

STATEMENT

**by Mr. Barlybay SADYKOV, Ambassador at Large of the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
at the General debate of the Second session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2015 Review Conference
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

Mr. Chair,

1. At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan I congratulate you on assumption of the chairmanship of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Let me assure you of our full support and cooperation in implementing your mandate.

2. The NPT as one of the cornerstones of international peace and security plays a key role in advancing nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

At this crucial point and time the current session must consolidate our collective efforts in universalization of the NPT, elaboration of effective mechanism against the withdrawal of states from the Treaty, unconditional implementation of all multilaterally negotiated and generally approved agreements, including the Final document of the 2010 Review Conference.

Yet 2010 Action Plan sets concrete and feasible goals, we have to admit that more energetic work and commitment are required from our part to avoid any possible failure with respect to common obligations.

3. Kazakhstan considers the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as the highest priority in our agenda.

The past few years of nuclear disarmament are marked by some developments, such as the New START Treaty between the US and Russia, unilateral nuclear weapons reduction initiatives by the UK and France.

However, in a global scale nuclear disarmament still remains an aspiration rather than action as we are under the pressure of thousands of nuclear arsenals. Kazakhstan calls upon nuclear powers to take sincere efforts towards total elimination of nuclear weapons in accordance with Article VI of the NPT. I also recall of the importance of the Action 5 of the 2010 Final document that stipulates acceleration of concrete progress and reporting on their undertakings by the 2014 Preparatory Committee.

4. A catastrophic humanitarian and environmental consequences from nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk – and from other nuclear test sites around the globe – demonstrate that the aftermaths of any use of nuclear weapons are uncontrollable in

time and space. Here, I would like to note that development, production or use of nuclear weapons is increasingly being seen worldwide as incompatible with the international humanitarian law. The recent Oslo Conference underscored the potential of humanitarian approaches in this dimension.

5. It is our firm conviction that total elimination of all nuclear arsenals is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of such weapons. A Nuclear weapons convention or package of agreements as it was suggested by the United Nations Secretary-General in his Five-Point Plan for Nuclear Disarmament acquires particular significance in terms of achieving this noble goal. I take the opportunity to note that Kazakhstan's initiative to draft a Universal Declaration of a Nuclear Weapon-Free World within the UN is considered as one of the effective vessels to facilitate adoption of a Convention.

6. The NPT has indispensable role to play in alleviating contemporary nuclear proliferation challenges. Although it has not have limited the number of nuclear weapon states outside the Treaty's frame, we must rectify such a course of events. We do want to believe that political will and sincere aspiration to ensure that provisions of the Treaty on preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons are not exhausted yet.

A voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing observed by the nuclear powers, though an important factor of nuclear security, it cannot serve as an alternative to a legally-binding document such as the CTBT. And an early entry into force of this Treaty would be essential for effective implementation of the NPT.

Early start of negotiations on the Fissile Materials Cut -Off Treaty would be important step forward in strengthening international regime of non -proliferation.

7. We call on all UN Member States to add to implementation of the UN GA Resolution on the International Day against Nuclear Tests which is Kazakhstan's yet another part to keeping a high alert on nuclear threat reduction. This initiative fully corresponds with aims and objectives of the NPT.

As you may be well aware, the ATOM project launched by Kazakhstan during the International Conference "From Nuclear test ban to a world free from Nuclear weapons" last August in Astana (in realization of the above-mentioned UN Resolution) continues its campaign and makes gradual progress in collecting signatures for a Nuclear weapons test ban petition. Eventually, this document will be forwarded to the heads of states possessing nuclear weapons, as well as the countries which have not joined yet the CTBT or NPT. We do believe that this kind of actions will provoke the international community to tangible steps.

Let me also note that participants of the above-mentioned Conference organized by the Government of Kazakhstan and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament adopted Astana Declaration calling on heads of states, governments and parliaments to take resolute actions for a total elimination of nuclear weapons and advancement of non-proliferation issues.

8. The Treaty of Semipalatinsk is an important contribution by Central Asian countries to the peace and security in a very fragile region full of conflict potential and challenges. We do appreciate the P5's commitment to resolve outstanding issues and hope that practicability and effectiveness of the Treaty will be ensured soon through consultations which have started among Central Asian states and the P5.

We call on early convening of the Conference on the establishment of a Middle East Zone Free from Weapons of Mass Destruction and means of their delivery as it was stipulated by the 2010 Action Plan. The weight of this Conference is dictated by its pivotal role in ensuring both regional and global security.

9. Kazakhstan recognizes an important role of the IAEA in ensuring non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Development of multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle, including the possibility of creating guaranteed nuclear fuel supply mechanism will facilitate peaceful nuclear energy use. Kazakhstan and IAEA pursue negotiations on establishing the International Bank for Low-Enriched Uranium under the auspices of the Agency. We look forward for its conclusion in the nearest future.

10. Concluding my remarks, Mr. Chair, I stress our firm conviction that a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World is an attainable goal. Kazakhstan stands ready to add to strengthening of the NPT for total elimination of nuclear arsenals, prevention of the spread of WMD.

I thank you.