
Conference on Disarmament

10 September 2025

Original: English

Note Verbale dated 27 May 2025 from The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament, transmitting the statement of Poland delivered on behalf of the European Union in Subsidiary Body 2, Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters, of the Conference on Disarmament on 20 March 2025*

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and has the honour to submit the statement of Poland delivered on behalf of the European Union in Subsidiary Body 2, Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters, of the Conference on Disarmament on 20 March 2025.

The delegation of Poland has the honour to request that the statement be issued as an official document of the 2025 session of the Conference on Disarmament and listed under a respective item of the CD agenda.

The Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament the assurances of its highest consideration.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

Annex

European Union, Statement in the Subsidiary Body 2, Fissile Materials Cut-off Treaty, General and Technical Aspects, Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 20 March 2025

Mr. Coordinator,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The candidate countries Türkiye, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova¹ and Georgia as well as the EFTA country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

The EU and its Member States reiterate their longstanding support for an immediate commencement and early conclusion of the negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament of a Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and we support starting such negotiations in accordance with the document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein.

The need for an FMCT has been reaffirmed for decades in NPT Review Conference decisions and UN General Assembly resolutions. Despite broad recognition of its significance, negotiations have yet to begin. The EU regrets the CD's continued deadlock and stresses that it must not prevent substantive discussions on treaty elements, including scope, definitions, verification, and institutional arrangements.

We believe that following principles could achieve our ultimate goal - FMCT:

(a) **Scope:** The treaty must prohibit the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. While the HLEPG noted that the question of existing stockpiles remains contentious, this issue can be addressed in the course of negotiations, which should commence without any preconditions in accordance with the mandate contained in the document CD/1299.

(b) **Verification:** A robust and effective verification regime is indispensable. Confidence in compliance is key to the treaty's credibility.

(c) **Non-discrimination and universality:** The FMCT must be non-discriminatory and apply equally to all States. This aligns with both the EU's commitment to multilateralism stressing that all States should be able to join the treaty under the same obligations.

(d) **Institutional Arrangements:** The treaty could establish a mechanism for review and adaptation, as recommended in the HLEPG's findings. These provisions would ensure the treaty remains relevant and adaptable to future challenges.

Pending a successful negotiation and the entry into force of such a treaty, the EU urges all States concerned to declare and uphold an immediate moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Voluntary measures taken to increase transparency regarding the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons would also contribute to confidence-building and disarmament efforts.

The EU will elaborate on these issues in the working paper "Towards an FMCT: Advancing the objective of stopping fissile material production for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in this NPT review cycle", to be submitted as a contribution to the third session of the NPT Preparatory Committee.

We call on all States to demonstrate the necessary political will to move forward. A treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons is an essential step toward a world without nuclear weapons.

I thank you.

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.