Check against delivery!

STATEMENT OF HUNGARY

by

Ambassador Dr György Molnár

Special Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

at the Third Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Cluster III issues

United Nations
New York, 6 May 2019
Mr. Chairman,

Hungary associates itself with the cluster III statement of the EU and with the relevant elements of the working paper submitted by the Vienna Group of 10.

As I stated in the general debate, Hungary – a country with an active peaceful nuclear program with plans for further expansion – recognizes that all States parties have an inalienable right for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy without discrimination and in conformity with Article IV of the NPT. In this respect, we attach utmost importance to the full implementation of IAEA safeguards that play a critical role in fostering international confidence in the peaceful nature of nuclear activities. Consequently, we fully support the invaluable work of the IAEA, including through its Technical Cooperation Programme, which also contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Chairman,

Nuclear safety and security are sustainers of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and contribute to maintaining its positive public perception. They are mutually reinforcing, and thus should be regulated in a synergetic manner at all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle. Since international cooperation is essential in this field as well, Hungary puts special emphasis on the Third Part of the Action Plan adopted by the 2010 Review Conference, which addresses the safe and secure development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the central role the IAEA plays in it.

Concerning nuclear safety, the IAEA standards provide us with a complex system of fundamental principles, requirements and guides. Hungary has a keen interest in the achievement of the highest possible standards in all aspects of nuclear safety. We are therefore ready to provide assistance and cooperate with interested partners by sharing our experience and expertise in nuclear power plant operation and maintenance.

The IAEA also plays a central coordinating role in ensuring adequate nuclear security. Therefore, we encourage all states to take advantage of IAEA advisory services, including the International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS). To enable the IAEA to undertake its complex nuclear security related activities we also need to ensure that it has reliable and sufficient technical, human and financial resources allocated through assessed contributions to the regular budget and through extrabudgetary contributions to the Nuclear Security Fund.

Concerning nuclear security, we consider ensuring the full implementation of IAEA’s 2018-2021 Nuclear Security Plan as a priority. Other important tasks ahead of us are to prepare for IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS), to be held in February next year, and for the Review Conference of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) to be held in 2021.
Mr. Chairman,

Hungary also takes an active part in initiatives such as the Nuclear Security Contact Group (NSCG), the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (GP) that play a supplementary but important role in strengthening the nuclear security architecture centered on the IAEA. As part of our contribution to these efforts, Hungary currently serves as the convener of the NSCG, which brings together states committed to advancing nuclear security and we are planning to host the 2021 plenary meeting of the GICNT, which consists of states committed to strengthening global capacity to prevent, detect and respond to nuclear terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, let me voice our strong expectation that the so called “Vienna issues” of the NPT will be given appropriate weight in the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee to the Review Conference.