

**Joint Statement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)  
at the Thematic discussion on Nuclear Weapons  
of the First Committee of the 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
(short version to be delivered)**

*Mr. Chair,*

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The full statement can be found on e-Statements of this meeting.

1. ASEAN underscores its commitment to the goal of the total and complete elimination of nuclear weapons and the imperatives of strengthened cooperation, full and effective implementation of commitments under international law, to promote mutual trust and progress towards our shared goal.

2. ASEAN recognizes the NPT as the cornerstone of the global regime of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and look forward to the 2026 Review Conference. We call on all States Parties to work towards a meaningful, consensual outcome of the Conference, which upholds the credibility and integrity of the NPT.

3. ASEAN opposes all forms of nuclear testings. We reiterate the urgency of achieving the universalization and entry into force of the CTBT, and the remaining Annex 2 States to sign and ratify the Treaty without further delay. We also recognize the historic significance of the TPNW and its contribution to the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.

*Mr. Chair,*

6. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, ASEAN calls on all Nuclear Weapon States to provide and adhere to unconditional, legally binding negative security assurances to Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and within nuclear-weapon-free zones; adopt a no-first-use policy; and take steps to reduce and eliminate the risks of nuclear weapons, including those posed by the use of emerging technologies in nuclear systems.

7. ASEAN reaffirms the right of all States to the uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. We support relevant proposals of the Secretary-General in his Agenda for Disarmament.

9. ASEAN supports all efforts to establish and strengthen nuclear-weapon-free zones, including in the Middle East. We commit to preserve Southeast Asia as a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and look forward to Timor-Leste's accession to the Bangkok Treaty on the Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone at the 47<sup>th</sup> Summit and its related meetings.

**10.** ASEAN continues to explore the possibility of allowing individual Nuclear-Weapon States which are willing to sign and ratify the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty without reservations and provide prior formal assurances of this commitment in writing, to proceed with signature. We welcome any Nuclear-Weapon States ready to do so and reaffirm ASEAN's commitment to continuously engaging with all Nuclear-Weapon States, including those with reservations, and intensifying efforts of all parties to resolve all outstanding issues in line with the objectives and principles of the SEANWFZ Treaty.

*Mr. Chair,*

**11.** ASEAN is tabling at this session the biennial resolution on the SEANWFZ Treaty, which highlights its contribution to regional and international peace and security. We look forward to the continued support of all Member States for this important resolution.

*I thank you./.*