

**Statement by Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations at the 2025 substantive session of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC)  
10:00 am, 07 April 2025 at CR-1, UNHQ**

**Mr. Chair,**

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the 2025 substantive session of the UNDC.

Bangladesh aligns itself with the statement delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the NAM. In addition, I would like to reiterate the following in our national capacity.

**Mr. Chair.**

The need for effective disarmament measures is more pressing than ever given the complex and rapidly evolving security landscape. We firmly believe that there is no alternative to multilateralism to achieve general and complete disarmament. The work of the UNDC as the sole deliberative body with universal membership is immensely important in building consensus on crucial issues related to disarmament.

**Mr. Chair,**

Our commitment to disarmament is a cornerstone of our foreign policy. Despite living in the shadows of nuclear neighbors, Bangladesh has unconditionally opted to remain non-nuclear.

As the first South Asian country, we signed and ratified the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 2000. We urge all member States to intensify efforts towards achieving universal adherence to the CTBT, particularly by the Nuclear Weapon States.

**Mr. Chair,**

Bangladesh is deeply worried about the, rising geopolitical tensions, continued arms race, increasing military spending, and weakening of arms control architecture.

We consider NPT as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and the fundamental foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. After the failure of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Review Conference, we cannot simply afford to see a repetition of the same in the upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> Conference in 2026.

As one of the early ratifying states of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), we are fully committed to its objectives. We would like to see its full implementation by all, including the Nuclear-Weapon- States.

We also reiterate the urgent need to revitalize the entire disarmament machinery, including the UNDC and the Conference on Disarmament (CD), to foster a stable and secure world. The stagnation of the CD must break immediately.

**Mr. Chair,**

Bangladesh strongly supports the peaceful use of nuclear technology, which contributes to clean energy, agricultural development and healthcare; and thereby promoting economic growth and well-being. In our national context, we remain committed to further deepening our existing cooperation with the IAEA for enhancing our capacity.

We call for increased investment and international cooperation in nuclear research and urge nuclear-weapon states (NWS) to provide non-nuclear states with effective and unconditional assurances against the use of nuclear weapons.

**Finally**, we firmly believe that the ultimate guarantee of international peace and security lies in the total elimination of nuclear weapons. We must be united against the perpetual holding of nuclear weapons by a handful of states in total disregard to the safety and security of humanity.

**Mr. Chair,**

We are confident to have a productive session that will produce the desired outcome to advance global disarmament and non-proliferation under your able stewardship.

My delegation assures you and the bureau of our full support toward this end.

I thank you.