Philippine Statement
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Panel V: Possible pathways to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations
Open Ended Working Group Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations
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Mr. Chairman, as this is the first time the Philippines is taking the floor, allow me to congratulate you for the excellent manner in which you have facilitated this meeting. Your stewardship has no doubt ensured the candid flow of discussions, which have in turn advanced the disarmament debate.

The Philippines believes that the safety and security of the world can only be achieved through the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. While we have treaties banning chemical and biological weapons we do not have one for the deadliest of them all, and so work on a treaty that will ban and prohibit the possession, use or threat of use, acquisition, development and testing of nuclear weapons is the most ideal and correct action.

The Philippines supported two working papers:
1. The “Legal Gap”: Recommendations to the Open-ended Working Group on Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations
2. Addressing Nuclear Disarmament: Recommendations from the perspective of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones

The Philippines submits that the nuclear weapons ban treaty should include the following elements:
- Recognition that the responsibility for nuclear security rests entirely with States, especially in terms of securing sensitive nuclear security material and in preventing their diversion to non-state actors. Capacity building of each state towards responding to nuclear terrorism should be included, with particular focus on prevention, detection and response.
- Inclusion of a provision for a dedicated implementation support mechanism, which would ensure the adherence and proper implementation of the chosen nuclear approach.
- Inclusion of provisions for a proper effective verifiable mechanism as well as appropriate remedies to those affected in whatever manner, be it humanitarian, economic, environmental consequences of nuclear weapons’ production, testing and use.
- Inclusion of provisions, which encourage international cooperation, particularly in sharing technology, information and expertise in nuclear security and disarmament education.

The Philippines once again reiterates its support for work of the Open Ended Working Group.