



STATEMENT

BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF LIBERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AT THE THEMATIC DEBATE OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

80TH SESSION UNGA GENERAL DEBATE

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Thank you, Mr. Chair,

I congratulate you and the Bureau on your election, and assure you of Liberia's fullest support.

Liberia aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group and offers the following remarks in its national capacity.

We gather at a time of growing geopolitical tension, ongoing armed conflict, and unfortunate disregard for international norms. This context reinforces the critical importance of the First Committee and the entire UN's disarmament machinery in sustaining global peace and security.

Liberia's stance on nuclear disarmament remains unchanged. It is inspired by that which unites us as a people with a common objective, same being — the preservation of humanity and the protection of our one world.

While the continued failure of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) to reach consensus on recommendations for the total elimination of nuclear weapons remains a matter of grave concern, the Commission's determination in sustaining structured dialogue and the willingness of States to remain engaged is crucial and source of hopefulness.

Liberia remains fully committed to multilateral disarmament and underscores the enduring relevance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the Humanitarian Pledge for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons among many others.

We commend the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy and preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons through verification and safeguards. As a member since 1962, Liberia values its work and encourages enhanced international cooperation under its mandate.

As a post-conflict country, Liberia remains deeply concerned by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW), which undermines stability across Africa. We strongly support the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the ECOWAS Convention on SALW, and the UN Programme of Action (PoA), to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

We welcome the report and the outcome document adopted by consensus at the 4th United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the PoA in June 2024. We are proud to indicate that Liberia has domesticated these instruments into national law and established the Liberia National Commission on Arms to oversee its implementation. Nonetheless, we emphasize the need for sustained international cooperation, predictable funding, capacity-building, and technology transfer to strengthen our national and regional efforts and capacities.

Similarly, Liberia welcomes the adoption of the Global Framework for Through-Life Conventional Ammunition Management, and the outcome of the June 2025 Preparatory Meeting, recognizing it as a critical step toward preventing the risks associated with the diversion of conventional ammunition of all types, and their potential threats to peace, security and sustainable development. We believe that the recommendations contained in the report, which lay the groundwork for responsible governance, oversight, and continued engagement on ammunition management. International cooperation, technical support, and capacity-building are essential for effective implementation.

Chair,

Like many delegations in this room, Liberia is deeply concerned about the rapid increase of malicious ICT activities and the ripple effect on global peace and security. We support the work of the Open-Ended Working Group on ICTs (2021–2025) and welcome the move toward a Permanent Global Mechanism. This mechanism must build on prior work, uphold human rights, and support capacity development, particularly for developing countries as we stride toward an open, stable, secure, and peaceful cyberspace.

Chair,

Disarmament and development are interlinked. Liberia believes that silencing the guns is only the first step; the true measure of success lies in sustaining peace. My delegation remains committed to working with all Member States in pursuit of a safer, more secure, and peaceful world.

I thank you.