PERMANENT MISSION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

STATEMENT

by

Ms. Charlene Roopnarine
First Secretary

at the

United Nations conference to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination

Topic 2: Core Prohibitions

March 29, 2017
New York.

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Madame Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of CARICOM.

I thank you for the opportunity to submit perspectives on Topic 2: Core prohibitions (Effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms), which my delegation views as the nucleus of the treaty.

As highlighted in Trinidad and Tobago's opening statement during the High Level Segment, we reiterate that a set of core prohibitions will be effective in achieving the purposes of a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons, leading to their total elimination.

Like other States that have spoken before, my country is of the view that the core prohibitions in this Treaty must build on existing legal frameworks and strengthen existing treaties, such as the NPT, the CTBT and nuclear weapon free zone treaties.

In this light, my delegation contemplates the following core prohibitions in the treaty, in line with the prohibitions submitted by CARICOM:

1) **Stockpiling, possession and use** must be prohibited by all States parties without discrimination.
2) We also submit that the **deployment** of nuclear weapons must also be prohibited.
3) **Acquisition, transfer and control** – which prohibits any bilateral or alliance-based arrangement involving the acquisition or transfer of nuclear weapons.
4) **Development and production.** A comprehensive prohibition of all development-related activities must be included if we want the highest standards for this treaty.
5) **Testing** should be explicitly prohibited.
6) **Assistance and financing** – My delegation also calls for a prohibition on assisting, financing and encouraging prohibited acts

Trinidad and Tobago also believes the treaty should include positive obligations for states parties, such as ensuring the rights of victims and survivors of nuclear weapons activities and repairing the damage to affected environments.

Thank you.