



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia to the United Nations**

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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**H.E. PENDA NAANDA**

**AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**DURING THE FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE ON CLUSTER 1: NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**21 OCTOBER 2025**

**NEW YORK**

**(Check Against Delivery)**

**Mr. Chair,**

- 1. Namibia aligns itself with the statements delivered by the African Group, the Non-Aligned Movement, and by South Africa on behalf of States Parties and Signatories to the TPNW.**
- 2. This meeting takes place against a backdrop of heightened geopolitical tensions, compounded by an alarming arms race and the persistent risks of nuclear confrontation. In light of these challenges, I wish to reaffirm Namibia's unwavering commitment to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as highlighted by the Pact for the Future. This pivotal agreement is one of the tools that not only symbolizes our dedication to a world free from the threat of nuclear devastation but also our recognition that the modernization of nuclear arsenals, which is a world concern, presents a significant challenge to global security and to humanity.**
- 3. The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use. The continued existence of nuclear weapons poses a grave threat to international peace and security and undermines the principles of the United Nations Charter. We therefore urge all Member States, particularly Nuclear Weapon States, to make military decisions informed by the enduring humanitarian and environmental consequences that arise from nuclear weapon testing and use. It is imperative that our actions reflect a commitment to the well-being of present and future generations.**
- 4. In this context, Nuclear Weapons States must scale up their ambitions in nuclear disarmament in fulfilling their obligations under Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).**
- 5. Namibia joins others to reiterate the call to all nuclear-armed states to adhere to global initiatives and arms control treaties. The implementation of such agreements has been instrumental in preventing the further use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and has fostered the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones. Consistent with this approach, we would like to renew our desire to see the creation of a nuclear weapon-free zone that bans the development, possession, or**

**testing of nuclear explosive devices in the Middle East to enhance regional stability and security.**

**6. Mr. Chair,**

- 7. Our common objective must remain the complete elimination of the risk of nuclear war. This cannot be achieved without the universalization and implementation of measures that prevent an arms race and pave the way toward lasting peace. In keeping with this objective, Namibia is actively pursuing membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group, aiming to ensure the peaceful nature of nuclear trade and to strengthen the non-proliferation regime.**
- 8. We must collectively intensify our efforts to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy by upholding the inalienable right of every nation to develop, research, produce, and utilize nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Namibia is committed to enhancing its energy capacities, including nuclear energy, as we work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and deliver on our National Development Plan 6.**
- 9. Namibia remains steadfast in its call for the accountable use of nuclear energy. We must ensure that comprehensive safeguards are in place while actively working to lift any limitations or restrictions on the use of nuclear materials, equipment, and technology for peaceful purposes, consistent with relevant multilateral treaties.**
- 10. Lastly, it is imperative that our actions reflect our commitment to the well-being of present and future generations. Let us strengthen cooperation in the field of nuclear medicine and cancer care, with a focus on supporting the capacities of developing countries. Together, we can harness the benefits of nuclear technology for health and development while ensuring our collective security. Thank you**