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STATEMENT BY

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2015 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPT)

MAIN COMMITTEE I

NEW YORK, MAY 1ST, 2015

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset let me congratulate you on your appointment as the Chair of the Main Committee 1. I wish to assure you of the Polish Delegation's support and cooperation in fulfilment of your important mandate.

Poland fully associates itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union.

I would also like to draw your attention to the working papers submitted by the Non-proliferation and Disarmament Initiative.

At the same time, I would like to refer to some elements related to the nuclear disarmament, we consider particularly important from the national perspective.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

70 years ago the United Nations General Assembly adopted the first ever resolution related to nuclear energy and nuclear disarmament.

Since then pursuing complete nuclear disarmament is a commonly acknowledged goal. The shared responsibility of the international community is to find a common ground on how this goal should be achieved.

The *Plan* adopted in 2010 has set a concrete *Actions* in achieving this goal. After five years it is time to take a stock of it.

We join others in noting concrete steps that nuclear-weapon States undertook to reduce their nuclear stockpiles. In this regard, we particularly welcome the ongoing implementation of the New START agreement. We hope this positive momentum will be maintained in the future.

At the same time, we note with concern the last year development in Ukraine and Russia's violation of its own commitment to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine under the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 on security assurance in connection with Ukraine's accession to the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon state.

Referring to the statement of the EU, we call on Russia to preserve the viability of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) by ensuring full and verifiable compliance. That is especially important in a case of the treaty, which was an exemplar step towards nuclear disarmament and fulfilling of the obligations under Article VI of the NPT by eliminating an entire class of weapons and becoming important element of European security architecture, as well as international security and stability.

States with largest arsenals take the greatest responsibility in the process of reducing the stockpiles. We strongly support a call for further reductions in numbers of nuclear weapons. We also stress the need to include all categories of nuclear weapons in future talks between the US and Russia. Therefore, we support the inclusion of non-strategic nuclear weapons into further reduction talks and would like to see specific reference to this issue in the outcome document of this Conference, as proposed in the Working Paper presented by the NPDI.

A set of practical and concrete measures should be undertaken in order to bring us closer to the world free of nuclear weapons. Transparency is one of them.

The process of further reductions must be accompanied by the increased transparency of information relating to nuclear weapons. As we welcome relevant reports presented by the P5 (as well as their increased interaction), we recognize a growing need to continuously improve the transparency.

The increased transparency serves as a confidence-building measure. If exercised by all Member States it will create a common ground for mutual trust, better understanding of various national positions and interests that has to be taken into account in the process leading to complete disarmament.

Poland has again submitted the relevant national report to the Review Conference. We intend to do that also in the next review cycle. We encourage states to make use of the reporting template as proposed in the relevant NPDI Working Paper.

Poland would like this conference to suggest a whole set of confidence-building measure. The basis for this might be a working paper submitted to the 2014 PrepCom by the group of states, including Poland (NPT/CONF.2015/PC.III/WP.23), titled "Building blocks for a world without nuclear weapons".

In this context, Poland would like to applaud a new initiative of International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification. We appreciate the initiative that will serve as a complementary tool to the ongoing processes within the NPT regime, bringing us step-by-step closer to the world without nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

We are convinced that only by building blocks, with an active involvement of all member states, we will be able to move nuclear disarmament forward. The measures in that regard have to be comprehensive, inclusive and solution-oriented.

Thank you.