



Jordan

PERMANENT MISSION OF H.K. OF JORDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

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COUNSELLOR

AT

THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE 2006 UNITED NATIONS
DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to start by first congratulating you on your election as the chairman of the 2006 session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) as well as to also congratulate the other members of the Bureau and the chairmen of the Working Groups and to assure you and them of my delegation's full support and cooperation. My delegation is confident that with your experience and skill, you will spare no effort in trying to bring about a successful outcome of this meeting.

My delegation would also like to take this opportunity to welcome H.E. Ambassador Nobuaki Tanaka the new Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, and to wish him success in his new assignment and endeavors while assuring him of our full support and cooperation. This said, my delegation would also like to associate itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador of Indonesia Mr. Rezlan Ishar Jenie on behalf on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to which it fully subscribes.

Mr. Chairman,

The importance of this 2006 UNDC session should not be undermined since not only are we meeting after the numerous setbacks we have recently been facing in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, namely the failure of the last NPT Review Conference to agree on substantive recommendations, the inability of the 2005 World Summit to make any reference of disarmament and non-proliferation in its outcome document and the now nearly 10 year deadlock in the Conference of Disarmament (CD), but also after the difficulties that the Commission itself has been facing over the last few years, whether in regard to its inability to reach consensus on specific guidelines or proposals in its previous sessions or to its failure to agree on its substantive agenda items for three consecutive years. My delegation is therefore pleased that today the UNDC is able to resume its work. It also hopes that the meeting as it deliberates on the two agenda items in front of it will be able to reach consensus on substantive recommendations for both achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and for practical confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the field of conventional arms.

Mr. Chairman,

As for the discussion we will be having on improving the methods of work of the UNDC, while my delegation is ready to engage constructively in the deliberations that will be taking place, it remains of the view that the efforts to improve the methods of work of the UNDC should be seen as an integral part of the revitalization of the General Assembly as a whole. Moreover, since the UNDC as a specialized and deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery, has succeeded in previous years in allowing for deliberations on specific disarmament issues, has lead to the submission of concrete recommendations to the General Assembly in numerous sessions the last of which was in 1999 and has greatly

contributed towards the emergence of global disarmament norms, my delegation hopes that discussions in this regard will lead to further reaffirm and support its purposes and principles thus allowing it to once again resume its important mandate.

Mr. Chairman,

In working to address agenda item 1 entitled “Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons”, an issue of highest importance given the fact that progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects is essential to strengthening international peace and security, my delegation believes that the following among other important issues should be kept in mind as we work on drafting our recommendations:

- 1- The vision and principles contained in the Final Document of the SSOD-I remain relevant. Within these lines, Member States should both fulfill their obligations in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and continue in their multilateral effort towards achieving nuclear disarmament under effective international control and in strengthening the international disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation regimes.
- 2- The NPT, which rests on three pillars remains the key instrument in our efforts to halt vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. In this regard, a balanced and non-selective implementation of the NPT and the strict implementation of all its provisions are what are needed for achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Moreover, in this context there is a need for the full implementation of and the firm commitment by all States parties to, the package agreed to at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference which comprises the three decisions and the “Resolution on the Middle East”, as well as the “Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference”, in particular with regard to the 13 practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement Article VI of the Treaty.
- 3- The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. However, the slow pace of progress towards nuclear disarmament remains a matter of concern, as also is the need for the Nuclear-Weapon-States to implement the unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Therefore, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to Non-Nuclear-Weapon States should be pursued as a matter of priority.
- 4- The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which represents a major achievement in the nuclear non-proliferation regime, is yet to enter into force. In this regard, the negative developments with regard to the non-ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) remain a matter of concern. It is hoped that States that have not signed or ratified the CTBT

especially those mentioned in annex II of the treaty, will do so as soon as possible for it to finally enter into force.

- 5- Nuclear-weapon-free zones remain pivotal for maintaining the international non-proliferation regime and for consolidating international peace and security, therefore, those established world over are welcomed and considered as positive steps towards attaining the desired objective of nuclear disarmament, and efforts aimed at the establishing of new nuclear-weapon-free-zones in all regions of the world are both welcomed and encouraged. In this respect, the establishing of a zone free from nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region as called for in Security Council resolution 487 (1981), the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the outcome of the 2000 NPT Review Conference is of paramount importance. With this in view, my delegation reiterates that Israel is the only state in the Middle East region that has refused to accede to the NPT and that has chosen to preserve the nuclear option, and that its accession to the NPT would not only contribute to the universality of the Treaty but would also at the regional level defuse existing tensions, bring about tangible progress on other bilateral tracks of the peace process, enhance confidence-building measures between all parties and have an overall positive impact on regional peace and security. Implementation of IAEA safety measures on its unsafe-guarded nuclear facilities would furthermore prevent the occurrence of potential nuclear accidents and the risk of radiological contamination.
- 6- The deadlock in the Conference of Disarmament in Geneva must be overcome so as to allow for negotiations on a convention banning the production of fissile material.

Mr. Chairman

With respect to agenda item 2 on "Practical confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the field of conventional arms" my delegation supports the proposal of the Chairman for the Commission to continue its deliberations on the Chairman's consolidated working paper as contained in the 2003 UNDC annual Report (A/58/42) and will be responding to and considering the proposals that would be put forward bearing in mind that while CBMs in the field of conventional arms may be a way to strengthen international peace and security, they are neither a substitute nor can they be a pre-condition for disarmament measures but are additional measures that can be undertaken to help in creating an atmosphere conducive to arms control and disarmament.

With this in mind, my delegation fully concurs with what was stated by H.E. the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs in his statement to the UNDC yesterday namely that the challenge before the Commission is to consider and adopt measures that will contribute to reducing the threat to international peace and security while protecting the right of Member States to the means of self-defense, and here my delegation would add a qualitative that is while bearing in mind the realities and particularities of each region. Therefore, my delegation is of the view that transparency in the area of conventional

weapons, like confidence-building measures elsewhere, cannot be ensured in the absence of an approach that encompasses all aspects related to weapons, and all types of weapons and must stem from a balanced treatment of the different elements relating to armaments and take into account inseparable aspects such as national capacities for production and the procurement and stockpiling of weapons. As a result when discussing issues such as transparency or the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, my delegation believes that possibilities to make the Register more effective as a confidence-building or an early warning mechanism through broadening its scope to include all types of weapons, on a non-selective basis and in line with resolution 46/36 L should be seriously taken into consideration as it will further answer to the security needs of many other States and help forge consensus on this important issue.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my delegation is looking forward to working actively with you and all the other members of the Commission in trying to bring about a successful outcome of our 2006 UNDC session.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.