Statement by

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Nuclear Weapons Cluster

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Mr. Chairman,

The United Arab Emirates wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt on behalf of the Member States of the League of Arab States, as well as the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the statement made by the Representative of Japan on behalf of the Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI).

Mr. Chairman,

The United Arab Emirates adopted clear positions on the issues of disarmament and non-proliferation based on its firm belief in their importance in achieving the objectives of international peace and security. My country believes that peaceful peace of nuclear energy requires transparency and commitment to the obligations of non-proliferation and that is why accession and full implementation of international agreements on disarmament and non-proliferation are of great importance.

The UAE attaches special importance to the Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) as the cornerstone of non-proliferation regime and nuclear disarmament and also to the comprehensive safeguards regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and in this regard affirms the importance of the Additional Protocol as a key tool in assuring non-diversion of nuclear materials and facilities and ensuring their uses for peaceful purposes only.
The UAE, which joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty of 1995, ratified CTBT in 2000, concluded a comprehensive safeguards agreement in 2003 and joined the Additional Protocol in 2010, reiterates its firm position which emphasizes that all States must fully implement their obligations relating to the safeguards regime and any other relevant international commitments.

In this context, the United Arab Emirates welcomed the initial agreement between Iran and P5+1 and we hope their negotiations will lead to a comprehensive settlement on Iran’s nuclear issue within a specific timeframe. My country also calls upon Iran to resolve all outstanding issues with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in order to restore confidence in the peaceful nature of its nuclear program and exclude any possible military objectives.

The United Arab Emirates stresses the importance of the entry into force of the CTBT and calls upon the states of Annex (II) to sign and ratify this treaty in order to ensure its entry into force as early as possible.

We also refer to the deadlock in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and emphasize the importance of concluding a convention prohibiting the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons (FMCT) to move forward in ensuring a world free of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

The UAE is a model for the peaceful use of nuclear energy in meeting the growing demand for energy in the region, and we are proud that my country has a pioneering experience in the region in the peaceful use of nuclear energy surrounded with the highest standards of transparency, security and safety.

The United Arab Emirates started building its first nuclear reactor in 2012, followed by a second unit in 2013, and started building the third unit a month ago, and in this context, we affirm the UAE’s commitment to work with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) towards enhancing international safety in accordance with the Nuclear Safety plan of the Agency.

In this regard, we commend the international efforts aiming at increasing awareness on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons through Oslo and Nayarit conferences and also through the upcoming Conference in Vienna which will be held in December.

In conclusion, we emphasize the need for an international action in order to achieve the desired tangible results in the NPT review conference in 2015.

Thank you Mr. Chairman,