



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
KENYA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

STATEMENT

BY

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**AT THE 2025 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DISARMAMENT COMMISSION**

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Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

1. I congratulate you on your assuming of the position of Chair of the 2025 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission and assure you of Kenya's support.
2. Kenya aligns itself with the statements delivered by the representatives of Indonesia and Nigeria on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the African Group respectively.
3. Kenya welcomes the two agenda items - nuclear weapons disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation; and emerging technologies - that will be the focus of the 2025 substantive session of the Commission.
4. Kenya reaffirms its longstanding commitment to nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and the ultimate realization of a world free of nuclear weapons and urge Nuclear Weapons States to fully implement their disarmament obligations and commitments, under the applicable international treaties.

Mr. Chair,

5. It has been seven decades since the General Assembly adopted its first resolution calling for the elimination of atomic weapons and other major weapons of mass destruction. Since then, numerous conventions, treaties, resolutions, and reports have been established. Unfortunately, a world free of these weapons remains an elusive and increasingly doubtful aspiration. The world is still grappling with the proliferation of not only weapons of mass destruction but also conventional weapons including small arms and light weapons.
6. Kenya remains deeply concerned about the slow pace of nuclear disarmament and the increasing risk of their existence and development. The very existence of nuclear weapons, coupled with enduring threats of their deployment, constitute an existential threat to international peace and security. The only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is their total elimination.
7. Against this backdrop, Kenya urges all member States to demonstrate flexibility and cooperate within the context of the relevant multilateral frameworks with a view to overcome political and security-related barriers, in the advancement of the disarmament agenda. Therefore, we

must all support the Disarmament Commission in its crucial role, as the specialized deliberative body within the disarmament machinery, to foster action through concrete recommendations to the General Assembly.

Mr. Chair,

8. Kenya reaffirms the primacy of the **Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT)** as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and urges all States Parties, especially Nuclear-Weapon States, to fully implement their obligations under Article VI.
9. As a developing country, Kenya underscores the importance of the continued respect of the inalienable right of all states, to engage in research and development of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, in line with Article 4 of the NPT.
10. As a State Party to the **Treaty of Pelindaba**, Kenya reaffirms the prohibition of the development, acquisition, testing, or stationing of nuclear weapons in Africa and urges the Nuclear-Weapon States to respect the status of Nuclear – free zones globally.

Mr. Chair,

11. The use of emerging technologies for peaceful purposes holds promise for advancing global priorities and must be optimally harnessed for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). On the flipside, these technologies present risks to international peace and security.
12. Kenya expresses concern over the rapid militarization of emerging technologies, including autonomous weapons systems, artificial intelligence, and cyber capabilities. The deployment of these emerging technologies in warfare poses significant ethical, legal, and security challenges.
13. The dual nature of emerging technologies requires a comprehensive approach that balances innovation with responsible governance and oversight, as well as robust mechanisms for transparency, confidence-building, and risk mitigation.

14. In this regard, Kenya encourages urgent, inclusive and transparent multilateral dialogue to ensure the responsible use of such technologies in accordance with international law, prevent unchecked arms race in new domains and establish normative frameworks that uphold ethical standards and ensure the peaceful application of technology.
15. We reiterate our belief that multilateralism remains the most effective approach to disarmament and international security, and encourage Member States to engage constructively and with political will to break longstanding deadlocks and reinvigorate disarmament diplomacy and ensure that these forums effectively respond to the contemporary security environment.
16. In conclusion, Kenya reaffirms its full support for the work of the UN Disarmament Commission and hope our deliberations will culminate in a timely and consensual adoption of the draft reports with action-oriented recommendations on the two topics.

Thank you.