Statement

by

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

Topic 3. Institutional arrangements

New York, 31 March 2017
Madame President,

My delegation would like to share our views on the topic of institutional arrangements as follows:

First and foremost, the importance of such arrangements is to ensure effective implementation of a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons leading towards their total elimination as well as to promote universalization of the instrument.

With regard to the implementation of the instrument, it is worth exploring the possibility to establish cooperation with the existing bodies such as the IAEA and the CTBTO to provide technical support in order to monitor and verify compliance with relevant obligations under the instrument.

Given the scope and nature of this instrument, the instrument should not impose additional unnecessary obligations to non-nuclear-weapon States but place responsibility on States possessing nuclear weapons shall they decide to join the instrument.

Additionally, we are of the view that the number of ratifications required should support the early entry into force. We are also convinced that States should not be allowed to make reservations to any of the articles of this instrument.

Madame President,

The instrument should also provide for regular meetings of States Parties or Review Conferences in order to consider and take decisions with regard to the application and implementation of the instrument. There is a need to further discuss the issue of having a mechanism to provide secretarial services to the above meetings and review process as well as to assist with other administrative arrangements in relation to the instrument. In promoting the universalization of the instrument, this mechanism should also encourage the constructive engagement and participation of States that are outside the instrument. In our opinion, such mechanism should be lean, efficient, and requires minimum resources.
Madame President,

My delegation also views that there is a merit to consider the issue of international cooperation and assistance to be included in the instrument, in particular that concerning environmental rehabilitation, disarmament education and awareness raising as well as victim assistance.

In closing, we wish to reiterate that the true success of this instrument depends on its universalization and compliance. My delegation recognizes the crucial roles of participating States, international organizations and civil society, and promotes strong partnership in mobilizing broad-based support and working towards that end.

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