



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

DRAFT STATEMENT

**FIRST COMMITTEE THEMATIC DEBATE ON OTHER
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

22 October 2025

CR4

UNHQ

Chair,

Mozambique aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the Group of 77 and China, and wishes to add the following remarks in its national capacity.

The spread and potential use of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs)—nuclear, chemical, biological, and radiological—continues to pose existential risks to humankind.

Furthermore, as the Secretary-General's report A/80/164 underscores, the convergence between terrorism and WMD proliferation, aided by emerging technologies and the dual-use of everyday innovations, is heightening the global threat threshold.

This technological convergence—including AI-driven bio-design, 3D printing, and unregulated drone technology—creates new routes for misuse.

We are increasingly aware of the growing potential of low-cost, high-impact options for non-State actors, compounded by the erosion of global cooperation as geopolitical rivalries stall negotiations on verification and non-proliferation protocols, diminishing the space for dialogue and compromise.

Mozambique therefore urges the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the Office of Counter-Terrorism, INTERPOL, and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to strengthen national capacities and legal frameworks.

In this context, and during our recent mandate in the Security Council, Mozambique was honoured to partner with UNODA and the 1540 Committee in co-hosting the 3rd Training Course for National Focal Points in Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 5 to 7 November 2024.

The course brought together forty-two States and reinforced Africa's ability to implement resolution 1540, strengthening the continent's leadership in non-proliferation and disarmament—an effort commended by High Representative Izumi Nakamitsu for its tangible contribution to regional capacity-building

Chair,

We recall that the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)—together with their verification and assistance mechanisms—remain indispensable pillars of the disarmament architecture.

The OPCW's continued work in Africa, including capacity-building under its regional programmes, demonstrates that multilateral institutions remain our best shield against the re-emergence of such weapons.

Mozambique joins others in calling for:

1. Renewed international engagement to strengthen the BWC through a legally binding verification mechanism;
2. Support for African regional centres of excellence on CBRN risk mitigation under AU-UN partnership frameworks; and

3. The integration of algorithmic accountability and AI safeguards into future WMD governance regimes, to prevent the automation of destruction.

Mr. Chair,

Weapons of mass destruction cannot coexist with the Charter of the United Nations. Our generation's responsibility is to ensure that the tools of science serve life—not annihilation.

Thank you.