



KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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**STATEMENT
of
H.E. Ms. Mirgul Moldoisaeva
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations
at the General Debates
in the First Committee of the 76th session
of the UN General Assembly**

Mr. Chair,

First of all, allow me to congratulate Ambassador Omar Hilale of Morocco on the election to this high position and wish you success in your endeavors and promise you the full support of our delegation.

Excellencies,

During the past 50 years, members of the international community made considerable progress in building the foundation for a safer world through a series of multilateral and bilateral arms control and disarmament accords. Among the most important were the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the ABM Treaty, the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, and the New START Treaty.

Each of these accords individually, and collectively, reinforced strategic stability by reducing arms race incentives and providing greater predictability in the strategic environment.

Today we are witnessing the destruction of the existing nuclear arms control system, which is a dangerous trend for all mankind. It is hard to imagine an international climate less hospitable to nuclear arms control. Under such circumstances, it is more important than ever to recognize and strengthen those nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation approaches that continue to be effective, including nuclear-weapon-free zones and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In this regard, the First Committee faces a number of very important tasks, the solution of which will ensure peace and stability throughout the world.

Mr. Chair,

Commitment to the policy of disarmament and prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is one of the fundamental principles of the foreign policy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

As an active supporter of the idea of a nuclear-weapon-free world, the Kyrgyz Republic has become one of the initiators and depositary of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia. My country has been entrusted to serve as depositary of both the Treaty itself and its Protocol, and is faithfully carrying out these functions.

This year we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on the CANWFZ. Kyrgyzstan as a Coordinator of the Zone for the period of 2020-2021 would like to circulate the Joint Statement of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties on this occasion, as a document of the General Assembly very soon.

As the depository of the Protocol, Kyrgyzstan welcomes the signing of the Protocol on negative security assurances to the Treaty on a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in Central Asia by Nuclear Weapon States on May 6, 2014. France, the United Kingdom, Russia and China have already ratified the Protocol. We call on the United States to ratify this instrument.

I am also pleased to note that the updated resolution "Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia" was adopted by the consensus at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly last year.

We expect that the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will consider the issue of strengthening the multilateral international legal regime for arms control and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Kyrgyz Republic considers the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to be one of the most fundamental and effective international instruments in the area of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

We firmly support the importance and urgency of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and promotion of its use for peaceful purposes only. From our standpoint, the elaboration of any agreement on use and exploration of outer space should be held in the format of inclusive and consensus-based multilateral negotiations within the framework of the United Nations and its mandate.

The Kyrgyz Republic attaches great importance to the issue of mitigating the environmental consequences of uranium mining and associated nuclear fuel cycle activities in the production of nuclear weapons. The 73rd session of the UNGA adopted a resolution initiated by Kyrgyzstan entitled "The role of the international community in the prevention the radiation threat in Central Asia."

The resolution notes the importance of remediating areas affected by former uranium extraction plants and recognizing the need to devise and promote effective programs for the responsible and safe management of radioactive and toxic waste in Central Asia.

Mr.Chair,

We look forward to a productive discussion during the First Committee of the 76th session of the General Assembly to enhance global security, promote further cooperation and sustain peace and prosperity throughout the world.

The current pandemic poses an extraordinarily challenge to all UN Member States. However, it also affords us with an incentive and an opportunity to put aside some of our past differences and jointly address the existential threat posed by the existence of nuclear weapons. At a minimum, it should be possible to take concrete action to reduce the risks of nuclear use due to accidents and misperceptions.

The Kyrgyz Republic is deeply convinced that it is only through joint efforts that progress can be made in resolving existing obstacles and problems in achieving the common security objectives of our States. This greatest challenge for humanity should be a priority goal for the international community, and we call on all present to do their utmost to do so.

I thank you.