and the joined efforts of all states. The effectiveness of the reporting mechanism hinges on this too.

Mr. President,

Let me assure you and all the members of the Council that Kazakhstan is fully aware of the risk of any irresponsible persons acquiring WMD and that it will exert every effort to reinforce the international non-proliferation regimes.

Thank you Mr. President.