

**Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Review Conference
(New York, 27 April – 22 May 2026)**

**Statement by Ambassador Anne Lazar-Sury
Head of the French Delegation
(New York, 5 May 2026)**

Main Committee II – Non-proliferation

Mr Chairman,

I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of this Committee.

France fully aligns with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and wishes to add a few remarks on a national basis.

The proliferation of nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles continues to pose a major threat to international peace, security and stability. The international community must demonstrate its ability to respond swiftly and firmly to proliferation crises. This is the very essence of the statement made by our Minister in his address at the opening of this conference.

Firstly, the Iranian nuclear crisis remains a major concern for the international community.

It has now been almost a year since the IAEA lost access to the most sensitive facilities of Iran's nuclear programme, including enrichment facilities, and to the stockpile of 60% highly enriched uranium. Iran's systematic refusal to comply with its safeguards obligations led the IAEA Board of Governors in June 2025 to declare Iran in violation of its comprehensive safeguards agreement. The implementation of the safeguards agreement cannot under no circumstances be suspended or made contingent on external factors that do not fall within the scope of the legal obligations under the NPT.

Iran's behaviour heightens our concerns regarding the nature of the Iranian nuclear programme. Iran is the only non-nuclear-weapon State to have produced 60% highly enriched uranium. It is against this backdrop that the E3, having exhausted all alternative remedies with Iran, took action to ensure the reimposition of the United Nations Security Council sanctions on Iran that had been lifted under the JCPoA. The Council resolutions imposing these sanctions have been back in full force since September 2025.

France is firmly determined to ensure that Iran never acquires nuclear weapons. In this regard, we continue to make every effort to reach a robust, sustainable and verifiable diplomatic agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue. We urge Iran to seek a negotiated solution and to cooperate fully with the IAEA in the implementation of safeguards.

Mr President,

Allow me now to turn to the destabilising activities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which remain a issue of grave concern. France condemns in the strongest possible terms the DPRK's continued development of its nuclear, ballistic missile and space launch programmes, which constitute a flagrant violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions and a threat to international peace and security.

France once again urges the DPRK not to conduct a further nuclear test. It emphasises its determination to continue, in conjunction with its partners, to pursue the goal of the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation of North Korea.

Mr President,

The IAEA safeguards system plays a vital role within the international nuclear non-proliferation regime, and we must prioritise supporting the Agency's efforts to strengthen it, so that it remains fully effective and credible.

France considers that only the combined implementation of a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol can achieve the objectives of Article III of the NPT. In this regard, I hail Guinea and Somalia on the entry into force of their respective agreements.

Finally, France emphasises the essential contribution of multilateral export control regimes such as the NSG to the pursuit of the NPT's objectives.

Thank you./.