STATEMENT BY
H.E. Ambassador Dang Dinh Quy
Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

at the General Debate of the First Committee
of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
(xx October 2018)

Mr. Chairperson,

1. My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by Thailand on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. Today’s multilateral non-proliferation and disarmament system faces many concerning challenges, such as strategic arms control, risks of arms race and the stalemate of international efforts.

Viet Nam reaffirms its commitment to work with all countries to promote international peace and security and address international and regional issues, including implementation of international treaties and resolutions on the General Assembly and the Security Council in this field.

The coordination and complementarity of the General Assembly and the Security Council should be further built upon, while other multilateral and bilateral cooperation should be further encouraged.

3. Viet Nam strongly supports, on the one hand, non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction, with a view to their total elimination, and, on the other, the right of state to and international cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear, chemical and biological technologies.

[We call for further reductions of nuclear weapons.] Nuclear Weapons States should, as a matter of priority, implement their obligations under Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT), toward the general and complete disarmament of nuclear weapons.

The upcoming 10th Review Conference of the NPT will be a test to all States Parties’s genuine commitments to the global non-proliferation regime and we must not fail.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is still not effective after a quarter of a century. A de facto moratorium of tests is not enough. It should be backed by the CTBT in force and universalized.

The remaining Annex 2 States need to sign and ratify the CTBT without delay.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) completes the total ban on all weapons of mass destruction. Viet Nam was the 10th country to ratified the TPNW, leading to its entry into force on 22 January last year.

We will work with all partners for the success of its first Meeting of State Parties in March next year and its universalization.

4. Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices continue to threat to civilians, movement of peace keeping operations and impact socio-economic development in more than 60 countries, including Viet Nam long after conflicts have ended.
The Security Council’s Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2021/08) on mine action last April encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other related relevant organizations, to enhance further support, including through sharing of best practices, providing technological and financial assistance to affected countries.

5. Implementation of related international instruments on conventional weapons, including the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), should be carried out in accordance with international law, with due respect to the legitimate right to self-defense of States and in a balanced, consistent, non-discriminatory and non-politicised manner.

6. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) continue playing a leading role in transforming societies and economies.

Yet fallen in the wrong hands they become a great threat. States bear the primary responsibility for the rule-based management of conduct in cyberspace vis-a-vis its territory and citizens.

At the global level, there should be agreed norms of responsible conduct in accordance with international law.

I thank you./.