

Tunisia's statement in the First Committee on Nuclear Weapons

Thank you, Mr. President

Tunisia aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Arab Group, the African Group, and the Non-Aligned Movement and wishes to deliver the following remarks in its national capacity.

In September each year, and on the margins of the General Assembly session, the international community meets to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. World leaders would deliver statements to highlight the need for the elimination of this particular type of weapon due to the danger it represents to humanity, not only when they are used but also in terms of their mere existence.

On the other hand, nuclear weapons investments continue to soar. Nuclear weapons arsenal continues to proliferate. Consequently, international peace and security, the environment, and the whole planet continue to be in jeopardy.

Mr. President,

Let us recall that a nuclear war should not be fought, cannot be won, and must not be threatened. Two years ago, we witnessed the first threat of a nuclear bomb in our modern times, made by a member of the government of the occupying power against the people of Gaza. That statement, and similar ones, should be condemned as they may lead to the normalization of nuclear discourses.

Tunisia believes that establishing nuclear weapons-free zones is a sine qua non for nuclear disarmament. Hence, call for the establishment of a nuclear weapons-free zone in the Middle East. In this regard, we commend the efforts conducted by the Kingdom of Morocco in its capacity as President of the sixth Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction.

As conflicts and crises continue and worsen in several regions of the world, the conviction grows that eliminating nuclear weapons does not undermine international peace and security. It rather enhances them.

Mr. President,

As we are approaching the 2026 NPT review conference. It is worth reminding that the two consecutive failures do not put the treaty in question. They rather put the international system in question.

As a matter a fact, NPT has proved its efficiency with the significant decrease of nuclear warheads ever since the ratification of the NPT. Thus, Tunisia calls upon the international community to create a favorable climate for the success of the upcoming review conference.

In conclusion,

Nuclear weapons represent not only a threat to international peace and security, but also a threat to humanity, the environment and the whole planet. We will be much better together without nuclear weapons.

I thank you