



**Statement by**

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**General Debate  
Tenth Review Conference of the States Parties to the  
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

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# **THE TENTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

## **AGENDA ITEM 15: GENERAL DEBATE**

President,

Jamaica welcomes the convening of this delayed Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. I congratulate the President and Officers on their election and thank the members of the Preparatory Committee and the Secretariat for all their hard work.

Jamaica reaffirms the NPT as the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, and remains committed to the full and expedient implementation of the Treaty and its universalization. My delegation pledges its full support for the work to be done during this review conference.

President,

In the 7 (seven) years since the last review, developments including the creation and modernization of nuclear programmes, the continuance of nuclear deterrence in security doctrines, including the view that disarmament is impractical and non-proliferation is more feasible, threaten the full implementation of the treaty.

Jamaica affirms that these actions, along with inconsistent compliance with the IAEA safeguards regime, and the increased rhetoric threatening nuclear weapons use, are inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the NPT. The treaty requires States to treat the core

principles of non-proliferation, disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy equally and to pursue them seriously. The success of this review conference requires all states to reflect on the status quo in good faith with a view to aligning state conduct and positions with the objectives of the treaty. Recent developments in the area of international peace and security make it even more imperative to do so. We reaffirm that the use or threat of use of force are gross violations of international law and run counter to a key pillar of the international peace and security framework.

President,

We are of the firm belief that nuclear weapons should not exist in the future we want to bequeath to our children. The potential for devastating humanitarian impacts and damage to development efforts are well known but, regrettably in 2022, bear repeating. To put it bluntly, a nuclear weapon detonation whether by accident, design or miscalculation, can eliminate countries like Jamaica from the face of the planet.

Nuclear weapons are the biggest threats to mankind today because they remain under the control of fallible human beings. No form of assurance other than the elimination of these stockpiles can guarantee that these weapons will never be used. Not only is it morally indefensible and legally irresponsible to house and spread these weapons, but the vast and increasing expenditure in the face of underfunded sustainable development priorities is grossly reprehensible.

President,

The newly entered into force Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), is the first treaty dedicated to the ban of nuclear weapons and is a welcome step in implementing Article 6 of the NPT.

President

This conference presents the opportunity to begin a new course of action characterized by collaboration in good faith, improving transparency, reducing tensions and a willingness to cooperate with each other and relevant stakeholders.

In that light, Jamaica would like to see advancement on

- **The establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones** in all areas of the globe. The decision at the 1995 review conference for the creation of a nuclear weapon free zone in the Middle East should be pursued with alacrity.
- **Safeguard agreements** are a critical component of nuclear safety. The transboundary movement of radioactive materials through the waters of the Caribbean Sea pose a serious threat to our region. We support a total ban on the movement of such materials through Caribbean waters and encourage the conclusion of additional protocols to the safeguard agreements with the IAEA to ensure a decreased likelihood of accidents and to establish response and emergency rules in the event of a nuclear spill or other incidents.
- **A reduction of the global stockpile of nuclear weapons** should be grounded in the principles of irreversibility, verifiability, and transparency. In light of a new

instrument on nuclear disarmament, we encourage states to explore synergies with the TPNW to ensure consistency in the nuclear disarmament effort.

- **The prohibition of nuclear testing** is another crucial component of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament efforts. The entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty will facilitate continued work on this important aspect of nuclear disarmament.
- **A ban on fissile materials** is consistent with Article 6 of the treaty and we must work to conclude an instrument to address the production of these components of nuclear weapons.
- **Enhanced cooperation among states** is essential to ensure that nuclear technology is available to be shared, especially with non-nuclear weapons states to enhance their development. We support the IAEA's pivotal role in facilitating this cooperation.

President,

As a global community, we have a shared responsibility for the safety, peace and security of the planet. The NPT seeks to shape state behaviour in the responsible use of nuclear energy and technology. We must therefore follow through on our commitments and implement the NPT without condition or qualification. We hope this review conference will enable us to accelerate our work towards that goal.