



**The Permanent Mission of
The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations**

**Statement by:
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**Before The Second Conference of State Parties
and Signatories to the Treaties
On the Establishment of Nuclear Weapons
Free Zones**

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Mr. Chairman,

It gives me great pleasure to join my colleagues who have already congratulated you on being elected as the chairman of the Second Conference of State Parties and Signatories to the Treaties on the Establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZs). I wish also to congratulate the other members of the Bureau on their election. We have great confidence in your ability to make this important conference successful. I also highly appreciate the participation in this conference of Mr. Ban-Ki Moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations.

My country's delegation supports the elements included in the final draft document which has been prepared to be adopted at the end of the conference. Given the limited time, however, I will confine my presentation to a few issues which Libya considers particularly important.

Mr. Chairman,

Libya stresses the importance of the treaties on the establishment of Nuclear Weapons Free zones (NWFZs), namely those pertaining to: Talateloco, Rartonga, Bangkok, Plenidaba, and Central Asia, in addition to the establishment of Mongolia as an NWFZ.

We are convinced that the establishment of these zones constitutes a real contribution to nuclear weapons disarmament and non-proliferation. Libya welcomes the recent positive developments concerning the beginning of the entry into force of the two treaties pertaining to Africa (Plenidaba) and Central Asia.

Libya, as an African country, attaches great importance to the Establishment of the Nuclear weapons free zone in Africa as an important step that contributes effectively to the enhancement of peace and security on both the regional and international levels. In this context, we highly commend the establishment of the African Commission for Atomic Energy in the mid of this month .Such commission will undoubtedly contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Mr. Chairman,

As the Review Conference of the State Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty approaches, there is a strong need to strengthen the commitments in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as the efforts in the disarmament sphere still lack balance, in addition to being influenced by selective and unfair policies. This is evidenced by the fact that nuclear arsenals continue to exist, while new weapons are being developed in a number of states, in disregard to the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The hoped for progress in the implementation of the thirteen practical steps approved by Review Conference in 2000 has not been forthcoming. Furthermore, little progress has been seen with respect to the decisions issued by the Review and Extension Conference of 1995, particularly the decision concerning the establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free zone in the Middle East, which has not enjoyed serious international will and support, necessary for its implementation. Of a particular concern are the ideas being circulated by some international parties which call for tying the implementation of the Middle East Decision to measurements and conditions which may not be realized for a long time, due to the intransigent Israeli position. This means that the decision will be reversed and that the international community, especially the depositary states of the NPT, which adopted the decision, will no longer feel committed to its implantation.

Mr. Chairman,

The problem of lack of balance in the field of nuclear disarmament and non proliferation is clearly manifested in the discourse about the role of the international Agency for Atomic Energy. This Agency, described as “International”, was given a selective mandate so that it can only concentrate on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons through ascertaining that nuclear materials are not converted from nuclear uses to military ones. The role of the agency, however, did not include the verification of the implementation by the Nuclear States of their commitments to the reduction and disarmament of their nuclear arsenals. This reflects a serious defect in the balance being made between the efforts of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

As the Brother Leader, Mummar Al-Gathafi, mentioned in his statement before the General Assembly on 23/9/2009: “The International Agency for Atomic Energy must have the mandate to verify the position of

all concerned countries, without discrimination, so that this Agency can be described as truly international, i.e. that it has a universal character.” In our statement, made to the Security Council when the non-proliferation summit was convened on 24/9/2009, we declared that “the International Agency for Atomic Energy should supervise all nuclear facilities belonging to all States, without exception, and that the Israeli Dimona Nuclear Reactor must be subjected to inspection, or otherwise, all countries in the Middle East should have the right to acquire nuclear weapons.”

Mr. Chairman,

Libya is convinced that the non-proliferation regime can not be sustained unless the Nuclear States submit sufficient evidence that they are committed to the implementation of the treaty provisions, and that they also abide by the principles of transparency and verifiability in their nuclear disarmament procedures, in accordance with a fixed time table, in order to achieve the final goal of total elimination of those weapons.

The world has seen some hope that progress in the field of nuclear disarmament can be made, in the light of the positive statements made by a number of the leaders of nuclear States in which they indicated their commitments to work towards the achievement of the desired goal, namely the establishment of world free from nuclear weapons. In this respect, Libya welcomes the agreement that was made between the United States and the Russian Federation on 8/4/2010, concerning the reduction of the offensive weapons of the two countries, as a step towards the general and complete nuclear disarmament. We call for the adoption of additional concrete steps in this field.

Complete nuclear disarmament is the only guarantee that these weapons will neither be used nor threatened to be used. Until that goal is achieved, we should urgently work towards the conclusion of an international, unconditioned, and legally binding instrument to guarantee the security of the Non-Nuclear States, and their protection from the use of nuclear weapons, or the threat of their use, against them. Such guarantees will enhance the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Mr. Chairman,

One of the important matters for the achievement of the desired balance in the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty is to guarantee the inalienable right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy. From this perspective, no provision in the treaty should be interpreted in a manner that limits this right, or affect negatively the right of the State parties to develop, produce, and use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Article 4 of the Non-Proliferation Treaty is very clear in this respect, and does not need any reinterpretation, as this article did not place any preconditions on the Non-Nuclear States, which are parties to the treaty, as far as their harnessing of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is concerned.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

✍ Dr. Saadun
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