



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-sixth session

Agenda item 100 (f)

### General and complete disarmament: regional disarmament

#### **Letter dated 7 October 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On behalf of the five States Parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, namely the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, I have the honour to transmit herewith a joint statement of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Treaty on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of its signing (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 100 (f).

(Signed) Mirgul **Moldoisaeva**  
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic  
to the United Nations



**Annex to the letter dated 7 October 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

[Original: Russian]

**Joint Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty**

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty,

Reaffirming our commitment to a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia has constituted an important step towards strengthening the disarmament process, the nuclear non-proliferation regime, regional and international peace and security, cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination,

Welcoming the thirtieth anniversary of the closure of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site and paying tribute to the numerous victims of nuclear explosions and their consequences,

Reaffirming the universally recognized and coordinating role of the United Nations in the process of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which includes the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the importance of deepening the cooperation between nuclear-weapon-free zones and of the meeting of representatives of existing nuclear-weapon-free zones held in Nur-Sultan on 28 and 29 August 2019,

Hereby declare the following:

1. We reaffirm our commitment to the historic Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia signed by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan in Semipalatinsk on 8 September 2006.

2. We reaffirm the important and decisive role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of international efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and, ultimately, to achieve their total elimination, which also lies at the basis of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In that regard, we support the holding of the tenth Review Conference with the participation of delegates from all States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and believe that the Conference should review the progress made in the implementation of the decisions adopted at previous conferences and set specific tasks for the period ahead.

3. We declare our steadfast support for the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in implementing the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, facilitating cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and applying safeguards and control over nuclear programmes in the States members of the Agency. We welcome the opening, in August 2017, of the IAEA low enriched uranium bank at the Ulba Metallurgical Plant (Republic of Kazakhstan), which has created a new

mechanism for the guaranteed supply of low enriched uranium to the States members of the Agency.

4. We urge the States listed in annex 2 to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, on which that Treaty's entry into force depends, to take measures to ensure the swift signing and ratification of the Treaty.

5. We note the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, intended to facilitate the implementation of article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. It is deeply symbolic that this event coincided with the fifteenth anniversary of the signing of the Semipalatinsk Treaty by the countries of the region and the thirtieth anniversary of the closure of the Semipalatinsk test site.

6. We underline our commitment to maintaining the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to ensure the peaceful nature of the nuclear programme of Iran in the interests of regional and international security and of strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

7. We welcome the signing by nuclear-weapon States, on 6 May 2014, of the Protocol to the Semipalatinsk Treaty concerning negative security assurances and its ratification by four nuclear-weapon States, and urge the United States of America to swiftly conclude the process to ratify that Protocol.

8. We call upon members of the international community to support the General Assembly resolution on the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World, to be adopted by the Assembly at its seventy-seventh session, and thereby to affirm their determination to progress, step by step, towards a world free of nuclear weapons.

9. We express our interest in expanding partnerships with the existing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, including in signing memorandums of understanding between the States parties to the Semipalatinsk Treaty and the African Commission on Nuclear Energy and between the States parties to the Semipalatinsk Treaty and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to strengthening the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and joining international efforts to promote peace and security.

10. We support efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world, including in the Middle East and the Korean Peninsula.