



REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations



STATEMENT BY

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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

DURING THE

**THE FIRST COMMITTEE GENERAL DEBATE
80TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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1. Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates
2. Angola congratulates you and the members of the Bureau on your election. You have the trust and support of my delegation.
3. Angola aligns itself with the statements delivered by **Guinea-Bissau** on behalf of the African Group and by **Uganda** on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Mr. Chair,

4. This Committee has the vital role in advancing the international peace and security agenda, as humanity continues to face multiple and complex threats.
5. Effective multilateralism is crucial to address disarmament, nonproliferation, and international security in accordance with the principles and objectives enshrined in the United Nations Charter.
6. Failure to adhere to the principles of the United Nations Charter often underlies many of the security challenges our planet faces, where geopolitical interests and ambitions, contrary to the values upheld by the international community, influence global stability.
7. Therefore, multilateralism must be the only framework capable of genuinely protecting the shared interests of all humanity.
8. We reaffirm our commitment to multilateralism, diplomacy, inclusive dialogue, and resolving conflicts through peaceful means.

Mr. Chair,

9. Angola advocates for the principle of complete nuclear disarmament as a precondition



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for maintaining international peace and security.

10. Since the establishment of international instruments on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation [**Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)** and the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)**], little progress has been made to the present day.
11. Instead, we have seen an exponential increase in nuclear weapons and programs, making the threat of their use increasingly imminent.
12. Angola, in its capacity as Chair of the African Union, considers that Africa's voice is essential to resolving significant global challenges, and the fight against nuclear weapons is one of them.
13. Experience shows that peace is a continuous process that entails responsibility, leadership, and political will.
14. Therefore, the Republic of Angola reaffirms its strong commitment to all international legal instruments on nuclear disarmament, especially the **Pelindaba Treaty**, which designates Africa as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ).
15. We believe that reinforcing the current Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ) and establishing new ones is essential for creating a world free of nuclear weapons.
16. Achieving the goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons depends on the commitment of all nuclear-weapon States to continually reduce and finally dismantle their nuclear weapons.
17. We recall that resolution 70/34 underscores the importance of the multilateral disarmament effort in the pursuit of a safer world for all.
18. We strongly believe that nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons remain the only guarantee against the use or threat of nuclear weapons.



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19. The Republic of Angola underscores the importance of the continued respect of the right of Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.
20. In this sense, we stress that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) must continue to play its role in promoting dialogue and consultation on nuclear safety, providing technical support, and maximizing the use of science and technology for socio-economic development.
21. Production and stockpiling of nuclear weapons may bring unbearable consequences for present and future generations. This trend must be reversed.

Mr. Chair,

22. Angola is seriously concerned about the ongoing conflicts in Africa, and elsewhere, which cause a high number of deaths and destruction of essential infrastructures, delay the implementation of sustainable development goals.
23. We recognize that the use of small arms and light weapons is a sovereign right of States to ensure their self-defense and national security needs.
24. However, the illicit trade of conventional arms and ammunition, their diversion to non-state actors, their excessive accumulation, and uncontrolled dissemination in many regions of the world, especially in Africa, have profound destabilizing effects, including fueling conflicts, violent crimes, and terrorism.
25. We remain committed to the implementation of the UN Programme of Action (UN PoA) to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) in all its aspects.

Mr. Chair

26. Angola is a peace-making, peacebuilding, and peace-loving State. At the core of its international policy lies the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes and the promotion of global peace and security.



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27. Armed conflicts in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and rising tensions in various parts of the world highlight the importance of strengthening multilateral cooperation mechanisms more than ever.
28. The current peace and security landscape requires everyone's attention and renewed political commitment, in a collective effort that prioritizes the use of diplomacy and peaceful means of resolving conflicts.
29. Angola underscores the need to ensure sustainable and coherent cooperation between the **United Nations, the African Union, and Regional Economic Communities** to consolidate peace and accelerate development across the continent.
30. In this context, funding African Union-led peace support operations is essential to strengthen the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security across Africa. Therefore, we urge the prompt implementation of SC resolution 2719 (2023) to address the changing peace and security issues in Africa.
31. In this regard, we look forward to the consultations between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council, taking place this week.
32. In the same vein, we continue to call for comprehensive reform of the UN Security Council. Africa must be adequately represented in both permanent and non-permanent categories, as stipulated in the **Ezulwini consensus** and the **Sirte Declaration**.
33. Once achieved, this historic milestone will have a positive impact on efforts to **SILENCE THE GUNS IN AFRICA**, as outlined in the African Union's **AGENDA 2063: The Africa We Want**.

Mr. Chair

34. The development of Artificial Intelligence represents a significant scientific



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advancement for the progress of humanity, and its use must comply with regulatory criteria of high ethical standards, involving a multilateral, responsible, and democratic approach.

35. We consider the use of Artificial Intelligence in the military sector can be risky and significantly impact global peace and security. We advocate for an open and comprehensive debate on how to regulate it.
36. On the other hand, the threat of militarization of outer space represents a setback in the progress made in the arms race, and we consider it not only a threat to international peace and security but also an unacceptable development.
37. Outer space should remain a shared domain for humanity and be used only for peaceful purposes.
38. In conclusion, **Mr. Chair**, we call on Member States to show political will and commitment to the transparency principle when addressing international disarmament and security issues.
39. To this end, Angola stands ready to work with the First Committee and all stakeholders to advance the global disarmament and international security agenda.
40. May the commitment of all Member States to a safer future for all be strengthened. This commitment is clearly reinforced by the UNGA 80 motto: “**Better Together - 80 Years for Peace, Development, and Human Rights!**”.

Thank you for your attention.