Mr. President,

I would like, at the outset, to congratulate you on your assumption of the Chairmanship for the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference. Please be assured of my delegation’s full commitment and support for the successful outcome of this meeting.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of NAM and the Arab Group.

Mr. President,

UAE supports all efforts to strengthen global peace and security through international instruments like the NPT, recognizing the important role such instruments play in striving to rid the global community of the threat posed by nuclear weapons. My country is of the opinion that the NPT continues to provide a strong framework for establishing a global nuclear non-proliferation regime and an important tool for maintaining global security. It has maintained its important value for more than 50 years. UAE is committed to upholding the NPT and promoting its universality and full implementation. We call on all states that have not done so to join the NPT, and for those who have joined to fully implement their obligations.
Despite the lack of a consensus outcome at the 2015 Review Conference, my delegation continues to be fully committed to the 2010 Review conference Action Plan and looks forward to a successful review conference in 2020 to strengthen the implementation of the treaty in a comprehensive and balanced manner covering all areas of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses. It is important that all parties contribute in a constructive way towards this goal.

Mr. President,

UAE recognizes the right of NPT States Parties to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Under this framework, my country is developing its peaceful nuclear energy program with the first nuclear power plant in the final phase of construction. Throughout the development of its Nuclear Power program, the UAE has insured full compliance with international obligations. We have followed the instrumental guidance of the IAEA and international best practices and transparently showcased exemplary adherence to the highest standards of nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation.

UAE maintains that the right to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should be pursued in a transparent and responsible manner. Nuclear programs should fall under full compliance with the verification measures of IAEA’s comprehensive safeguards. We welcome the progress in the number of countries who signed and ratified the additional protocol, an important instrument to complement IAEA safeguards. Wider adherence to the IAEA comprehensive safeguards as complement by the additional protocol would ensure global confidence in the peaceful nature of nuclear programs, in light of the continued challenges faced by the international community in implementing the global non-proliferation regime.

In this context, my delegation views Iran’s full compliance to its NPT and safeguards obligations is needed, full cooperation with the IAEA is a critical component in building confidence in the exclusive peaceful nature of its nuclear program. We hope the current
situation in respect to the JCPOA offers an opportunity for the international community to devise a new approach towards Iranian threats that ensures stricter monitoring and inspections of Iran’s nuclear program. We call on Iran to work towards providing the required confidence in its nuclear program and promptly ratify the Additional Protocol to its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, and further refrain from development and testing of ballistic missiles programs that are inconsistent of its obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 2231.

Mr. President,

The UAE emphasizes the urgency for implementing measures to strengthen the NPT and continues to strive for progress across all three pillars of the Treaty. This includes areas such nuclear disarmament, a long due goal of the treaty.

The establishment of a Middle East nuclear weapons and other WMD free zones is a priority. Progress towards this goal will support the aims of the NPT and will further contribute to security and stability in Middle East region and globally. My delegation hopes that this Review Cycle will achieve significant steps towards the realization of the agreed action plan of 2010 and the convening of a successful conference on the Middle East nuclear weapons and other WMD free zone, at an early date, and with the participation of all countries in the region.

Mr. President,

DPRK nuclear and ballistic missile programs remains a matter of concern to my delegation. We call on DPRK to refrain from conducting further nuclear tests, return to the NPT, abandon its nuclear weapons program and implement the IAEA’s safeguards, and further meet its denuclearization commitments.
Mr. President,

UAE is active promoter of the CTBT and fully subscribe to the objective and obligations of this important Treaty, supporting its early entry into force. My country commends the States that have most recently ratified the CTBT and hopes that others, especially the Annex II countries, will join the Treaty without further delay.

Mr. President

In conclusion, My delegation offers its full support and constructive engagement with all States parties with an objective to advance the discussion leading to a successful NPT review cycle in 2020. I thank you Mr. President.