



**Statement by Slovenia
at the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
General Debate
New York, 29 April 2026**

Thank you, Mr. President, and congratulations on your election. Let me assure you of my delegation's full support throughout the next weeks.

I would like to wish you successful work towards an action oriented Final Document. However, global events and trends are working against us, even more so than in the past.

As already mentioned in the Statement by the European Union, with which Slovenia fully aligns, the NPT has been providing security benefits to all States Parties for over five decades. Our work at the review conferences must ensure this continues to be the case. And we will achieve it only by strengthening the Treaty in all of its three pillars.

Mr. President,

Slovenia fully supports NATO's extended deterrence, which is fully compatible with the NPT, and rejects the false narrative of its nature. In parallel, Slovenia fully recognizes Article VI as an integral part of the NPT. It is a legal obligation of all the parties to work towards the ultimate goal - a world without nuclear weapons. In this spirit, I would like to recall the statement of the P5 from February 2022 that "nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought".

Slovenia subscribes to a progressive, step-by-step approach to nuclear disarmament. With tangible results and concrete benefits. Additionally, we

support efforts aimed at confidence building, transparency, and risk reduction. In this context, the CTBT and its Organization not only serve as a powerful deterrent to nuclear testing, but also provide tangible civilian benefits, like early warning alerts. Slovenia is committed to the entry into force of the CTBT, which is long overdue, and calls on all States to abide by the existing moratorium on nuclear testing.

Capping the nuclear weapon fissile material production is equally important. Progress towards FMCT is critical. In the meantime, all nuclear-weapon states should declare and uphold a moratorium on the production of nuclear-weapon-grade fissile material.

As the New START Treaty ended, arms control revival is more needed than ever. Slovenia calls for urgent work towards a new, legally binding framework, limiting the largest nuclear arsenals. We support the United States efforts for multilateral stability arms control talks.

Mr. President,

With regard to non-proliferation, Slovenia fully supports the work of the IAEA and calls for the universalization of the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements, together with an Additional Protocol.

Proliferation of nuclear weapons is unacceptable, and Slovenia remains concerned with the unclear nature of Iran's nuclear program. However, the recent military escalation in Iran and the wider region has not done away with these concerns. Slovenia calls on all sides to prioritize de-escalation and protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure. We express our solidarity with the countries of the region and call for the implementation of UNSC resolution 2817 (2026). There is only a diplomatic solution to Iran's nuclear program, and the IAEA must be a part of it.

Slovenia is concerned with the implications of armed attacks against nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes in Ukraine. Russia's aggression represents a profound risk for safeguards and for nuclear safety and security

in Ukraine. Slovenia calls for respect of the IAEA's seven pillars and five principles for ensuring nuclear safety and security.

The DPRK, on the other hand, remains one of the world's major proliferation challenges. Russia's comment on the DPRK's nuclear weapons program being a "closed issue" is not acceptable and goes against the object and purpose of the NPT. We urge the DPRK to accept offers of dialogue and work towards denuclearization.

Mr. President,

As a country with a fully-fledged civilian nuclear program, Slovenia places great importance on the development, research, production, and use of nuclear energy. Nuclear technologies and their potentials are critical for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Slovenia will continue to work to make the benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy available to all, including through financial support of the IAEA.

To conclude Mr. President,

It is true that the NPT remains a cornerstone of everything nuclear - nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses. It is also true that its review conferences over more than a decade have produced underwhelming results.

Modern global challenges nevertheless demand tangible results. The increasing reliance on nuclear energy applications, including nuclear power, demands it. Enduring proliferation and safeguards challenges demand it. A future world without nuclear weapons demands it.

We should not react with despair to the impasse. Although our differences are great, they are not insurmountable. Step by step, we can overcome them.

Thank you.