

STATEMENT

BY

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AT THE

MAIN COMMITTEE II

**THE 11TH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY
ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

NEW YORK, 5 MAY 2026

Mr. Chairman,

Namibia congratulates you on assuming the position of Chair of the Main Committee II. Please be assured of our cooperation and support.

Namibia aligns itself with the Statement of the African Group and the Statement of the Non-Aligned Movement.

As State Party to both the NPT and the Treaty of Pelindaba, Namibia is of the strong conviction that all materials, facilities, scientific and technological information must be subject to full-scope IAEA safeguards for the exclusive purpose of verification of the fulfilment of the Parties obligations assumed under the NPT.

This is the most viable and practical path to prevent the diversion of nuclear materials and related technologies to purpose other than for peaceful uses.

Hence the nuclear-weapons free zones, in addition to the IAEA safeguards regime, remain important instruments to promote cooperation among states and in particular verification that there is no diversion of nuclear energy to non-peaceful purpose.

Mr Chair,

Africa, like many other regions, has made a clear and irreversible choice: our continent rejects the stationing and testing of nuclear explosive devices on its soil and at the same time committed to the system of verification that the use of nuclear energy is for peaceful purposes only.

The Pelindaba Treaty, to which Namibia reaffirms its steadfast commitment, established Africa as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone and remains one of the most comprehensive and forward-looking regional instruments of its kind.

Namibia underscores that the Treaty is a binding expression of Africa's commitment to global peace, regional stability, and the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

We therefore urge all States that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty's Protocols without reservations that may weaken its intent or its objectives. Full adherence to the PELINDABA Treaty strengthens the global non-proliferation architecture and demonstrates that entire regions can choose collective security without nuclear weapons.

We also stress that the establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction, as mandated by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference Resolution, remains a longstanding priority of the international community.

Progress on this front is essential for regional and global security, and we call for the convening of a conference to negotiate the establishment of the zone.

Chair, as a major producer of uranium, Namibia has placed all its materials and nuclear related activities under the IAEA safeguard regime, which includes the Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement with the IAEA and the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement.

Namibia is of the view that the IAEA as the only competent multilateral technical body with the mandate to conduct verification activities. Therefore, the role of IAEA must be respected by all State Parties while also working towards strengthening the IAEA to fulfil its mandate.

In this context, we call on all State Parties that have not done so, to place their nuclear programme under the IAEA comprehensive safeguards regime. Through the Treaty of PELINDABA, the African continent has made it unequivocally clear that nuclear materials shall not be transferred to States that do not have comprehensive safeguards agreements with the IAEA.

Furthermore, Chair, in the spirit and letter of Article III of the NPT, we urge all State Parties to strengthen cooperation and collaboration with the view to capacitate State Parties to actively participate and conduct verification activities to ensure their materials and related technologies are used for peaceful purposes only as complementary tool to the IAEA safeguards verification regime.

Mr. Chairman

We note that while considerable progress has been made under the pillars of non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear technology, the pillar on disarmament continues to frustrate the process on meaningful negotiations at the NTP Review process. In this regard we fully support transparent multilateral efforts aimed at nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Thank you