First Committee

72nd UN General Assembly

Statement by
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General Statement

Action on Draft Resolutions - Nuclear Weapons Cluster

United Nations, New York

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Israel will vote once again this year against resolution L.6 titled “Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations” as well as against other relevant articles contained in other resolutions, which promote the “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”.

Israel did not participate in the negotiations, which were concluded on the 7th of July 2017 in New-York, on a “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”, and voted against the First Committee and UNGA resolutions pertaining to this process during 2016 and 2017.

Israel’s deep reservations regarding this initiative were based on substantive as well as procedural considerations. On the substantive side, Israel is concerned *inter alia* by arms control and disarmament processes which fail to give due regard to the security and stability context when drafting disarmament measures. Such endeavors may result in arrangements and agreements which hinder rather than reinforce disarmament processes as well as global and regional security. On the procedural aspect, Israel firmly believes that such negotiations should be undertaken in the appropriate forums, under the appropriate rules of procedure, which would not undermine national security considerations.
It should be emphasized that the “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” does not create, contribute to the development of, or indicate the existence of customary international law related to the subject of or the content of the treaty. Moreover, the treaty does not reflect legal norms that apply to states that are not party to the Treaty, and it does not alter in any way existing rights or obligations upon states that have not joined this Treaty.

Thank you.