

Statement by Greece
Mr. President,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you on your election and assure you of my delegation's full support.

Greece aligns fully itself with the statement made by the European Union and by Belgium on behalf of a group of states and would like to make some additional remarks.

The importance, in many respects, of the current review cycle of the NPT, cannot be stressed enough. Today, more than ever, the preservation, promulgation and universalization of the Treaty and its three pillars are at the core of the global non-proliferation and disarmament architecture. Addressing the triptych of the NPT in a balanced approach must be at the center of our deliberations in order to achieve the momentum that will guide us forward and onwards towards the objective of achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

Keeping in mind the principle of undiminished security for all, Greece calls for further progress on all aspects of disarmament, as a way to enhance global security. It is in this framework of global nuclear security that Greece has supported a Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty (FMCT).

We further believe that the universalisation of the CTBT would contribute to international peace and security. Greece calls upon all states that have not yet done so to become parties to the CTBT without any further delay.

The complementary role of the FMCT and the CTBT can only add impetus to the NPT and bolster the double helix of disarmament and non-proliferation.

In this context, we stress the need to renew multilateral efforts and revitalize multilateral negotiating bodies, in particular the Conference on Disarmament (CD).

KOREA: The nuclear and ballistic missile programmes of the DPRK remain a matter of concern. Greece supports the current diplomatic efforts for a political settlement and welcomes the ongoing dialogue. At the same time, we call on DPRK to comply with its obligations under relevant UN Security Council Resolutions.

JCPOA: The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) is a key element of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture, unanimously endorsed by a UN Security Council Resolution, and is crucial for international security. Greece supports the ongoing implementation of the JCPOA and commends the IAEA for its professional, technical and impartial work in verifying Iran's nuclear commitments.

Greece follows closely the ongoing continued increase in the use of nuclear energy. It is for this reason that we place particular emphasis on the third pillar of the NPT. With this guiding principle, Greece fully supports the IAEA's vital role in strengthening States' capacity to ensure that the development and use of nuclear energy take place under the most rigorous safety and security conditions. This is especially critical for volatile regions such as the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean.

The above approach requires full cooperation with the IAEA and ample and transparent international collaboration. Multinational confidence-building can be reached through IAEA's international assistance and peer review missions, inter alia such as Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Reviews (INIR) and Site Evaluation for External Risks (SEED). Greece underlines the importance that all IAEA member states use the Agency's peer review services, make public the missions' report and comply with their recommendations. Greece, along with likeminded States, cosponsored the revised working paper submitted by France for a "Framework for civil nuclear cooperation" based on IGAs (intergovernmental agreements)¹. Given the increasing number of states considering nuclear technology in their energy mix, the guiding principles for an "umbrella agreement" of good practices aims at providing the lining for individual projects and the necessary road map.

Mr. Chairman.

The N.P.T. constitutes the cornerstone of the global non – proliferation and disarmament architecture. The deliberations of the 10th NPT Review Conference next year will constitute a way point in terms of how the entire nuclear disarmament architecture will evolve in the years to come. Bilateral and multilateral strategic dialogue must be safeguarded, and it is in this context that we anticipate progress based on a structured dialogue aimed at "Creating the Conditions Working Group" modeled on the IPNDV initiative (International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification).

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

¹ as opposed to agreements between companies and/or entities