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Sudan Statement

On

First Committee General Debate 80th Session of United Nations General Assembly

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Minister Plenipotentiary**

Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan
to the United Nations

*Tuesday, October 13th, 2025
New York*

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to Ambassador Maurizio Massari on his election as Chair of the First Committee in the 80th session of the General Assembly. My delegation assures you of our full support as you guide these important deliberations. We also offer our congratulations to the members of the bureau.

Sudan aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Africa Group, and Arab Group, respectively.

We meet at a time when the foundations of global peace and security face unprecedented strain. Military expenditures have reached an exceptional \$2.7 billion, reflecting a concerning trend for the future. This escalation highlights significant challenges ahead and emphasizes the urgent need for effective action.

In view of these developments, it is essential to recall the core mandate of this committee: to provide concrete recommendations concerning disarmament, non-proliferation, arms control, and broader issues of peace and international security. Achieving meaningful progress in these areas requires robust political will and a spirit of flexibility.

The threat posed by nuclear weapons remains paramount. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), with its three interrelated pillars—nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy—serves as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and is fundamental to advancing nuclear disarmament. As the review conference approaches next year, we anticipate transparent and productive discussions that will lead to a consensual outcome, preserving the treaty's credibility.

It is deeply concerning to observe the weakening of international disarmament and non-proliferation frameworks. Complete nuclear disarmament offers the only comprehensive assurance against both the use and threat of nuclear weapons; deterrence and strategic stability do not provide equivalent protection. We urge all Nuclear-Weapon States to fulfill their obligations under Article VI of the NPT and to undertake concrete actions towards nuclear disarmament.

My delegation regards multilateralism not only as a preferred approach but as the foundational principle and sole viable mechanism for achieving our objectives. In this context, we support the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons (FMCT) and addressing existing stockpiles.

Similarly, the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is of utmost importance. We call upon all remaining Annex 2 States to sign and ratify without further delay. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) marks a historic milestone, complementing other instruments for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Sudan reiterates its unequivocal commitment to upholding international norms against the existence and use of chemical, biological, and radiological weapons. As a member of its executive council, Sudan fully supports the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in fulfilling its mandate in a comprehensive, objective, and impartial manner.

Mr. Chair,

At the regional level, Sudan expresses its support for the peace agreement concluded in the Occupied Territories of Palestine and anticipates its comprehensive implementation to alleviate the hardship and destruction experienced by the Palestinian people.

Given the challenges in the Middle East and the devastating situation Gaza, and concerns about possible use of nuclear bombs, Sudan supports establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region to enhance peace and security. The establishment of Nuclear-Free Zones constitutes one of the most tangible achievements in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation history.

We call for the full and timely implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, which remains a central component of the indefinite extension of the NPT. Sudan has actively participated in all five sessions of the United Nations Conference pursuant to General Assembly Decision 73/546 and looks forward to the convening of the sixth session. Sudan continues to urge all invited regional parties, without exception, to participate actively in the Conference and negotiate in good faith towards a legally binding treaty establishing such a zone.

While weapons of mass destruction warrant our focused attention, conventional arms also cause daily devastation. Sudan has long suffered from the illicit flow of weapons to militia groups, a challenge exacerbated during the recent war of aggression against the people and government of Sudan. The uncontrolled transfer of arms has destabilized the country, undermined peace efforts, and threatened territorial integrity and could possibly threaten regional stability. Tackling illicit arms flows remains a priority for my delegation as we strive to prevent escalation and foster stability nationwide.

Recognizing the legitimate right of sovereign nations to utilize conventional weapons for internal security and defense, Sudan reaffirms its unwavering commitment to implementing the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. We emphasize the collective responsibility of states to refrain from supplying arms, financial resources, or mercenaries to militias and terrorist organizations, and we urge the international community to hold violators accountable.

Mr. Chair,

Outer space is a domain shared by humanity and must remain dedicated to peaceful purposes. Sudan fully supports initiatives aimed at maintaining the peaceful use of outer space and preventing its militarization. In this context, we advocate for the development of a legally binding international instrument to address the current gaps in the legal framework governing outer space activities. Such an instrument would solidify global commitment to the peaceful use of outer space and help prevent an arms race beyond our planet.

Sudan calls for the comprehensive implementation of the mandate on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS). We urge all states to participate constructively in the ongoing deliberations of the Open-Ended Working Group.

Sudan welcomes the successful conclusion of the work of the Open-ended Working Group on the security of and in the use of information and communications technologies (2021-2025) and the adoption of its final report by consensus, including elements establishing the United Nations Global Mechanism. My delegation calls for a seamless transition from the OEWG to the UN Global Mechanism.

Sudan stresses the importance of ensuring that the use of such technologies be fully in accordance with purposes and principles of the UN Charter, International Law and especially, the principles of sovereignty, sovereign equality, noninterference in internal affairs, refraining from the threat or use of force, peaceful settlement of dispute, respect for human rights, and adhering to the well-established principle of peaceful coexistence among States.

In conclusion,

The work of this Committee is a testament to our shared aspiration for a more peaceful and secure world, free from war and the threat of weapons of mass destruction. Our decisions here will have enduring consequences. Sudan stands ready to contribute to this crucial undertaking.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.