Mr. Chair,

The United Arab Emirates would like to align itself with the statements of the Arab Group and the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chair,

We meet today to discuss regional disarmament and security, while the Middle East continues to be subject to security threats and attacks by terrorist extremist groups. Our region is, therefore, one of the most in need of intensive efforts to achieve disarmament and security stability objectives. Thus, my country attaches the utmost importance to all efforts to establish zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

In this context, the UAE expresses its support for the initiative of the United Nations to hold a Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction, to be held next November under the chairmanship of the
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. My country urges all invited parties to participate and negotiate a binding treaty in this regard to ensure regional and international peace and security.

In this sense, the UAE expresses the need for a successful outcome of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) review session, and for taking important steps towards the implementation of the agreed Action Plan of 2010, and the need for a comprehensive treatment of all three pillars of the NPT (peaceful uses, non-proliferation, and nuclear disarmament). My country looks forward to participating in the 2020 NPT Review Conference, to strengthen the international peace and security system. It urges States parties to the Treaty to contribute to the constructive dialogue to achieve the objectives of the Convention.

Mr. Chair,

Regarding disarmament, the UAE recognizes the importance of adopting transparent nuclear verification measures. My country believes that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only guarantee of non-use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as clearly stated in the NPT.

About the prohibition of nuclear tests, my delegation would like to reaffirm our position to strengthen the nuclear test-ban system, including the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

The UAE welcomed the recent positive steps of high-level talks on the Korean Peninsula. In this spirit, we renew our call on North Korea to return to the NPT, sign the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and abide by relevant illiteracy resolutions.
Mr. Chair,

The UAE reaffirms its commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) while affirming the right of countries to develop the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Accordingly, the UAE abides by all the obligations set out in international agreements and supports the efforts of the IAEA to ensure that countries comply with the standards for the implementation of peaceful nuclear programs. Since joining the IAEA in 1976, the UAE has been cooperating with the IAEA based on national development needs. This includes areas such as training, capacity building, development of nuclear energy infrastructure as well as the use of nuclear technologies in health care, agriculture, and environmental monitoring. The UAE cooperates with the Agency on the objectives of the UAE Vision 2021, which aims to place the UAE among the best countries through various axes such as social and economic development.

My country, therefore, calls on States to comply with the standards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and build more confidence about the nature of their nuclear activities, with the hope that these steps will be reflected in a positive way on the behavior of States in the region.

Thank you