



# Malawi

**Statement**

**By**

**Colonel George Jaffu**

**On Occasion of the 2015 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference**

**New York**

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## **Thank you Madam President,**

At the outset, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Your Excellency, Ambassador Taous Feroukhi on your election as the President of the 2015 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference.

Over the past few years there has been a growing interest on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, and this can be testified by the increase of the number of states and Government and the civil society organizations that have conducted research and organized conferences on this theme.

All along the nuclear weapons have been looked upon from the security doctrine perspective. With their addictive influence, we were made to believe that nuclear weapons help stabilize the global security. At the same time, we were made to believe that these weapons are necessary for state security. We were made to think that the technology that monitor and secure these weapons is free from error and miscalculation.

The state security doctrine has over the years been overemphasized if not exaggerated such that the conference on disarmament has been viewed by many as a talk show, with nothing significant to present to our people.

**Madam President;**

We are gathered here, Seventy-five (75) years after the dropping of atomic bombs in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. We are aware, that after all these years; the impact of these weapons can still be registered. We pretend to turn a deaf ear to the stories of the Hibakusha, and continue to modernize these nuclear weapons and put them on high alert, presenting more global threats.

The discussions that have taken place the past two years in the conferences organized by the Governments of Norway, Mexico and Austria, not mentioning other regional roundtable meetings, have indicated that nuclear weapons and human beings can coexist. We continue to pretend that we are not aware of the humanitarian impact of these weapons. The state and the human being cannot be secured by nuclear weapons, these weapons are a threat to the same human beings we pretend to protect. It has become clear that the only way to be assured of our security and that of our posterity is to outlaw and eliminate the nuclear weapons.

**Madam President;**

We, now, have the opportunity to look again at the Non-Proliferation Treaty. This Treaty is considered to be a landmark international treaty whose objective among others, is to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament in general and complete disarmament. It is common knowledge that the NPT represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of

disarmament by the nuclear-weapon States. We are witnesses today, that there is no commitment to achieve the goal of complete disarmament.

**Madam President:**

What we can testify of is the proliferation of the nuclear weapons technology. We are now interested to prevent those who have managed to secure, by whatever means, nuclear weapons technology from building arsenals to add to the thousands of arsenals that we are happy to be modernizing and continue to put on high alert. The question that should guide the 2015 review process, is whether, the NPT will lead us to the long awaited complete disarmament. We do not need an open ended process.

The humanitarian initiative has shown that we have a legal gap that has to be filled, and this can only be addressed by developing another legally binding instrument to outlaw and eliminate these weapons. Malawi, just like the African states support this position. We need to ban nuclear weapons!!

**Madam President:**

Malawi, as a signatory to the Pelindaba Treaty (African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty), our goal throughout the disarmament discourse, is a world free of Nuclear Weapons. Malawi shall continue to cooperate with other like-minded States and International Actors for the achievement of this goal. This year we wrote the Government of Austria pledging our support to the Pledge

which the Austrian Government made at the end of the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. The government of the Republic of Malawi wishes to reiterate its unweaving support towards the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

**Madam President;**

**Excellences and Distinguished Delegates;**

Malawi considers this review conference as the prime time to consider the beginning of a democratic and inclusive process to negotiate a legally binding instrument to outlaw these weapons. We would love a process in which no one State would stand on the way of progress. It is our ardent hope Madam President, that by the end of this Conference, issues of human security and elimination of this global threat will be achieved so that a world free of nuclear weapons is attained.

**I thank you!**