

*Permanent Mission  
of the State of Kuwait  
to the United Nations  
New York*



وَقَدْ دَوْلَةُ الْكُوَيْتِ الدَّائِمِ  
لَدَى الْأُمَمِ الْمُتَّحِدَةِ  
نِيويورك

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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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COUNSELLOR  
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**BEFORE THE  
2008 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION  
DISARMAMENT COMMISSION**

**ON**

**TUESDAY, 08 APRIL 2008**

**In the Name of Allah, The Merciful, The Compassionate**

**Mr. President,**

**At the outset, it pleases me to express to you in the name of the State of Kuwait our sincere congratulations on your election as President of the 2008 Disarmament Committee. We are confident that with the experience and wisdom you are known to possess, shall facilitate your conduct of our work this year. In the meantime, I wish to assure you of the readiness of my country's delegation to cooperate with you in order to make your mission succeed. I also congratulate the rest of the members of bureau. Furthermore, my country's delegation supports the statement delivered by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the member states of the Non-Aligned Movement.**

**Mr. President,**

**The State of Kuwait believes in the central role of the United Nations in confronting the main challenges of the international community, on top of which is the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; the path to address this issue and other relevant issues has been specified clearly in numerous conventions, agreements, resolutions and work programmes that has already been reached. What is now required from the member countries is their commitment to their obligations, their cooperation and coordination to implement the requirements through the existing mechanisms, or to work for the improvement of these mechanisms to achieve more effectiveness in the process of implementation.**

**While the international community recognizes the dangers of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction pose to international peace and security, the required progress to eliminate these dangers was not achieved, due to lack of political will on the part of some to comply with the relevant international agreements and conventions, which confirms the importance of continuing the efforts and the endeavours, as well as taking the necessary arrangements of confidence building in order to achieve the desired target of a world free of these destructive weapons, and where peace and security prevail.**

**Out of the belief of the State of Kuwait in the importance of nuclear safety, my country's delegation urges all states that has not concluded yet the comprehensive safeguard agreement with the IAEA to do so. We also encourage the states that did, but have not signed the additional protocol to also do so. We hope that all states party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty will comply with**

their obligations according to the provisions of the treaty, and the safeguard agreement as well as work closely with the IAEA to resolve any doubts and questions raised with regard to their nuclear programs through negotiations and constructive dialogue.

In this context, we demand from Israel, the only country in the Middle East, that is not party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the only country that possess nuclear weapons, in defiance of the decisions of international law and repeated international calls to immediately accede to the Treaty, to eliminate its nuclear arsenal, and subject all of its nuclear facilities to the safeguard system of IAEA. Israel's situation presents a clear disorder in the balance of power and a constant worry in the Middle East region.

The State of Kuwait demands the international community to stop the sales of scientific and technological means that contribute to further strengthening the Israeli nuclear arms, or to any other country seeking to develop its programs to produce weapons of mass destruction. Here, we also wish to confirm the rights of all states in the region to acquire the necessary technology and know-how for the peaceful use of nuclear energy within what is admissible by the relevant international conventions. The State of Kuwait also wishes to praise the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice in July 1997, concerning the illegality of the threats to use nuclear weapons or their use to resolve conflicts. We support effective international arrangements that would give the states that does not possess nuclear arms guarantees against the use of nuclear weapons or the threat of their use. The States of Kuwait sees that it is high time for high level political and fateful decisions to be taken to revive the internationally agreed upon arrangements in order to make our world free of nuclear weapons. Departing from this belief, we renew our call to the states in possession of nuclear arms to take the necessary measures to eliminate them, since non-proliferation and disarmament go hand in hand, and one cannot be achieved without the other.

Mr. President,

The State of Kuwait wishes to confirm its total commitment to the demands of the international community relating to non-proliferation and disarmament, as the regrettable series of failures in disarmament continues, we see that it is of crucial importance that the provisions of the NPT are implemented in a total and non-selective manner, particularly article VI concerning nuclear disarmament and article IV concerning the facilitation of peaceful applications of nuclear technology, while stressing the need to adhere to the principles contained in the final document of the 10<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly, the results of the 1995 Review Conference of states party to the NPT, as well as the final document of the 2000 Review

Conference of the NPT, and particularly what relates to the 13 steps contained in the document.

The State of Kuwait confirms its support to the text of the Final Communique of the Fourth Conference concerning the facilitation of entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which calls upon the states that did not ratify to do so, especially those states whose ratification is required for its entry into force.

The State of Kuwait has submitted its national report to the General Assembly, in which it has clarified the measures that were taken to guarantee its compliance with the provisions of Security Council Resolution 1540, which aims to prevent weapons of mass destruction from falling into the hand of terrorist groups.

In what regards the illicit trade in small weapons and light weapons, the State of Kuwait welcomed the adoption in December 2005, of the General Assembly of the International Instrument which allows states to identify illicit weapons and trace them. Despite the fact the United Nations conference to review the implementation of the work program concerning the trade in small weapons did not achieve the desired results, it succeed in shedding the light on one of the important issues.

Finally, we hope that the consultation will be transparent and comprehensive, and aim to fulfill the aspirations of international peace and security.

Thank you, Mr. President.