

**STATEMENT BY  
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TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA**

**The first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of  
the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

Vienna, 3 May 2017

Mr. Chairman,

Let me join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chair of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). I am confident that the Committee will have productive deliberations under your guidance and able leadership. I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation.

My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The NPT remains as the cornerstone of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Concerted efforts to strengthen the regime are of ever increasing importance to the international community. Within its broad commitment to the multilateral system, Mongolia always placed disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all aspects at the top of our agenda for the simple reason that it is fundamental to global peace and security. Therefore, my delegation wishes to reiterate Mongolia's firm commitments and aspiration to contribute to strengthening international peace and security.

As we all witness today, the global security environment has been increasingly challenging and these developments have led to a negative fall-out on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. Regardless of the professed goal for a world without nuclear weapons, disarmament efforts remain stagnant. Therefore, my delegation firmly

believes that at this time, we need to do our utmost to build a consensus and to promote greater global security through arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament.

We note with regret that despite all efforts, the 2015 NPT Review Conference came short of reaching consensus. However, Mongolia is hopeful that during the current review cycle we will reach a successful outcome.

The partial implementation of the 2010 Action Plan, the current geopolitical circumstances, and the lack of transparency all call for the urgent need for the NPT to be strengthened across its three pillars to preserve the NPT's credibility and effectiveness.

Mr. Chairman,

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is a catalyst for nuclear disarmament. It is a strong instrument for non-proliferation. Progress on the CTBT is one of multilateral non-proliferation and disarmament measures that is most urgently awaited by the international community. Thus, the CTBT should be brought into force at an early date and we call upon those States that have not ratified it, in particular the remaining Annex II States to do so urgently.

Mongolia reaffirms the right of all the Parties to the NPT to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

The IAEA continues to play a central role in ensuring non-proliferation through its safeguards and verification, assisting Member States in introducing nuclear technology in food and agriculture, human health, water resources, environment and other nuclear applications. Judging by the IAEA Technical Cooperation projects in my own country, I can say with confidence that the Agency makes a crucial contribution to global development efforts by providing relevant skills, training and equipment. This work must be continued.

Mr. Chairman,

It is an undisputable fact that nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) strengthen both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and thereby international peace and security. Mongolia strongly supports strengthening the established NWFZs.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status.

Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status has strengthened its international security. Like other NWFZs, it also contributes to nuclear non-proliferation and confidence-building. Our status enjoys full international recognition, as documented in a wide range of international instruments, such as the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the Outcome Documents of the Conferences of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, the biennial resolutions of the UNGA on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status.

Last December, the UN General Assembly adopted its biannual resolution on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status. We thank all Member States for their valuable support and look forward to close cooperation in implementing the resolution.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, I reaffirm Mongolia's commitment to working with all State Parties to achieve solid and positive outcomes in this new review cycle.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.