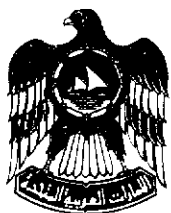


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Permanent Mission of the
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
to the United Nations
New York



البعثة الدائمة
لدولة الامارات العربية المتحدة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Statement

By

H.E. Ambassador Abdulaziz Nasser Al-Shamsi

Permanent Representative of
the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations

before
the General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session
First Committee

**General debate on all disarmament and related
international security agenda items**

New York
5 October 2004

Check Against Delivery

Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates, it gives me great pleasure to start my statement by congratulating you on your election as chairman of this important committee. Given your valuable diplomatic skills, we are confident that you will competently lead our deliberations on disarmament and international security, and wish you and your bureau all success. Also, I wish to thank the Under-Secretary for Disarmament Affairs and his office for their persistent efforts to develop new mechanisms for enhancing international co-operation in fields of disarmament and international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

In view of their nature, significance and direct relation to the question of the maintenance of regional and international peace and security, items under consideration by this important committee reflect some of the most vital issues in the agenda of the 59 session of the General Assembly.

The rapid international changes of the past decade were accompanied by dangerous security threats, which have led, in a way or another, to eruption of violence and terrorism and spread of conflicts spread regionally and internationally where millions of peoples were affected.

We must be fully aware of the significant human, financial and environment loses caused by huge volumes and types of weapons used in these conflicts and the consequent difficulties of building peace in the post

conflict countries. These resources could have been utilized in implementing the development programs and in promoting welfare of our people. Therefore, we must understand the fundamental reasons of these armed conflicts, and strengthen the role of disarmament in stopping and preventing conflicts in order to create a world free from violence and fear, and based on principals of confidence, tolerance and solidarity among our countries and peoples.

We also affirm the importance of achieving stability and peace in areas of tension and conflicts in the world, especially in the Arab Gulf and other neighboring countries. This goal will not be attained if some countries continue to carry out nuclear tests, and acquire, transport, produce and stockpiling nuclear materials on pretext of enhancement of their security deterrence, which will contribute, in a way or another, to create military, security and strategic imbalance in this region. Having said that, we need to promote a common approach toward developing proper mechanisms for settlement of existing conflicts and disputes peacefully and legally, and for ensuring countries' commitment to the obligations and responsibilities enshrined in the Charter, international law, and in conventions and legal arrangements regulating international relations, specifically those calling for respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states as well as non-intervention in their internal affairs, and settlement of disagreements through negotiations.

Mr. Chairman,

Though end of cold war has marked conclusion of international confrontations which, in most cases, included comprehensive and strategic

armament and nuclear threats, however, the progress made in disarmament in the following years of the war, has become much slower in last few years. Latest statistics show that global military expenditure on production and stockpiling of the above weapons has increased by 5% in the past year, in contradiction to the commitments and undertaking made by the states in the Millennium Declaration, as well as in the Review Conference of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of year 2000. It also contravenes the commitments made by states toward strengthening the role of the Disarmament Commission in forcing the nuclear-states to comply with their obligations, as provided in the treaties and protocols on disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, which call for systematic and gradual multilateral reduction of all strategic weapons, within a specific timeframe, and use of such weapons for peaceful purposes in accordance with article 6 of the non-proliferation treaty. Similarly, non-nuclear-states pursuing to acquire similar weapons are urged to reconsider their positions and to resort to self-control. In this context, we call for creating an international binding instrument provides safeguards to the non-nuclear states against the threats of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. We also call for developing specialized mechanisms which are capable of following up and monitoring gradual elimination of these weapons, including establishment of an international agency authorized to negotiate a multilateral treaty prohibiting production of fissionable materials for the purposes of manufacturing nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

The UAE has acceded to number of treaties promoting non-proliferation of nuclear weapons with the aim of enhancing their universality, including the Treaty On Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, and the Treaty On Banning Chemical Weapons. It believes that establishment of nuclear-weapons-free-zones is a critical factor in easing tension and disputes, and in reducing regional armament race. We, therefore reiterate our call for establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf. To achieve this goal, the international community is required to take effective measures in order to compel Israel, the sole country in the Middle East which has not yet acceded to the non-proliferation treaty, to do so and to dismantle its dangerous nuclear facilities after being fully subjected to the supervision and the safeguards of the IAEA in accordance with the international relevant legitimate resolutions as well as the resolutions issued by the Sixth Review Conference of year 2000. We also call upon all states to suspend scientific and financial assistance directed to Israel, which is used in developing its nuclear facilities, in order to avoid their threatening impact on peace process in the Middle East.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, we affirm that suspension of all types of armament in the world requires revitalization of the working methods of the First Committee as well as the Disarmament Commission, and development of effective international mechanisms aiming at regulating the process of acquisition, production and stockpiling of developed weapons by countries,

in order to create regional and international stable environments, free from all forms of threats, where peaceful coexistence, security and prosperity prevail.

Thank you Mr. Chairman