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76th session of the General Assembly

Thematic discussions of the First Committee

Regional disarmament, Other disarmament Measures and international Security, Disarmament Machinery.

Statement of Mr. Nazim Khaldi,

First Secretary

New York, 14 October 2021
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

Algeria remains deeply involved to consolidate stability and security beyond its borders, working closely together with other neighboring countries for a better future for all peoples of the region.

The Sahel region is particularly plagued by the dangerous phenomena of small arms and lights weapons illicit trade, that had exacerbated in many countries, the already fragile security situation. This calls, from our point of view, to a multidimensional response based on a security track and a political process to deal with the roots causes of these crisis.

In this regard, my country support the Libyan led and Libyan owned political process in this country, that has led this far, to the cease-fire and most recently to the adoption of a plan of action for the withdrawal of foreign fighters and mercenaries. Algeria has also brought its support to the peace process through the holding, end of august this year, of a ministerial meeting of the neighboring countries of Libya during which the commitment to the stabilization of Libya was renewed.

The same commitment is being demonstrated by my country in Mali, as we pursue our support, in our capacity as Chair of the follow-up committee, to the implementation of the peace and reconciliation agreement, arising from the Algiers process and to ensure a successful transition based on inclusiveness and ownership.

In the same vein, Algeria contribute to fostering the African Union efforts on preventing and combating terrorism by hosting and supporting the Africa Center for Studies and Research on Terrorism (ACRST), which aims to guide and coordinate counterterrorism across Africa. Algeria also host the police African mechanism "AFRIPOL", headquarterd in Algiers, which constitute a significant asset to enhance the capacity of the continent to address the threats posed by terrorism and transnational organized crime.

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones is not only a confidence building measure, but a concrete step towards the complete and total elimination of nuclear weapons. The entry into force of the Treaty of Pelindaba, establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone in Africa, twelve years ago, shows the African continent’s steadfast commitment to this goal as well as its collective will to lead by example. My country that was among the first African States to ratify the PELINDABA Treaty, calls upon the remaining States to sign and ratify its three annexed protocols.

We express the hope to see this example followed in other parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East. Therefore we welcome the convening of the first Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, in 2019 and calls on all invited parties to constructively participate in its second session, in November 2021.
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  

The Algerian delegation welcomes the UN Secretary-General’s report (A/76/89) on the “Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region”, which contains some Member States’ perspectives on ways and means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region. I take this opportunity to thank those Member States that have contributed in the implementation of the General Assembly resolution (75/86).

In line with its Mediterranean policy based upon the principles of cooperation, good-neighbourliness and mutual respect, Algeria has the honor, as in previous years, to submit to the First Committee and the General Assembly of this 76th session under the agenda item 105, a draft resolution L.37 entitled “Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region”. The Algerian delegation counts on the co-sponsorship and the support of all Member States for the adoption of this text, hopefully by consensus this year.

Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates  

Algeria shares the concerns of other Member States with the evolving threats emanating from the manipulation of information and digital technologies with malicious intent and cyber attacks on critical infrastructure and condemns the use of spy software against officials, citizens and journalists around the world. Algeria considers that such dangerous and illegal practices, contribute enormously to undermine trust and confidence between States.

In this context, Algeria welcomes the successful conclusion, in march 2021, and the consensual adoption of the final report of the Open-ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, established pursuant to UNGA Resolution 73/27.

We also express our readiness to work constructively with all the Member States for the success of the new OEWG on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies, from 2021-2025, established pursuant UNGA resolution 75/240.

Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates  

The UN disarmament machinery is regrettably eroding. The Conference on Disarmament still suffers from the lack of political will that constitute the major reason for the unfortunate deadlock. We, therefore, urge all the CD Member States to agree on a balanced and comprehensive program of work.
My country, which assumed the first rotating presidency of the CD in 2020, presented, on behalf of the six Presidents of the CD, a package of draft decisions on the improved and effective functioning of the CD that could constitute a basis to make future positive progress regarding the revitalization of this body.

Furthermore, Algeria expresses its grave concern at the inability of the UN Disarmament Commission to convene its organizational and substantive sessions, for three consecutive years, and hope that, by both addressing the underlying issues and avoiding the politicization of its work, the UNDC will hold its substantive session in 2022, in a formal setting, so as to fulfill its mandate.

Finally, my delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the African Group and the Arab Group.

The full version of this statement will be made available online.

I thank you for your kind intention.