



# KAZAKHSTAN

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**STATEMENT**  
**by H.E. Mrs. Byrganym Aitimova,**  
**Permanent Representative of**  
**the Republic of Kazakhstan**  
**to the United Nations**  
**at the general debate of the First Committee**  
**of the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly**

**5 October 2010**  
**New York**



Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Colleagues,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on the assumption of stewardship of the First Committee, as well as, other members of the Bureau on their elections. My delegation wishes to assure you of its full support and constructive engagement as you skillfully guide us through the deliberations ahead of us. I would also like to thank Mr. Sergio Duarte, the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) for their untiring efforts to support the work of the Committee.

Kazakhstan, through the unilateral closure of the second largest test site in the world on 29 August 1991, has become "the epicenter of peace", as described by the President of the Republic, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev. It is highly symbolic that the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, standing on the former Ground Zero in Semipalatinsk, described the President's decision "as an act of extraordinary leadership", and urged the international community to achieve complete nuclear disarmament.

The International Day against Nuclear Tests (29 August) was observed for the first time this year with activities in New York and other regions of the world, reflecting the common will of Member States to reduce the perils of nuclear weapons globally. The support for the Day from the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the 64<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly, the Member States, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and Department of Public Information, as well as civil society and media, is warmly acknowledged by my Government. Collective action will continue to be organized on an annual and ongoing basis to disseminate and harness action for total nuclear abolition.

Mr. Chairman,

This year has witnessed several significant milestones for a forward-looking political will to advance the momentum for disarmament and non-proliferation.

The Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, and the signing of the new START Treaty, earlier in April, has triggered a new dynamism in our collective thinking.

The May 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), with its 64-point action plan, offers a

road map for strengthening the NPT. However, we cannot rest until we ensure the Treaty's universality and strengthen its mechanisms. While the actions of the Outcome Document may be prioritized, Kazakhstan, like other countries, is convinced that work must begin on several fronts right away so as to be able to report on the achievement of expectations set for 2015.

The Fifth Ministerial Meeting on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), held on 23 September, made it evident that a voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing is not enough. Kazakhstan therefore calls for the early entry into force of the Treaty. It also co-operates with the CTBTO to advance the functioning of the International Monitoring System and on-site inspection techniques, through the contribution of its own five national cutting-edge 24-hour tracking stations as part of the global effort. With the support of the Government of Norway, we have set up an international training centre for experts of national data centers from the Central Asian countries.

Kazakhstan commends the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, to convene the High Level Meeting, "Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations", on 24 September 2010, which together with his five-point proposal, provides the much-needed high-level political impetus. My country will cooperate fully to ensure that the work of the Conference will bring concrete results on key issues, the work agenda for 2011, its methods, and expansion of membership to reflect growing global multilateral engagement.

In my country's view, an early start of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT) is a pressing item on two fronts: to keep the possibility of illegitimate military nuclear programmes to the minimum, and strengthen control over existing materials, thereby greatly reducing the risk of nuclear terrorism - one of the greatest threats besetting humankind today.

As a country that hosts the Baikonur cosmodrome, and energetically engaged in national and multilateral space cooperation, Kazakhstan is convinced that security in outer space must remain a central issue of the Conference, and calls for strict observance of the principle of peaceful activities in outer space.

Mr. Chairman,

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) controls the spread of weapons of mass destruction and is an important step towards a world free of nuclear weapons. Kazakhstan, together with other Central Asian states

constituting the Nuclear Weapon-Free-Zone in our region, plays a crucial role in preventing the uncontrolled proliferation of nuclear materials, and thus combating nuclear terrorism. At the same time, for the zone to advance multilateral disarmament, we look to the nuclear weapons states for providing the requisite negative security guarantees.

Kazakhstan fully endorses the longstanding proposal for a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. Recent developments point to a window of opportunity that can act as a catalytic force. My country stands ready to work towards making the 2012 Conference on the Middle East Nuclear Weapon-Free-Zone attain its objectives.

Mr. Chairman,

President Nursultan Nazarbayev has made a number of noteworthy proposals. Speaking at the Global Summit on Nuclear Security in Washington, this year, he called for the drafting of an international legally binding instrument on security assurances by nuclear powers to non-nuclear weapon States. In addition, he believes that having a Universal Declaration of a Nuclear Weapon-Free World would reaffirm the determination of all States to move, step by step, towards a Convention against Nuclear Tests. Kazakhstan offers its full and unequivocal support for such a convention which was proposed by the Secretary-General, as part of his five-point plan, on 24 October 2008.

An effective measure to strengthen the non-proliferation regime could be the establishment of international nuclear fuel bank under IAEA auspices, and my country is ready to consider a possibility of locating it on our territory.

Mr. Chairman,

Kazakhstan, during its Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), this year, has made regional efforts to converge with those of the United Nations. We have promoted implementation of the OSCE Athens Ministerial Declaration on the Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and strengthening the Corfu Process on the future of Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security. The OSCE summit in Astana, later this year, will further aim to reinforce global and regional efforts and in 2011, when Kazakhstan is Chair of the Organization of Islamic Conference, the same efforts will pursue.

Convinced of the need to consolidate and strengthen efforts against the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW) through legally

binding instruments, Kazakhstan is committed to lending full support for implementing recommendations of the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (BMS4) held earlier in June in New York.

My country welcomes the commencement of negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty and will participate actively in the three preparatory sessions of 2011, so that the 2012 Conference can finalize a treaty.

We believe that promoting disarmament, on all fronts would also help address other critical challenges facing the international community, including meeting the Millennium Development Goals for human wellbeing.

To conclude, it is our hope that the work of the First Committee this year, reinforced by strong multilateral political commitment, will usher a new era of cooperation and action for global peace, security and stability.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.