

**Statement by the Arab Republic of Egypt
80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly's First
Committee
Thematic Debate on Nuclear Weapons (Cluster 1)**

Check Against Delivery

Mr. Chairperson,

Egypt aligns itself with the Non-Aligned Movement and the Arab and African Groups, and adds the following remarks:

- 1- The existential threat posed by nuclear weapons and their possession by a few States is undisputable. There is no logic more compelling than the total, verifiable, and irreversible elimination of nuclear weapons as the only guarantee against their proliferation, use, or threat of use, not deterrence nor the so-called strategic stability.
- 2- Five decades after SSOD-1 with nuclear disarmament as its highest priority, Egypt remains concerned with lack of progress in implementing obligations and commitments, primarily Article VI of the NPT, and with the erosion of existing norms and principles in the context of geopolitical tensions and uncertainty as well as the quantitative and qualitative development of nuclear arsenals.
- 3- The Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, is at a crossroads. Achieving a meaningful outcome at 11th Review Conference

under the leadership of Vietnam is indispensable. We invite the Nuclear Weapon States to remain conscious of the bigger picture and what is truly at stake in case of failure.

- 4- On the road to the RevCon, we commend recent positive signals by President Trump and President Putin and we aspire that the spirit of Alaska brings New Start and the wider strategic arms control landscape back to life.

Mr. Chairperson,

- 5- We are alarmed by the risks of integrating artificial intelligence into any aspect of the life-cycle of nuclear weapons. Confidence building and risk reduction measures, such as No-First Use and Negative Security Assurance, contribute positively, however they are not a substitute to nuclear disarmament.
- 6- Further, Egypt supports accountability and transparency by Nuclear Weapons States through reporting on the implementation of their obligations under Article VI of the NPT under Main Committee 1 of the Review Conference.
- 7- On behalf of the New Agenda Coalition, Egypt tabled the annual resolution titled "Towards a Nuclear Free World: Accelerating the Implementation of Nuclear Disarmament Commitments". Egypt will support every proposal that genuinely advocate for a nuclear weapon free world and is faithful to existing obligations and commitments.

Chairperson,

- 8- The lack of implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, which allowed the indefinite extension of the NPT, as well as countless resolutions by the UNSC and UNGA, is a major setback to the disarmament and non-proliferation regime. We call upon the 3 co-sponsors of the resolution to undertake their responsibilities towards implementation. There is every good reason to support a nuclear weapons free zone in Middle East.
- 9- In this regard, we believe that the relevant annual United Nations Conference is an inclusive, non-politicized and consensus-based process to negotiate a legally binding instrument based on arrangements freely arrived at by the region. At its previous five sessions it witnessed incremental procedural and substantive progress. We hope that all invited Members and Observers participate in the upcoming 6th session.
- 10- In the same vein, we count on the continued support to the resolution that Egypt tables annually on “the Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Middle East” and to the annual Arab Group resolution on “The Risk of Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East”.

Thank you.