



**STATEMENT OF HUNGARY**

by

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*At the Third Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review  
Conference  
of the States Parties  
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons  
(NPT)*

**Cluster I – Nuclear disarmament**

*United Nations*

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Mr. Chairman,

Hungary fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union on Cluster I issues. Nevertheless, I would like to make a few remarks from our national perspective.

As we have stated in our General Statement, Hungary considers the NPT not only as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime but also as the essential foundation for the pursuit of multilateral nuclear disarmament in accordance with its Article VI.

Hungary shares the ultimate goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, and does its utmost to bring forward this noble cause. However, in our view, this goal can only be achieved if our respective efforts take into consideration the current, rather complex security situation and contribute to creating an environment for a safer and more secure world. We have to pursue a progressive, pragmatic and inclusive approach, taking concrete and practical steps, which fully engage nuclear weapon states.

Unfortunately, the current instable and unpredictable security environment is not conducive for new nuclear disarmament agreements. It does not mean though that nuclear disarmament – and disarmament in general – is not as relevant as ever. However, in order to make progress, we have to focus on areas where common ground exists.

One of those areas is the promotion of the long overdue entry into force of the CTBT, which should be a high priority for all of us, because there can be no meaningful nuclear disarmament without a comprehensive and total ban of nuclear testing. The effectiveness of the CTBTO monitoring system, which is constantly strengthened, is unanimously acknowledged. Therefore, the CTBT is more relevant and its entry into force is more needed than ever. Thus, we attach great importance to promoting its universalization and to convincing still hesitant Annex II States to join and ratify.

The next logical step towards nuclear disarmament would be a ban on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. The FMCT would not only constitute a significant contribution to both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, but by limiting the amount of direct use materials, it would also contribute to the implementation of NPT Article VI obligations. Therefore, Hungary values the report of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group that contains a set of potential treaty elements that would facilitate the task of future negotiators. We also support the group's recommendation that FMCT negotiations should begin without further delay in the Conference on Disarmament, on the basis of CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein.

Another essential element of the incremental approach is the development of effective and reliable verification and monitoring mechanisms and instruments. We share the view that nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states should work together to create such a verification toolbox. Therefore, Hungary was honoured to participate in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) tasked to examine the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament. We are pleased that the GGE was able to reach consensus on its report, which recognizes the need for further work in this area. We are also actively engaged in the work of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV), focusing on the technical aspects of and capacity building for verification.

Finally, let me underline that nuclear risk reduction measures that can contribute to alleviating tensions and building trust and confidence can provide us with tangible deliverables at next year's Review conference.

Mr. Chairman,

We have to bear in mind that since there is no fast track in this area, nuclear disarmament is not something that we achieve in a minute. We have to think about it, plan it and work for it hard and with patience. Cooperative approach, constructive spirits are the only possible ways to reach our goal. Hungary looks forward to working along these principles in the run-up to the 2020 Review conference.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.