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STATEMENT BY
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**AT THE 2026 CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS:**

Main Committee III

April/May 2026
United Nations HQ
New York

Mr. Chair

I congratulate you on your assumption of the role of Chair of Main Committee 3 (the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Science and Technology) of the 11th Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. You have our full support and cooperation in guiding our work.

Ghana aligns itself with the statements delivered by the African Group and the Non-Aligned Movement and reaffirms its commitment to the full and balanced implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. My delegation would like to make the following statement in our national capacity.

Ghana remains firmly committed to the full, balanced and non-discriminatory implementation of all three pillars of the Treaty, including the inalienable right of States Parties to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under Article IV.

We note that the promotion of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, as provided for in Article IV of the Treaty, constitutes one of the fundamental objectives of the NPT and an integral part of the grand bargain upon which the Treaty rests.

Ghana underscores that nothing in the Treaty should be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of States Parties to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with Articles I and II. For developing countries in particular, meaningful implementation of this pillar requires equitable access to nuclear science and technology, technical knowledge, training opportunities and international cooperation that supports national development priorities, including health, agriculture, industry, energy and environmental protection.

Ghana therefore stresses the importance of the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Ghana reaffirms that each State has the sovereign right to define its national energy policies and priorities, including the right to determine, in accordance with its national circumstances and international obligations, how best to utilize nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes. In this regard, approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle and related assurances should remain consistent with the principles of non-discrimination, consensus and full respect for the legal rights of States Parties under the Treaty.

Ghana further emphasizes the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency as the sole competent authority responsible for verifying the fulfillment of safeguards obligations assumed by States Parties under the Treaty and as the global focal point for nuclear technical cooperation. The Agency's work in these areas should continue to be carried out impartially, professionally and in strict conformity with its Statute.

Ghana also underlines the importance of the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme as the principal vehicle for the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, particularly for developing countries. Strengthening this programme through adequate, predictable and sustainable resources would significantly enhance the ability of Member States to harness nuclear applications in support of national development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ghana remains concerned by any efforts that may politicize the work of the IAEA, including its technical cooperation activities, or subject the Agency to pressures inconsistent with its mandate. Confidence in the international nuclear regime requires that the Agency's technical, statutory and developmental functions be preserved, protected and fully respected.

Ghana notes that the responsibility for nuclear safety and nuclear security rests with States and that multilateral norms and cooperation in these areas should be pursued within the framework of the IAEA. At the same time, measures aimed at strengthening nuclear safety and security must not be used as leverage to violate, deny or restrict the inalienable right of developing countries to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

As new technologies emerge, including small modular reactors, Ghana emphasizes that innovation should expand, rather than narrow opportunities for developing countries. The development and deployment of such technologies must not create new forms of conditionality or discrimination, nor redefine the scope of rights guaranteed to States Parties under Article IV.

Ghana further believes that strict adherence to the Treaty and to IAEA safeguards should remain essential in all matters concerning nuclear cooperation. At the same time, such cooperation among States Parties should be facilitated in a manner that preserves the balance of rights and obligations at the heart of the NPT.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair, Ghana remains committed to the balanced implementation of all three pillars of the Treaty. The credibility and sustainability of the NPT depend upon measurable and balanced progress in non-proliferation, disarmament and the full, fair and non-discriminatory implementation of the peaceful uses pillar.

I thank you.