



PHILIPPINES

AS DELIVERED

STATEMENT

To be delivered by

MR. JESUS ENRIQUE G. GARCIA II
Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative

General Debate
11th Review Conference of the Parties to
the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Venue, United Nations Headquarters, New York
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Thank you, Mr. President.

We congratulate you on your election as President of this Review Conference, and assure you of our full support and cooperation.

The Philippines associates with the statements of ASEAN, NAM, the NPDI, and the State Parties and Signatories to the TPNW.
Mr. President,

As we navigate uncertainties and challenges in the global security landscape, we must rebuild trust in multilateralism and strengthen the international rules-based order that provides stability for all.

States Parties must remain steadfast in abiding by their obligations under the NPT, especially Nuclear Weapon States, despite changing security environments. The 13 Practical Steps and the 64-Point Action Plan serve as important guides for the treaty's implementation.

Nuclear Weapon States should lead the way in eliminating all types of nuclear weapons, with full transparency, irreversibility, and verifiability. The increase, threat, or use of nuclear weapons have no place in military and security doctrines. Nuclear weapons are ineffective deterrents that have only encouraged military build-ups and increased risks of arms races and competition.

Nuclear Weapon States should also provide credibility to the grand bargain that underpins the NPT, by undertaking effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory, irrevocable and legally-binding security assurances. We call for regular, standardized reporting for all State Parties, especially Nuclear Weapon States.

Mr. President,

One of our most immediate tasks is to reduce the risk of nuclear conflict through practical measures, such as transparency initiatives, conflict resolution, arms control agreements, and communication channels, among others.

It is imperative we adhere to the highest standards of nuclear non-proliferation, anchored on the obligation of Nuclear Weapon States to pursue nuclear disarmament. We must continue to support and cooperate with the IAEA in fulfilling its safeguards mandate, and ensure that all States abide by the global norms against nuclear testing.

The total, complete, verifiable, and irreversible elimination of nuclear weapons should be our collective goal. The TPNW, the CTBT, and a possible FMCT, complement and supplement the NPT.

We call for universal adherence to these instruments.

Mr. President,

We are aware of the challenges to the non-proliferation regime in the Asia-Pacific and beyond. We remain concerned with behavior that is inconsistent with the principles of the NPT, including the continued increase and modernization of nuclear arsenals, refusal to adhere to the overwhelming

demand for transparency, and the normalization of threats of use of nuclear weapons.

Mr. President,

We are determined to preserve a Southeast Asia free from nuclear weapons through the Bangkok Treaty. We look forward to the accession of Nuclear Weapon States to this treaty and its protocols. We strongly support the establishment of nuclear weapon free zones in other regions in the world.

We echo the call to uphold the inalienable right to develop, adopt and scale up the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which is a central component of the NPT. This is a critical assurance for non-Nuclear Weapon States, including developing countries, when we signed on to the Treaty.

We believe that harnessing nuclear energy is intrinsically linked to our broader multilateral objective of realizing the SDGs.

Through enhancing States' capacity to harness nuclear energy, we can jointly address challenges related to climate change, food security, health, environmental sustainability, and energy security, among others.

Mr. President,

As we start this Review Conference, we trust in your leadership to steer us towards a successful outcome. The Philippines is ready to work with you and all State Parties towards this end.

Thank you, Mr. President. **END**