

PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

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Statement

by

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before the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Statement by Mrs. Siriporn Chaimongkol, Head of Delegation of Thailand, at the First session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons General Debate 30 April – 11 May 2012, Vienna

Mr. Chairman,

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1. At the outset, I would like to join other delegations in congratulating you, on your assumption as the Chair of the First session of the Preparatory Committee of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. My congratulations also go to other members of the Bureau. I believe that under your able leadership and guidance, this meeting will certainly produce useful discussions and a successful conclusion. I assure you of the full support of my delegation.

2. Thailand also wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) States Parties to the NPT.

Mr. Chairman,

3. For more than four decades since its entry into force in 1970, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) remains the cornerstone of international peace and security. The adoption of the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference by consensus not only represents a successful negotiation, but also reflects the strong political will of all NPT States Parties to achieve concrete results which includes the 64-point action plan. This has been regarded as constructive and successful progress in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

4. It cannot be denied that a divergence of views remains on several issues and such divergences should be further addressed at this cycle of the Review Conference in order to strengthen the NPT. It is also very important to stress the universality of the Treaty – a crucial aspect that would allow our efforts to effectively progress towards the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

5. For such a goal to be achievable, all three pillars of the NPT, nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, must be equally addressed in a balanced manner. In this regard, strong political leadership and international cooperation are essential for the pursuance of such efforts. Thus, the 2010 Review Conference action plans on all three issues must be seriously and fully implemented by nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States alike.

6. In this regard, Thailand welcomes any concrete measures undertaken by relevant parties on these issues, which would not just symbolise the efforts, but also produce tangible results towards a nuclear-weapon-free world. We look forward to the commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material, as well as a Nuclear Weapon Convention, to be held in an inclusive manner. We also support unequivocal and legally binding security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States, which would help strengthen the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

Mr. Chairman,

7. To achieve practical outcomes in all of the three pillars of the NPT, global efforts must be further enhanced by regional efforts. As a State Party to the Treaty on the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ), Thailand supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions, including the Middle East. In this regard, Thailand urges all parties to fully support the convening this year of the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.

8. Cooperation amongst different NWFZs, as well as agreements between NWFZs and nuclear-weapon States, will enhance the effectiveness of the agreements in serving as confidence-building measures at the regional, as well as the global levels. As a State Party to the SEANWFZ Treaty, Thailand welcomes progress made by the States Parties and the nuclear-weapon States towards the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty.

Mr. Chairman,

9. It is the inalienable right of States Parties to develop and use nuclear energy in a safe, secure and peaceful manner. Thailand attaches great importance to nuclear safety, security and safeguards at the national, regional and international levels. At the regional level, we proposed the idea of establishing a network amongst nuclear regulatory bodies within the Southeast Asian region to provide a framework for the issues of safety, security and safeguards, based on the IAEA standards and practices. The proposal has been welcomed by ASEAN Leaders at the 20th ASEAN Summit, and we will continue to further discuss this issue with our ASEAN colleagues.

Mr. Chairman,

10. Thailand is fully committed to the 2010 Review Conference action plans in order to contribute to the strengthening of the three pillars of the NPT. My delegation looks forward to working closely with you and other delegations to produce a solid and achievable outcome for this new review cycle of the NPT for the advancement towards the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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