



Statement by

Ambassador Álvaro Mendonça e Moura, Permanent Representative of Portugal to
the United Nations



Madam President,

70 years after the first and only ever use of nuclear weapons in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the NPT remains the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and the most valuable instrument at our disposal to achieve nuclear disarmament and its ultimate objective of a world free of nuclear weapons.



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the proposal by the IAEA Director General, Yukiya Amano, on a state level approach, a very positive development on the understanding of safeguards, also effective to ensure undiminished security for all.

I also wish to recall the importance of export control mechanisms, notably the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Zangger Committee and the Missile Technology Control Regime.

On what concerns negative security assurances, I recall the UN Security Council resolution 984 (1995), as well as statements by the five nuclear weapon States recognising the value of such assurances. As regards the Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction and its delivery systems, Portugal regrets that, so far, it has not been possible to convene the Conference, despite the tireless efforts by the facilitator, Ambassador Jaakko Laajava. We call once again on all States of the region and the Co-Conveners to ensure that such Conference can take place soon.

Madam President,

Portugal supports the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, without discrimination and in conformity with Articles I, II and III, in order to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.

The discussion of questions regarding nuclear energy related issues should be kept strictly within an inclusive multilateral framework, namely when it comes to global safety and security issues, without ignoring the prime role of the States. The Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), the IAEA Safety Action Plan, the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan 2014 2017 and the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security:

