KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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STATEMENT

of

H.E. Ms. Mirgul Moldoisaeva
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations

at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review

Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of

Nuclear Weapons
Mr. Chairman,

On this occasion, allow me to congratulate you on your assumption of the chairmanship of the third session of the 2020 NPT Review Conference and to wish you success in this position. Let me also assure you that the delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic will support the work under your leadership to enhance and strengthen the important role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Dear Colleagues,

The use of nuclear weapons is the most serious threat to humanity and the survival of civilization. In this regard the Member States need to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament. We need to reaffirm that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is one of the foundations of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament that provides the necessary international monitoring of compliance the obligations undertaken by States under the Treaty in order to prevent the outbreak of armed conflict with the use of nuclear weapons and promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The Kyrgyz Republic considers the NPT to be one of the most fundamental and effective international instruments in the area of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation. At the same time, the Kyrgyz Republic remains committed to the goals of global disarmament and prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and is an active supporter of a nuclear weapon free world.

Distinguished Colleagues,

One of the most effective approaches to achieving the goals of disarmament and non-proliferation is considering the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Motivated by the desire to contribute meaningfully to systematic and consistent efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons and achieving general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, the Central Asian States signed the Treaty on Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in September 2006. The Treaty
entered into force on March 21, 2009, and represents an important step toward strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime, promoting cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and furthering cooperation in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination. It also constitutes an important measure enhancing regional and international peace and security.

The Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone is distinguished by a number of characteristics. First, this zone includes a state which previously possessed nuclear weapons. Secondly, it is the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in the Northern Hemisphere. Thirdly, it is first time that a nuclear-weapon-free zone has been created in a region having a long border with two states possessing nuclear weapons.

On May 6, 2014 the five nuclear-weapon States signed the Protocol on Negative Security Assurances to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia. It is the first time that a protocol to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty was signed by the “Nuclear Five” simultaneously.

This accomplishment marked an important milestone for enhancing both regional security in Central Asia and a global nuclear non-proliferation regime. By ratifying the Protocol, the five nuclear-weapon States will undertake legally binding obligations not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against the states parties of the Treaty. To date, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the French Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have ratified the Protocol. We encourage the United States to ratify this instrument without any delay. As the depository of the Protocol, the Kyrgyz Republic stands ready to faithfully carry out its functions.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation continues to attach great importance to the issue of mitigating the environmental consequences of uranium mining and associated nuclear fuel cycle activities in the production of nuclear weapons, a subject addressed at all Review Conferences.

At the current 73rd session of the UNGA, the Kyrgyz Republic initiated the resolution 73/238 entitled “The role of the international community in averting the radiation threat in Central Asia”, highlighting the importance of reclaiming areas affected by uranium production and recognizing the need to develop and promote
effective programs for responsible and safe management of radioactive and toxic waste in Central Asia.

Let me also express our gratitude to the member states for supporting the resolution initiated by Kyrgyzstan. The unanimous adoption of this resolution and the co-sponsorship of 40 UN member states demonstrates the commitment of the international community to continued cooperation and coordination to reduce the threat from the former uranium mining facilities and first of all uranium tailings in Central Asia. At the same time, the Kyrgyz Republic would like to reiterate the call made at prior Review Conferences, for all governments and international organizations that have expertise in the field of clean-up and disposal of radioactive contaminants to consider giving appropriate assistance as may be requested for remedial purposes in these affected areas.

**Mr. Chairman**

My delegation also wishes to draw attention to another vital issue of the role of education and training as tools to promote disarmament and nonproliferation. The Kyrgyz Republic calls on all states to implement the recommendations of the UN study on disarmament and nonproliferation education. We look forward to working with other interested member States in developing practical steps to promote full implementation of the measures called for by the UN study.

**Mr. Chairman**

We reaffirm role of the NPT in the field of disarmament, noting the importance and significance of the multilateral disarmament mechanism, as well as the important role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians and the media, in promoting the goal of nuclear disarmament.

Kyrgyzstan remains committed to the goals of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and is an active supporter of the noble idea of a world free of nuclear weapons. The delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic will support the work under your leadership on the current issues.

**Thank you.**