



General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 June 2021
English
Original: English/Spanish

Seventy-sixth session

Item 101 (r) of the preliminary list*

General and complete disarmament

Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

Report of the Secretary-General

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	2
II. Replies received from Governments	2
Botswana	2
Cuba	3
India	4
Kazakhstan	6
Mexico	8
Portugal	10
Turkey	11
Uruguay	12

* [A/76/50](#).



I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution [75/47](#) on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-sixth session.

2. Pursuant to that request, a note verbale was sent to Member States on 18 February 2021 inviting them to provide information on the subject. The replies received are set out in section II below. Any views received after 31 May 2021 will be posted on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs in the language of submission. No addenda will be issued.

II. Replies received from Governments

Botswana

[Original: English]
[31 May 2021]

The Republic of Botswana remains committed to supporting and promoting the idea of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation of all weapon systems that are likely to endanger human life. We also recognize the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation, and hence urge other Member States to accede to, sign and ratify international, regional and transparency instruments so as to achieve the objectives of global disarmament and non-proliferation, thereby promoting international peace and security. Botswana has signed and ratified:

- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, an international instrument concerning weapons of mass destruction
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, an international instrument concerning weapons of mass destruction
- African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, a regional instrument
- Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the Southern African Development Community Region, a regional instrument
- Convention on Cluster Munitions, an international instrument concerning conventional weapons
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, an international instrument concerning conventional weapons
- Arms Trade Treaty, an international instrument concerning conventional weapons

In addition to the above, Botswana notes the following instruments: the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; and the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water. Botswana is in the process of finalizing the requisite procedures so as to become a party to the above instruments.

In 2019, Botswana, in partnership with Norwegian People's Aid, successfully destroyed the last 920 anti-personnel mines of all types. At this point, Botswana has no anti-personnel mines in its inventory. This is a true example of how Botswana is

committed to achieving the objectives of the disarmament conventions that it remains a party to. Annual transparency reports are also sent to the United Nations on an annual basis.

After ratifying the Arms Trade Treaty in 2019, Botswana is in the process of organizing and channelling its efforts to meet the legislative requirement of the Treaty by organizing a Treaty workshop in conjunction with the Small Arms Survey to build capacity to enable Botswana to submit its initial report on measures to implement the Treaty. The workshop will also establish procedures to ensure the timely submission of annual reports on exports and imports of conventional arms in accordance with the obligations contained in Article 13 thereof.

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]
[20 May 2021]

Cuba, a founding Member of the United Nations, has demonstrated and reaffirms its commitment to the promotion, preservation and strengthening of multilateralism in international relations.

As an active member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, Cuba has supported the promotion of multilateralism as a basic principle in disarmament and non-proliferation negotiations.

In expression of that commitment, we reiterate our concern over the progressive erosion of multilateralism and the main instruments in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control resulting from the adoption, by the Administration of former President Donald Trump, of unilateral measures such as the withdrawal of the United States of America from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. These measures threaten international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system, as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself.

It is essential to abide by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, to preserve existing agreements on disarmament and arms control, which have been the result of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations, and to comply with the binding obligations undertaken. That is the most effective way to safeguard international peace and security.

In this regard, we welcome the decision taken by the parties, on 26 January 2021, to unconditionally extend the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms for five years.

The contradictions and threats with regard to disarmament and non-proliferation, which stem from the continued existence of nuclear weapons and their development and modernization, security policies and military doctrines based on nuclear deterrence, the emergence of new and modern lethal weapons and plans to militarize outer space and cyberspace, among other current challenges, require multilateral efforts to achieve negotiated and peaceful solutions, under Article 33 of the Charter of the United Nations.

That is why Cuba, a State party to many international treaties on disarmament and non-proliferation, welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was achieved thanks to the efforts of the majority of Member States and a large part of the international community. We are proud to be the fifth State to ratify the Treaty.

There is a need for continued progress, through coordinated action, on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations at the United Nations, with a view to achieving general and complete disarmament under strict international control.

A renewed commitment is needed to make progress on legally binding, multilaterally agreed initiatives to prohibit the militarization of outer space and cyberspace and the development of lethal autonomous weapons.

The need to redouble multilateral efforts is made all the more pressing by the lack of political will on the part of certain States to make progress in talks that have been stalled for several years in the Conference on Disarmament, which is the main multilateral negotiating forum in this area. This body is ready to negotiate simultaneously a treaty prohibiting an arms race in outer space and a treaty providing effective security assurances for States that, like Cuba, do not possess nuclear weapons.

Multilateral negotiations that are open to all States on an equal footing facilitate the adoption of commitments on disarmament and non-proliferation through corresponding agreements, measures and instruments, and ensure their universality.

The provisions for multilateral cooperation contained in these instruments must be promoted and applied as a matter of urgency in order to address and provide effective solutions to the unprecedented challenges that our nations face, which have been aggravated by the multidimensional effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

The multilateral decision-making process of the United Nations, with equal rights for all States and in strict observance of the Charter and the principles of international law, is the only viable way to prevent the international system from becoming a mechanism for the imposition and legitimization of unilateral measures contrary to the multipolar, just and equitable world order we need.

India

[Original: English]

[18 May 2021]

India has staunchly supported the pursuit of meaningful dialogue under the framework of multilateral institutions and mechanisms to achieve the goals of disarmament and non-proliferation. India is fully cognizant that effective multilateralism represents the best hope for strengthening international peace and security and addressing the contemporary challenges to disarmament and non-proliferation efforts.

India's nuclear policy history provides perspective on its relentless advocacy for multilateral efforts towards global general and complete disarmament. As early as 1953, India's efforts led to the inclusion, in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution [715 \(VIII\)](#), of an affirmation on its "earnest desire to reach agreement as early as possible on a comprehensive and coordinated plan, under international control, for the regulation, limitation and reduction of all armed forces and all armaments, for the elimination and prohibition of atomic, hydrogen, bacterial, chemical and all such other weapons of war and mass destruction, and for the attainment of these ends through effective measures". India's conviction that a nuclear-weapons-free world is safer for all world nations is as strong today as it was in 1954, when India became the first State in the world to make a visionary call for a "standstill agreement" to ban nuclear testing pending progress towards a comprehensive disarmament agreement.

Recognizing early on that a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is not an end in itself but only a means to an end, which is the achievement of general and complete disarmament, in 1965, India, along with seven other States of the Non-Aligned Movement in the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, presented a joint memorandum on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, which called for non-proliferation efforts to be coupled with or followed by tangible steps to halt the nuclear arms race and to limit, reduce and eliminate the stocks of nuclear weapons and the means of their delivery. In 1982, India called for a “nuclear freeze” – prohibition of the production of fissile materials for weapons and of nuclear weapons and related delivery systems. India’s action plan for a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world order, presented at the United Nations in 1988, called for the attainment of the goal of nuclear disarmament in a time-bound and phased manner. In 1996, India, along with the Group of 21, presented a programme of action to the Conference on Disarmament for the elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame.

India is firmly committed to the goal of universal, non-discriminatory and verifiable nuclear disarmament and has called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons through a step-by-step process, as outlined in our working paper on nuclear disarmament submitted to the Conference on Disarmament in 2007 (see [CD/1816](#)). India would like to reiterate its call to take the steps outlined in the working paper, including the negotiation in the Conference of a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention, as also called for by the Group of 21.

India attaches the highest importance to the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, drawing its mandate from the consensus final document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament and reaffirmed most recently in Assembly resolution [75/83](#). Without diminishing the priority that India attaches to disarmament, the country has supported the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on a fissile material cut-off treaty on the basis of document [CD/1299](#) and the mandate contained therein, which remains the most suitable basis on which to commence negotiations as also endorsed by the Group of Governmental Experts to make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to, but not negotiate, a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group. Acknowledging the utility of technical work on nuclear disarmament verification, as well as its value as an essential element of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, India has been participating in the meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts on Nuclear Disarmament Verification.

As to the issue of the prevention of an arms race in outer space, India supports an early start to the negotiations of a legally binding instrument on its prevention in the Conference on Disarmament to address pressing issues relating to space security. India is a party to various disarmament conventions and treaties, including the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects; and the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. Besides proactively pursuing disarmament efforts at the Conference on Disarmament, the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the First Committee of the General Assembly, India, as a responsible member of various multilateral export control regimes and stringent national export

controls, contributes to advancing the common objectives of non-proliferation. As a non-permanent member of the Security Council for 2021–2022, India is committed to playing a key role in the promotion of multilateralism to achieve long-standing objectives in the fields of disarmament, non-proliferation and international security.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, speaking at a virtual forum of the Economic and Social Council in July 2020, stated that reformed multilateralism with a reformed United Nations at its centre could meet the aspirations of humanity. The External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, speaking in September 2020 at the ministerial meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism, called for multilateralism to be creative and practical. At the recent Security Council high-level meeting on multilateralism, reiterating India's clarion call for United Nations reform, the Foreign Secretary stated that a renewal of vows towards a reformed United Nations-centred multilateral system would require genuine efforts on behalf of all Member States. For its part, India has always sought to strengthen the forces of cooperative multilateralism towards disarmament and non-proliferation.

Kazakhstan

[Original: English]
[02 April 2021]

Kazakhstan's commitment to the principles of multilateralism has deepened all the more during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has highlighted the imperative to strengthen the nexus between international security and economic recovery. Disarmament is thus an integral part of justice, sustainable development and environmental protection to adequately address our contemporary unprecedented challenges.

Kazakhstan promotes the Secretary-General's Agenda for Disarmament, which is aimed at the total abolition of nuclear weapons, as a prerequisite for peace and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Kazakhstan supports the United Nations system's critical stewardship for of global anti-crisis approaches by reinforcing a stable system of mechanisms for international relations and multilateral cooperation.

In these perilous times of geopolitical tensions and the catastrophe caused by COVID-19, disarmament by all nuclear weapons States should become the priority of national foreign policies. International solidarity is no longer a choice, it is an obligation.

Kazakhstan, impacted by the disastrous consequences of four decades of nuclear testing, has been a proponent of nuclear abolition since its independence in 1991. On 29 August 1991, the first President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, made the historic decision to close the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site. Kazakhstan has also abandoned the fourth largest nuclear arsenal in the world. These crucial decisions were a precursor for the closure of other similar sites in regions across the globe.

To facilitate the recovery from the devastation caused, Kazakhstan tabled a resolution on international cooperation and the coordination of efforts aimed at the rehabilitation of the population, environmental restoration, and the economic development of the Semipalatinsk region in Kazakhstan, which was adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 2020.

Kazakhstan reaffirms its continuing commitment to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, including through:

- The creation of the nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central Asia in 2006
- The establishment by the General Assembly of the International Day against Nuclear Tests in 2009

- The adoption of the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World (resolutions 70/57 of 7 December 2015 and 73/57 of 5 December 2018)

The day of the closure of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test, namely 29 August, was declared the International Day against Nuclear Tests in 2009, with the unanimous support of all Member States. Annual United Nations high-level commemorations of this day have become a noble tradition to rally the international community to establish a total ban on nuclear testing through the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

Our broad and balanced vision of achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world is embodied in the General Assembly resolution entitled “The Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World”, approved by the majority of the United Nations community in 2015. The Declaration was later updated in 2018, and this recurring resolution will be tabled at the seventy-sixth session of the Assembly in 2021. The resolution calls for restoring and enforcing trust and confidence between countries through progress on disarmament and the elimination of nuclear weapons with an agreed timeline. It stands as a guidepost for future action.

Owing to the lack of progress on disarmament, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has become a new reality, which Kazakhstan advocates vigorously in all United Nations and other forums.

The entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 22 January 2021 coincides with the thirtieth anniversary of both Kazakhstan’s independence and the closure of the Semipalatinsk test site, as well as the fifteenth anniversary of the Semipalatinsk treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

It is significant that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons strengthens our collective hope for a world free of nuclear weapons, which Kazakhstan has set for the United Nations centennial in 2045.

In the current situation, further advancing the Treaty is the right path forward for the international community, together with accelerating momentum for the speedy entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. A voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing is no alternative to a legally binding document. Hence, an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is essential for an effective implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Kazakhstan is active in implementing the conventions on chemical and biological weapons, conventional weapons, the prevention of an arms race in outer space, cyber security, and other issues that threaten international security.

The President of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, has proposed the establishment of a special multilateral body – the International Agency for Biological Safety – based on the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972 with the aim of strengthening the Convention regime, and accountable to the Security Council.

The world needs renewed resolve, political determination and wisdom to put the interests of humanity above narrow national interests. Kazakhstan is committed to working to strengthen the United Nations in its pursuit of peace and stability through a stable system of international relations and multilateral cooperation.

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[31 May 2021]

Mexico views multilateralism as a fundamental tool for addressing the most important challenges facing humanity. Thus, it reaffirms its position as a traditional ally of multilateralism, as well as of the United Nations, in order to contribute to achieving and maintaining international peace and security through the peaceful settlement of disputes. This commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes is enshrined in article 89 of the Constitution of the United Mexican States as one of the guiding principles of Mexican foreign policy.

An isolationist approach is no way to deal with the latent threat to humanity posed by weapons of mass destruction or to resolve the humanitarian problems caused by conventional weapons, small arms and light weapons. It is by renewing its commitment to effective multilateralism that the international community can manage to overcome the differences and the political polarization that prevail on these issues.

Mexico reiterates its belief that effective multilateralism is the way to achieve common solutions to common problems. This assertion is increasingly important in the light of the pandemic, which has highlighted the imperative need for dialogue, cooperation and solidarity among nations. A more peaceful and secure world must be founded on solidarity, cooperation and international law. The impact of the pandemic calls for a comprehensive reflection on the various threats to which humanity, ecosystems and civilization as a whole are exposed.

Mexico believes that multilateralism covers an increasing number of issues, actors and forums in which new approaches and levels of action are being sought. It recognizes non-governmental organizations, civil society, academia and international organizations as key actors that have supported the current negotiations in the sphere of disarmament and non-proliferation.

This year marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the first General Assembly resolution on nuclear disarmament. It is therefore impossible to avoid the fact that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the unfinished business of the United Nations. It is important that the United Nations unite in the conviction that nuclear weapons must never again be used, by any actor, under any circumstances.

The catastrophic humanitarian consequences of a nuclear detonation – accidental or intentional – have been demonstrated: these weapons do not distinguish between combatants and non-combatants or make any distinctions as to age, gender or social status. Those who seek to preserve these instruments of war underestimate the threat that they pose to all humanity. Regrettably, we hear voices justifying the use of nuclear weapons, while some possessors have declared their readiness to resume testing and to increase their arsenals. Mexico reiterates that in the United Nations we must not allow the normalization of such discourse or the trivialization of the effects of nuclear weapons.

The main steps taken by Mexico in 2020 to promote the implementation and universality of all legally binding instruments in the area of disarmament are as follows:

- Mexico submitted, on a voluntary basis, its respective national reports, in compliance both with General Assembly resolutions and with its obligations as a State party to international treaties and instruments.
- During the second half of 2020, Mexico coordinated the work of the New Agenda Coalition for disarmament (Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand and South Africa), which promotes compliance with nuclear disarmament

obligations and commitments in accordance with article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

- Mexico participated actively and purposefully in virtual and hybrid meetings convened under the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, including by the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems; the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Ottawa Convention); and meetings of the States parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
- Mexico participated actively in the ninety-third, ninety-fourth and ninety-fifth sessions of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; it was also nominated by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, and elected by acclamation, to chair the twenty-fifth session (2020/21) of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction. At these meetings, Mexico reiterated its condemnation of any use of chemical weapons, including aerosols, against individuals, groups or communities, and underscored that there is no circumstance that justifies such use, which is contrary to international law and humanitarian law and undermines multilateral agreements and institutions.
- Mexico urged States, particularly those of the Latin American and Caribbean region, to sign, ratify or accede to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, on the basis of its firm conviction that the Treaty complements and strengthens the existing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, the cornerstone of which is the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
- In the context of the work of the First Committee at the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, in 2020, Mexico was a co-author or co-sponsor of the following resolutions on disarmament issues:
 - (a) Resolution [75/39](#): “Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons” (with Austria, Brazil, Ireland, Nigeria and South Africa)
 - (b) Resolution [75/40](#): “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” (with Austria, Brazil, Ireland, Nigeria and South Africa)
 - (c) Resolution [75/61](#): “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”
 - (d) Resolution [75/65](#): “Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments” (on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition)
 - (e) Resolution [75/73](#): “Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world” (with Austria, Brazil, Ireland, Nigeria and South Africa)
 - (f) Resolution [75/80](#): “United Nations Disarmament Information Programme”
 - (g) Resolution [75/87](#): “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty” (with Australia and New Zealand)

In the Conference on Disarmament, Mexico emphasized its frustration with that body's paralysis, growing internal politicization and failure to conduct substantive multilateral disarmament negotiations as its mandate requires.

Mexico endorses the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency as the body responsible for implementing the safeguards regime provided for in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Mexico is a member of the Agency's Board of Governors for the period 2021/22.

Lastly, in addition to the above, Mexico participates actively in the following multilateral forums, groups and mechanisms in the areas of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control:

- Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Group of Governmental Experts to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament
- Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative
- International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification
- Nuclear Suppliers Group
- Australia Group
- Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.

Portugal

[Original: English]
[29 April 2021]

Portugal believes that multilateralism is the most efficient way to attain the objective of peace and security maintenance at the international level, through disarmament and non-proliferation. On this issue, Portugal is a party to almost all relevant treaties and other international and regional mechanisms regarding the prevention and elimination of threats represented by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. Portugal also cooperates with international organizations that work in those areas.

Among the treaties and conventions related to disarmament and non-proliferation to which Portugal is a party are the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare; the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its protocols (including amendments); the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on Cluster Munitions; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction; the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; the Convention on Nuclear Safety; and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities and its amendment.

Portugal also participates in the following export control regimes: the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the

Zangger Committee, and the Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.

Portugal has participated in outreach activities that are aimed at promoting the universalization of the main treaties and other legal instruments regarding disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular with the Portuguese-speaking countries, through formal and informal contacts and initiatives, such as seminars, workshops and meetings.

Following the efforts in the area of disarmament, at the multilateral level, Portugal was one of the first 50 States to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, which was the first legal instrument on disarmament adopted by the United Nations in the past decade.

With reference to nuclear disarmament, Portugal shares the common objective of a world free of nuclear weapons and believes that the universalization and full implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the only viable and effective way to progressively but securely achieve that goal, which will require open, flexible and constructive dialogue and interaction between nuclear and non-nuclear States.

Portugal also hopes that the Conference on Disarmament will be able to adopt, as soon as possible, a programme of work that includes supporting the negotiation of a fissile material cut-off treaty. To this end, Portugal highlights the importance of the implementation of the 2010 action plan of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and believes that the effective implementation of the action plan includes ending the stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament. Portugal has also signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and has proceeded with outreach activities regarding its universalization.

Turkey

[Original: English]
[31 May 2021]

The views of Turkey regarding General Assembly resolution [75/47](#), on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, are outlined below, in accordance with the relevant provisions of resolutions [52/214](#) and [53/208](#).

Turkey believes that multilateralism in disarmament and non-proliferation is key to attaining the objective of peace and security maintenance at the international level.

Turkey is a party to most relevant treaties and other international and regional mechanisms regarding the prevention and elimination of threats represented by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. Turkey also cooperates with international organizations that work in those areas.

Turkey is a party to the following instruments and mechanisms: the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its protocols (including amendments); the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction; the Treaty on the

Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; the IAEA safeguards agreement (including additional protocol); the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities and its amendment; the 1925 Geneva Protocol; and the Arms Trade Treaty.

Turkey also participates in the following export control regimes: the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Zangger Committee, and the Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies.

Regarding nuclear disarmament, Turkey considers the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime that should be strengthened. The universalization of the Treaty must also be promoted. The 2010 action plan contains the steps to be taken to rejuvenate nuclear arms control. Turkey continues to seek the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and to encourage countries of the Middle East to continue dialogue in this regard, as agreed in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and at the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 2010.

Despite the postponement of the tenth Review Conference, Turkey, like other members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative, remained active to prepare recommendations towards strengthening the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty on the basis of the 2010 action plan. Turkey continues to support the ongoing work and constructive dialogue through the Creating an Environment for Nuclear Disarmament initiative.

On 2 July 2013, Turkey signed the Arms Trade Treaty, which is the first legal instrument on the matter of disarmament adopted by the United Nations.

Turkey hopes that the Conference on Disarmament will adopt a programme of work as soon as possible.

Uruguay

[Original: Spanish]
[22 March 2021]

For Uruguay, General Assembly resolution [75/47](#), entitled “Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation”, makes a clear contribution to multilateralism, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the promotion of dialogue among all parties in order to implement lasting solutions – principles that our country has traditionally upheld and defended as part of its foreign policy.

We consider that strengthening multilateral exchanges and building the necessary confidence between parties are fundamental for the advancement of the international disarmament agenda. This is especially important for countries such as Uruguay, which, owing to their size and because they do not possess nuclear weapons, could be left out of discussions unless exchanges take place at a broader level.

Finally, we understand that the non-nuclear-weapon States should have the opportunity to monitor the nuclear-weapon States’ actions and implementation of commitments, as we consider that multilateralism is the appropriate tool for that purpose.