



**CHAIR OF  
THE COORDINATING BUREAU  
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE  
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-  
ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), DURING THE WORLD CONFERENCE  
AGAINST ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS (REV.1)**

*Hiroshima and Kawasaki, 3-9 August 2019*

**Mr. President,**

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor on behalf of the 120 Member States comprising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) during this year's World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.
2. At the outset, allow us to thank the distinguished Organizing Committee for its kind invitation to participate in this important World Conference, under the theme "For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World", and which is convened at a time when we mark the 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
3. We would also like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the People of both Hiroshima and Kawasaki for their kind generosity and hospitality.

**Mr. President,**

4. Since its establishment, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has remained at the forefront of nuclear disarmament, and has termed nuclear disarmament as its highest priority, while striving towards achieving the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, considering, among others, the threat posed to humanity by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.
5. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement seize this opportunity to reiterate, with concern, that improvements in existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons as provided for in the military doctrines of some NWS, including the United States Nuclear Posture Review, violate their legal obligations on nuclear disarmament, as well as the commitments made to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their military and security policies and contravene the negative security assurances provided by the NWS. We stress once again that these improvements as well as the development of new types of such weapons violate also the commitments



## CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



undertaken at the time of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and at the NPT Review Conferences by the NWS.

6. In this regard, it is worth noting that during the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held from 18-21 July 2019, in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Ministers welcomed the multilateral efforts towards nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Moreover, they took note of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. We hope that, when entered into force, the Treaty would contribute to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

### **Mr. President,**

7. The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) also seize this opportunity to reiterate their continued concern over the current difficult and complex situation in the field of disarmament and international security, while calling for renewed efforts to resolve the current impasse in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects.
8. In this regard, we stress the importance of the adoption of General Assembly Decision 73/546 on Convening a Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction and call upon all States of the region, without exception, to actively participate in this Conference and negotiate in good faith, with a view to bring to a conclusion a legally-binding Treaty on the establishment of said Zone. We also stress that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the NPT, as well as other relevant decisions on the subject, adopted within the context of the Review Conferences, remain valid until the objective of the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East is achieved and that the implementation of decision 73/546 is without prejudice to the validity of the aforesaid resolution and other decisions, and shall therefore not be construed as their replacement.
9. Moreover, while reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, we reiterate our determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. We must underline that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the UN Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues.



## CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



10. In this connection, the Movement emphasizes that progress in nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects is essential to strengthening international peace and security. Therefore, we reaffirm that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
11. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) invites the international community to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities, as outlined in resolution 68/32 of the General Assembly of the United Nations; while also inviting it to participate on 26 September 2019 in the UN High-Level Plenary Meeting to observe said day.

I thank you, Mr. President.