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## **Statement of Algeria**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

#### **Main Committee II: Non-Proliferation, Safeguards, and Regional Issues**

**5<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

I wish to begin by congratulating you on your election to the Chair of this Committee.

Algeria aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of NAM, the African Group, and the Arab Group.

#### **Chair,**

The non-proliferation pillar of the NPT rests on a foundation of balance, balance with disarmament, and balance with the inalienable right to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The strength of the edifice depends on the strength of all three pillars together. Each reinforces the others. Each draws its meaning from the others. This is the very nature of the bargain on which this Treaty was built.

It is therefore with this principle of balance, and of integrity, that my delegation approaches the work of this Committee.

In this spirit, Algeria wishes to address **four** substantive priorities before this Committee.

**First**, on the IAEA safeguards system. Algeria reaffirms that the IAEA, and only the IAEA, is the competent authority responsible for verifying compliance with the safeguards obligations of States Parties. Algeria fully supports the Agency's efforts to implement its mandate.

Safeguards, to remain credible, must respect the very terms of Article III itself, preserving the economic and technological development of States Parties, and protecting legitimate international cooperation in peaceful nuclear activities.

**Second**, on universality. The credibility of the non-proliferation regime grows with every State that accepts its discipline. All countries that remain outside the Treaty must accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon parties, and to place all their nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards. Universality strengthens the regime. Equal application of its rules sustains its authority. And nuclear-weapon States Parties bear a special responsibility under Article I to ensure that their cooperation reinforces, rather than undermines, the path toward universal adherence.

**Third**, on the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones. Algeria has always considered that such zones constitute a powerful instrument for the consolidation of regional peace and for the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime. As a State Party to the Treaty of Pelindaba, Algeria takes pride in

the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free Africa, today comprising forty-four States Parties. Algeria equally welcomes all other established zones.

It is essential to underscore that the map of nuclear restraint is wider than the map of nuclear possession.

As highlighted in Algeria's Working Paper 23 on security assurances, we call upon those nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the relevant protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, without delay and without reservations.

**Fourth**, on the Middle East.

The 1995 Resolution was not a footnote to the indefinite extension. It was a constitutive element of it.

The indefinite extension rested upon a commitment that a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction would be established in the Middle East. That commitment remains valid until its objectives are achieved. It was reaffirmed in 2000. It was operationalized in 2010, when this Conference mandated the convening of a conference in 2012, with a designated facilitator and a host country.

Regrettably, that conference was never convened.

**Chair**,

Algeria welcomes the progress achieved through the Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone, pursuant to GA decision 73/546.

Six annual sessions have been held so far, and Algeria has participated in every session. We urge all countries of the region to engage in this process.

**Chair**,

Allow me to conclude with this.

Non-proliferation must apply to all.

Safeguards must bind all.

Regional security must protect all.

This is the principle on which the credibility of our Treaty rests, and on which its promises must be kept.

I thank you.