Statement

by

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Deputy Secretary-General, Office of the National Security Council, Office of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand,

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

Topic 2. Core prohibitions: effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms

New York, 29 March 2017
Madame President,

Yesterday, we had fruitful deliberations on the principles and objectives and preambular elements of a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons. Most delegations which took the floor expressed their views in the same line as what contained in the Report of the Open-ended Working Group taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, or the OEWG Report, adopted on 19 August 2016 in Geneva. Thailand believes that the suggested elements and recommendations contained in the Report provide a good basis for our deliberations here at this UN Conference.

Taking the OEWG Report and NPT into consideration and in line with treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, my delegation firmly believes that the essence of effective legal measures of the instrument should include the suggested elements contained in Paragraphs 35 and 44 as well as Annex II of the Report.

The instrument should unequivocally prohibit all acts relating directly to and associated with nuclear weapons such as their development, testing, production, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use. The instrument should also prohibit the stationing and deployment of nuclear weapons, as well as financing of nuclear weapon activities and assistance, encouragement and inducement in prohibited acts.

In addition, the instrument should include other elements associated with the elimination of nuclear weapons, including those related to fissile material, verification, as well as elements linked to other objectives such as victim assistance.

The above acts and elements should constitute the core of the instrument, without prejudice to any future elaboration on this matter.

Madame President,

Now it is time that the international community must demonstrate its strong support and commitment to the de-legitimization, prohibition and complete elimination of nuclear weapons in order to ensure their total destruction. The instrument should also provide mechanism to encourage the constructive engagement and participation of States that are outside of this instrument with a view to promoting universalization and effective implementation of the instrument.

Thank you Madame President.