

**THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**



**STATEMENT BY MS. HELENA NDAPEWA KUZEE DEPUTY  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NAMIBIA DURING  
THE GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS**

**AT THE THIRD MEETING OF STATES PARTIES ON THE  
TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS**

**NEW YORK**

**3 -7 MARCH 2025**

Mr. President,

1. Namibia is pleased to see Kazakhstan presiding over the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and assures, the entire bureau of the full support of my delegation.
2. We appreciate the work undertaken in the intersessional period, which has advanced the objectives of the Treaty, and we recognize the unwavering dedication and concerted efforts of States Parties and civil society in this regard.
3. This Meeting takes place against the backdrop of heightened global tensions, characterized by an uptick in threat-based engagement and dangerous nuclear rhetoric. Such developments do not bode well for the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons. Namibia stands firm in her belief that nuclear weapons can never provide real security and only buffer with a false sense of stability which increase the risk of catastrophic consequences for humanity.
4. The TPNW represents a clear global recognition of the devastating humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. In this regard, Namibia reiterates her strong condemnation for all nuclear threats, explicit or implicit. The reliance on nuclear deterrence only serves to endanger us all and perpetuates an unacceptable status quo that threatens global security.

Mr President,

5. Namibia is deeply concerned by the continued increase in global military expenditure, particularly in the modernization of nuclear arsenals. It is paradoxical that while vast resources are directed towards nuclear armaments, we continue to struggle with securing

adequate funding for sustainable development. This allocation of resources contradicts our shared aspirations for peace and human progress.

6. The TPNW is rooted in fundamental principles of international law, including the right to life, peace, and security. It complements and strengthens the existing disarmament architecture, including the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). We must continue to explore ways to develop and reinforce synergies between these instruments to advance our shared objective of a world free from nuclear weapons. For this reason, Namibia is pleased to note additional signatories and wishes to take this opportunity to congratulate the four additional states that have joined the Treaty since our last meeting. This marks a significant step towards the universalization of the TPNW, and we encourage all states yet to sign, ratify, or accede to do so without delay. The First Review Conference of the TPNW is also an important step forward in identifying gaps and strengthening and enhancing the work of the Treaty.

Mr President,

7. Last year, through the Pact for the Future, world leaders reaffirmed the need to advancing the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons expressed their deep concern over the state of nuclear disarmament. Further, we have committed to advancing the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons in line with our collective pursuit to avert such a catastrophe. This can only be achieved if as a collective we coalesce around the pledge to uphold our respective obligations and commitments while reiterating our deep concern over the state of nuclear disarmament.
8. Namibia remains committed to the full implementation of the Treaty and supports the establishment of an International Trust Fund for victim assistance and environmental remediation. We must ensure that those affected by nuclear weapons receive the necessary support

and that we collectively address the long-term consequences of nuclear testing and use.

9. Disarmament is not an unattainable goal. The work done through the TPNW reminds us that it is an achievable necessity.

10. As we continue to push for the universalization and implementation of the TPNW, Namibia remains steadfast in its commitment to nuclear disarmament. We view this Third Meeting of States Parties as a critical opportunity to reinforce our collective resolve and advance meaningful progress.

I thank you.