Mr. Chair,

The international community continues to face nuclear-related security challenges. Many of these are rooted in a lack of confidence and compromise that makes progress on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament issues increasingly difficult. They overshadow the positive developments that continue to occur.

It is deeply regrettable that a lack of compromise caused the 2015 NPT Review Conference to end without an agreed Final Document. While unfortunate, this in no way represents a weakening of the NPT, which continues to form the bedrock of the international regime to advance nuclear disarmament. Nor does it invalidate the 2010 Action Plan, which remains the single best path to strengthen all three of the NPT's pillars. Canada will continue to work with its partners in the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative to advance these commitments.
Monsieur le Président,

La sécurité et la stabilité régionales et internationales continuent d’être mises en péril par le non-respect, par la Corée du Nord et la Syrie, de leurs obligations en matière de non-prolifération nucléaire. Il reste à voir si ces États respecteront entièrement et de manière vérifiable leurs engagements en coopérant de façon franche avec l’Agence internationale de l’énergie atomique.


En ce qui concerne l’Iran, le Canada apprécie les efforts du P5+1 visant à parvenir à un accord qui vise à assurer que le programme nucléaire iranien sert exclusivement à des fins pacifiques et pour empêcher l’Iran d’acquérir l’arme nucléaire. Cependant, le Canada jugera l’Iran par ses actes, et non ses
paroles. À cette fin, notre pays continuera de soutenir les efforts de l'AIEA pour ce qui est de surveiller et de vérifier le respect, par l'Iran, de ses engagements.

Mr. Chair,

While the number of nuclear warheads has been drastically reduced from the height of the Cold War, much more can be done to bolster international confidence in Nuclear Weapon States’ commitments to further reduce nuclear arsenals, their alert levels and their role in defence doctrines. We strongly encourage all NPT States Parties, particularly the Nuclear Weapon States, to increase transparency about how they fulfil their NPT commitments. The NPDI’s draft reporting forms for both Nuclear Weapon States and non-Nuclear Weapon States can help to achieve this goal. The launch of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification is a welcome effort to increase transparency and confidence amongst NPT state parties.

Canada remains convinced that progress on nuclear disarmament requires that both the humanitarian and strategic dimensions of nuclear weapons be taken into account. Disarmament does not and cannot take place in a vacuum: we need to be mindful of the
security context and the challenges that must be overcome to achieve a nuclear weapons-free world.

Canada remains deeply concerned about Russia’s actions which are undermining decades of work to strengthen international and regional security and stability. Canada reiterates its condemnation of Russia’s annexation of Crimea and its ongoing military involvement in eastern Ukraine. We call on Russia to end its development of cruise missiles prohibited by the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

Mr. Chair,

Canada is convinced that a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty would represent a tremendous leap forward for both nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. It is vital that the international community immediately launch negotiations to bring this legal instrument into reality. Canada will again lead an FMCT resolution this year and welcomes constructive views from all delegations. We hope we can count on broad support.

In closing, Mr. Chair, diplomacy and compromise are the tools we have to strengthen nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. It is incumbent upon us now to take up these tools to overcome the
remaining challenges in order to achieve the greater peace and security that we all desire.

Thank you