

KAZAKHSTAN

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**Statement
at the 2026 NPT Review Conference
Main Committee I (disarmament)
(New York, 5 May 2026)**

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, allow me to **congratulate you on your appointment** as Chair of Main Committee I.

My delegation assures you of its **full support and cooperation**.

Distinguished delegates,

Kazakhstan's position on nuclear disarmament is shaped by **direct historical experience**.

More than **450 nuclear tests** were conducted at the Semipalatinsk test site leaving a lasting environmental, socio-economic and cross-generational humanitarian legacy. Yet, Kazakhstan chose the path of **disarmament, cooperation and responsibility** by joining the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon State. This year will mark the **35th anniversary** of the closure of the test site.

Today, the global nuclear landscape is becoming **more dangerous and more complex**.

More than **12,000 nuclear warheads** still exist, while more than **2,000 are kept on high operational alert**. As a reflection of a **more dangerous, more complex, and less predictable**

security environment we witness accelerating **modernization of nuclear arsenals**, while arms control frameworks are disappearing and strategic dialogue is absent.

Nuclear rhetoric has become more prominent, weakening the long-standing norm that nuclear weapons must **never be used**.

Mr. Chairman,

The global security environment is further complicated by advances in **AI, cyber and delivery capabilities**. These technologies can heighten the risk of **miscalculation**, particularly in crisis situations. We stand by the principle that nuclear weapons must **always remain under full and meaningful human control**.

Kazakhstan remains concerned by the **lack of progress under Article VI**. The credibility of the Treaty depends on the **balanced implementation of all three pillars**, including tangible steps toward disarmament.

Previously agreed commitments, including the **2010 Action Plan**, remain valid benchmarks and should guide further efforts. We also recall the relevancy of the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World adopted by the General Assembly in 2015.

Kazakhstan supports a **pragmatic approach** to disarmament, including risk reduction measures, de-alerting, reducing the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines, and strengthening **transparency and confidence-building measures**. At the same time, risk reduction must complement and facilitate disarmament, not substitute it.

In this regard, we welcome the establishment of **Subsidiary Body 1** where these important issues can be comprehensively discussed.

Mr. Chairman,

The **CTBT** remains a key pillar of the disarmament architecture. Strengthening the CTBT regime remains essential for maintaining global confidence.

Kazakhstan attaches particular importance to **Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones**. However, their effectiveness depends on the provision of **legally-binding negative security assurances**, without reservations or limitations.

The **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)** represents an important milestone for disarmament. We see the TPNW as fully **complementary and compatible** with the NPT.

Having presided over the Third Meeting of States Parties in 2025, Kazakhstan continues to advance work on **victim assistance and environmental remediation**, including the establishment of an international support mechanism for affected communities.

Mr. Chairman,

Kazakhstan remains committed to achieve a credible outcome of this Review Conference which contain **balanced, realistic, and forward-looking measures** that reinforce the disarmament pillar.

Thank you.