

بِسْمِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Statement

By

His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the State of Qatar

Before

the Conference on Facilitating the Entry-into-Force
of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

New York,
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الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى الأمم المتحدة

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In the Name of God, Most Compassionate Most Merciful **Mr.**

President,

Allow me to begin by extending to you my sincere congratulations on your election as President of the conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. I wish you every success in achieving its desired objectives.

Mr. President,

Nine years have passed since the CTBT was first opened to the international community for signature and ratification. Regrettably, the Treaty has yet to enter into force because a certain number of states listed in Annex 2 whose ratification is required for its entry into force have not done so. The international community worked tirelessly to conclude this Treaty in order to preserve the environment free from contamination by nuclear radiation and the concomitant hazards that adversely affect human health. My delegation is not surprised that some states are determined not to accede to, or sign the Treaty to avoid being constrained by its provisions.

Mr. President,

There is a prevailing sense of superiority among some states reinforced by their lack of confidence in others. It is noticeable that nuclear power states chose to remain outside the realm of this Treaty, and do not seem to be willing to enhance, activate, and bring it into force. Other states that are nurturing future ambitions in this field are also not willing to adhere to the Treaty. Their ambitions are fueled by a desire to acquire nuclear weapons in the future.

Nuclear weapons are a scourge with which humanity has been afflicted for quite some time. There seems to be no indication that the parties concerned are willing to curb their desire to continue their nuclear tests, nor to eliminate the weapons of mass destruction. Such weapons were unfortunately developed for no reason other than to annihilate humanity.

Mr. President,

Few months ago, we concluded the 2005 NPT Review Conference with an abysmal failure. After a month of intensive deliberations, the conference failed to arrive at any valuable recommendations that we can present to our people and to the international community as the prized fruit of our efforts as

their representatives. To the contrary, the conference was a disappointment. It failed to fulfill our ambitions due to the sharp and profound differences of opinion between Nuclear Weapon States and those working to acquire such weapons on one hand, and the helpless states that opted to adhere to, sign and ratify the Treaty on the other. We were tremendously distressed due to the conference's failure to arrive at a consensus and an agreed set of recommendations in support of the Treaty's role in the Non-proliferation of Nuclear weapons. Member states which adhered to the Treaty-, which are in the majority- remained at the mercy of, and were threatened by nuclear weapon states that did not join the Treaty.

Mr. President,

Let us appeal to the states that have not yet adhered to the Nuclear Weapon Test Ban Treaty to work in earnest and consider acceding to it. We do not want another disappointing conference that is doomed to failure, or made to fail, due to our inability to activate this Treaty. My delegation realized that the international community was not able lately to arrive at a consensus with regard to many disarmament questions. This is neither an auspicious nor a desirable development. Given the absence of international agreements leading to the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and other types of weapons, and the volatility of the current international scene we could face a catastrophic blast that can destroy our world many times over.

On behalf of my government, I therefore appeal to the states that remain outside the treaty to think hard, and in the interest of humanity, hasten accede to it. Let us try to provide our children and succeeding generations with an environment free from all weapons of mass destruction.

Thank you, Mr. **President.**