STATEMENT

By

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Mr. Chairman,

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you and to the Netherlands on your election as Chair of the First Committee. I am sure that under your guidance we will have a very fruitful session and I wish you every success for this important and challenging task.

Mr. Chairman,

While celebrating the 70th anniversary of the United Nations, we should never forget the tragedy that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, tragedy that San Marino, a country with centuries-old history of peace, will never wish to see happening again.

After 70 years, a complete nuclear disarmament still remains our primary goal. We congratulate with the USA for their nuclear arsenal reduction from 30 thousand in 1967 to about 4 thousand in 2014. We appreciate President Obama willingness to seek further reduction of this number.

We also commend the Russian Federation for reducing its nuclear deterrent force from 4 thousand in 2010 to approximately 1.600 nuclear weapons.

Both countries are moving in the right direction and we wish that all other countries with nuclear capabilities follow their example.

However, it is not enough. San Marino wishes that this effort will continue and provide a renewed momentum for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

We do not believe that keeping a nuclear arsenal is the ultimate deterrent; on the contrary, I am afraid that countries with nuclear capability have much greater chances to be struck first by a nuclear attack.

Due to the worldwide political and social instability, the first attack could be launched not only by a rogue State but also by non-state actors.

In this unfortunate circumstance, the reaction to any nuclear attack will be chaotic, unpredictable and devastating.
Everyday the probability that such tragic event will occur is dramatically increasing.

That’s why San Marino shares the concerns raised by a large number of States on the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons and we welcome the renewed efforts of the many Countries that have subscribed the Humanitarian Pledge for the prohibition and elimination of such weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that the NPT and its implementation remain the cornerstone of the global non-proliferation regime and we, as many others, regret that 2015 NPT Review Conference was not able to adopt a consensus outcome document. This should not prevent us from working together for the strengthening of the NPT regime.

The Republic of San Marino commends the agreement reached between the E3/EU+3 and Iran on a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on the Iranian nuclear program. This agreement clearly shows that diplomacy can deliver.

Mr. Chairman,

We commend last year successful results of the international mission to remove and destroy Syria’s chemical arsenal. However, we condemn the continuing use of chlorine and therefore we welcome the SC resolution establishing a joint Investigative Mechanism to determine responsibilities for chemical attacks in Syria.

Mr. Chairman,

Despite our efforts in the field of conventional arms, millions of illegal weapons continue to cause deaths and casualties every day, every hour, every minute.

Conventional arms are becoming weapons of mass destruction.

We cannot continue on this path. Everybody has to embrace and implement the Arms Trade Treaty. It is a powerful instrument for our Governments and for the civil society
to fight against the illegal flows of weapons used by transnational criminal organizations, terrorists, marginalized individuals that create throughout the world chaos and instability.

Mr. Chairman,

We achieved important goals in the field of disarmament, but still so much needs to be done.

In order to fight against old and new challenges, we must continue to work together on the path of constructive dialogue. Reaffirming the common ideals and principles that are the foundations of the UN Charter, we will be able to obtain positive results.

Not only for a small and unarmed Country like San Marino, but for most of the member States, if not for all, the United Nations, with the strength of its international law, remains the main line of defense.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.