Statement of the Permanent Delegation of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations

Delivered by
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Mr. Chairman,

From this forum, I would like to emphasize that the continued existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat and danger to international peace and security, furthermore, it poses a danger for the entire humanity. The nuclear disasters that this deadly weapon causes, does not only lead to the eruption of wars and tensions among nations, but it can also transform many regions in the world into mass graves. To avoid such disasters, we call upon the member states to further pursue the issue of nuclear disarmament with more interest, in view of the vital benefit this has on the level of international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

From this forum, I would like to convey my country’s concern over the security perils and challenges on both the regional and international levels. This keeps us committed and adhering to the international legal instruments as well as to the relevant disarmament conventions, particularly the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which in turn is considered the basis for the eradication of these deadly weapons.

Since the Middle East region is considered one of the most tense regions in the world, we all have to seek to make it free from nuclear weapons, in implementation of the resolution adopted during the 1995 NPT Review Conference, we also have to take into consideration, that all the states in the region are currently party to the NPT, except for Israel. It is the only country in the region that possess nuclear weapons, and persist in its refusal to join the treaty and subject its nuclear facilities to the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Therefore, my country calls upon the international community to pressure Israel to join the NPT and subject its nuclear facilities to the comprehensive safeguards of the IAEA. This was expressed by the resolution the IAEA issued vis-à-vis the Israeli nuclear capabilities.

Mr. Chairman,

My country’s delegation looks forward with a great deal of interest to the international conference scheduled to convene in 2012 concerning the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region, as well as to the achievement of the goals of this conference. In this regard, my country’s delegation, welcomes the selection by the Secretary-General of Mr. Jaako Laajava, as facilitator for this conference, and would like to wish him, and his country Finland, which will host this conference success.

Mr. Chairman,

As what concerns the Iranian nuclear program, the State of Kuwait is not geographically far from the location of the concerned nuclear reactor, in case nuclear leaks occur as a result of natural causes. My country believes in the rights of states, including Iran, to conduct research, as well as produce and use nuclear
energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. However, the need to cooperate with the IAEA, and resolving all the issues that arise through dialogue and cooperation to further build the confidence, is an important requirement to reassure the countries of the region and the international community in fulfillment of the requirements of the IAEA as well as the resolutions of international legitimacy. If cooperation with the IAEA is to be accomplished, then an environment of stability will prevail over a region that has suffered over the past three decades the attrition of its resources and potential, which could have been utilized and directed towards the goals of development.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.