



**Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
to the United Nations in New York**

Statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador Dionísio Babo Soares,
Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the United
Nations

**First Committee of the 80th Session of the General Assembly
Cluster 1: Nuclear Weapons**

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Mr. Chair,

Timor-Leste aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Republic of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

As a nation founded upon the principles of peace, sovereignty, and international solidarity, and shaped by the lived experience of conflict and reconciliation, Timor-Leste remains deeply committed to the global elimination of nuclear weapons and the strengthening of multilateral disarmament frameworks.

We are gravely concerned by the continued modernization of nuclear arsenals, the deployment of new delivery systems, and strategic doctrines that lower the threshold for nuclear use, even against non-nuclear-weapon States. These developments undermine international peace and security and run counter to the spirit and obligations of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Timor-Leste reaffirms that nuclear disarmament must remain the foremost priority within the global disarmament agenda. We urge all nuclear-weapon States to fulfil, without further delay, their binding obligations under Article VI of the NPT and to eliminate their nuclear arsenals in a transparent, irreversible, verifiable, and time-bound manner. The modernization of nuclear weapons is incompatible with these commitments and must cease.

We underscore the importance of revitalizing substantive dialogue within the Conference on Disarmament to identify and implement effective measures for nuclear disarmament. Timor-Leste also values ongoing efforts toward a comprehensive legal instrument addressing nuclear weapons and calls on all Member States to engage constructively and transparently.

We welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and, as a proud signatory, reaffirm our full commitment to its implementation and active participation in its future meetings.

Timor-Leste regrets that the 9th and 10th NPT Review Conferences were unable to reach consensus. We urge nuclear-weapon States to demonstrate the political will necessary to ensure that the 11th Review Conference delivers concrete, forward-looking outcomes consistent with the NPT's core objectives. The credibility of the Treaty depends on the balanced implementation of its three pillars.

We also reiterate our strong support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, in accordance with relevant resolutions. At the same time, nuclear safety and security measures must not impede the inalienable right of developing countries to pursue peaceful nuclear energy, as outlined in Article IV of the NPT.

Finally, Timor-Leste welcomes recent expressions of intent by nuclear-weapon States to advance disarmament, but stresses that words must be matched by concrete, transparent, and irreversible action. We reaffirm our commitment to multilateral disarmament efforts and our intention to accede to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone at the earliest opportunity.

In this spirit, Timor-Leste stands firm in our cooperation with all partners toward a world free from the threat of nuclear arms.

Thank you.