



PERMANENT MISSION OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

**By Deputy Permanent Representative Mr. Amriyo Bobozoda
at the General Debate of the First Committee of the 77th session
of the United Nations General Assembly
(10 October 2023, New York)**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you and members of the Bureau on your election and reiterate my delegation's full support for your chairmanship throughout the session.

Distinguished colleagues,

Strengthening multilateral mechanisms of control over weapons, disarmament and non-proliferation is a key to maintaining global security and stability. Establishing nuclear-free zones is an essential component of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, expanding cooperation on the peaceful use of nuclear energy and strengthening regional and international peace and security.

To this end, Tajikistan was among the five countries of Central Asia, which created a zone free of nuclear weapons in Central Asia.

Our country shares the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons and believes that no mechanisms of nuclear disarmament can be effective without the accession of all concerned parties.

We call upon all States to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Tajikistan supports the UN's leading role in combating the illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), and considers it crucial to the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate Illicit Trade in SALW in all its Aspects, as a main multilateral mechanism to curb the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

Mr. Chair

Since joining the Convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction in 1995, the Republic of Tajikistan has been fully committed to implementing provisions of the Convention. Tajikistan backs the idea that any use of chemical weapons under any circumstances, anywhere, at any time, and by anyone is considered a violation of international law.

We also attach a great importance to the efficient implementation of the Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personal mines and on their destruction (the Ottawa Convention). Tajikistan strives to see Central Asia free from landmines and calls upon international partners to contribute to achieving this noble goal.

Mr. Chair

Information and communications technologies (ICTs) create huge economic, political, and social opportunities, particularly for advancing sustainable development goals worldwide. We recognize the leading role of the United Nations in promoting dialogue among the Member States in this area. The Republic of Tajikistan supports the negotiation process in the format of the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and a Group of Governmental Experts aimed at providing an opportunity for all UN Member States to participate, express their views and extend cooperation on the international security dimension of ICTs.

Dear colleagues

Threats such as terrorism, extremism, drug and arms trafficking, cybercrime and other forms of cross-border organized crime have a tendency to increase exponentially.

On 18-19 October 2022 within the Dushanbe Process on Countering Terrorism and its Financing the Government of Tajikistan, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and its partners held a High-Level International Conference on "International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movement of Terrorists".

Tajikistan will continue cooperating with the United Nations and other international partners in convening international conferences in Dushanbe on combating terrorism and extremism and threats emanating from these challenges.

The Dushanbe Process being an important format for constructive efforts focuses global cooperation on specific issues of ensuring international and regional security.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair I would like to reiterate Tajikistan's commitment to cooperate closely with all UN member states and international organizations in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and find solutions to our global challenges.

Thank you for your attention.