

# KAZAKHSTAN

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*As delivered*

## STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov,  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan,  
on the occasion of the Third Observance of the  
International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons  
(New York, 26 September 2016)

*Dear Mr. Vice President,  
High Representative for Disarmament Affairs,  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Kazakhstan is honoured to be part of this commemoration and thanks NAM for its untiring efforts to ban nuclear weapon. We also commend the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Peter Thompson, and his predecessor, Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, for their leadership of this global momentum for a nuclear-weapon-free-world. We thank the Secretary-General for his Five-Point Plan and tireless efforts and total commitment to abolish nuclear weapons.

It is our moral obligation to make nuclear weapons redundant and meaningless in the security and political doctrines of nuclear possessing states that escalate the arms race. Our memorable history of closing the nuclear weapons test site and renouncing the fourth nuclear arsenal of massive 1400 warheads is well known, as recalled at the *Seventh Observance of the International Day against Nuclear Tests* on 31 August. What is most significant is that Kazakhstan by its own example has proved that transparency, confidence-building and cooperation with all other Member States are the true armaments of peace and solidarity with the world and not through nuclear deterrence.

The primary objective of the UN to free humanity from war and conflicts, takes on even greater relevance today. Our President recently issued a Manifesto titled, “*The World. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century*”, a treatise on war and peace that calls for a new level of collective thinking, urging world leaders to abolish all weapons and to achieve by 2045, the year of the UN’s Centenary, a world free of nuclear weapons. Since security and development are closely interconnected, the leadership of my country also called for transferring 1% of defence budgets of Member States to the special UN Fund for SDGs.

Our central task in the 21<sup>st</sup> century should be to implement a strategy that would eliminate for good the threat of war, its causes and weapons. We will achieve global security based only on fair conditions for human development. Therefore, my country will convene the Astana Peace Summit this November where a viable strategic approach for our noble objective of global peace and security will be crafted.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We had another milestone on 7 December 2015, when the General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World, which is the first step towards a *Convention on the Reduction of Nuclear Weapons*, which, in turn, will be a first step towards a convention on a total ban.

This September we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Treaty on a Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (CANWFZ) and call on the United States to conclude internal procedures and ensure earliest ratification of the Protocol on negative security assurances to the Treaty.

We support the establishment of similar zones across the globe, and especially one in the Middle East, where we believe such a measure will strengthen global and regional security.

As a chair of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missiles Proliferation, we will table a GA draft resolution in October to stress the importance of the universal application of the Hague Code.

My country stands for universalizing the CTBT as a Co-Chair, together with Japan, for the Article XIV process of CTBT. We welcome the adoption of UNSC Resolution 2310 to enhance CTBT as a minimal step at this stage. We urge all UN Member States to take more comprehensive and decisive measures to enforce early entry into force of the Treaty.

Kazakhstan, as the largest supplier and producer of uranium, joined the Nuclear Suppliers Group. My country next year will host on its territory IAEA's International Low-Enriched Uranium Bank, and thanks the Agency and sponsor states for their support.

We have also initiated the Project ATOM (Abolish Testing. Our Mission) which is a global advocacy e-campaign, calling on world leaders to ban nuclear tests and weapons. Please add your voice to the project going online.

Kazakhstan will work with redoubled vigour for the process of nuclear disarmament when it takes its seat on the Security Council in 2017-2018.

I thank you, Mr. President.