

Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction

Statement by the Delegation of Somalia

Sixth Session | New York, 17–21 November 2025

Mr. Abdullahi

Mr. President

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

1. It is an honor for the Federal Republic of Somalia to participate in this pivotal Session Meeting of the Working Committee. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Kingdom of Morocco for its steadfast leadership as President of the Conference.
2. Somalia has long upheld an unequivocal commitment to nuclear disarmament and the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs) globally. This dedication is rooted in our deep conviction that weapons of mass destruction (WMD) pose an existential threat to humanity, undermine regional and international security, and hinder prospects for peace, stability, and sustainable development.
3. Our participation today reaffirms Somalia's resolute support for the establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction (ME-NWMDZFZ). This initiative is an indispensable step toward reinforcing collective security, fostering mutual confidence, and laying the groundwork for an enduring peace in the Middle East.
4. Somalia stands unwaveringly in support of a multilateral approach to disarmament and non-proliferation. As a State Party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and having signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 2023, Somalia affirms its dedication to upholding global norms against nuclear testing and proliferation. We remain steadfast in advocating for enhanced cooperation among states to advance disarmament efforts and prevent the erosion of international security frameworks. The success stories of existing NWFZs from Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) to Africa (Treaty of Pelindaba) underscore that the vision of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction is achievable.

Mr. President,

5. To ensure the credibility and effectiveness of the future ME-NWMDZFZ, Somalia underscores the necessity of establishing a robust and legally sound treaty framework. The following substantive elements must be prioritized in the ongoing negotiations:

- a) Legally Binding Negative Security Assurances (NSA): The provision of legally binding NSA from Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) is a crucial component for the Zone's credibility and effectiveness.

- b) **Comprehensive and Robust Verification Regime:** An integrated approach is essential for building and maintaining regional confidence and ensuring compliance, starting with cooperative measures:
- Mechanisms for Clarifications, Consultations, and Cooperation (3C) must be central to the treaty. This structured diplomatic framework should be the initial and preferred pathway for addressing any concerns, facilitating the peaceful resolution of issues through dialogue and transparency.
 - The treaty should consider establishing a specialized body to address requests for clarifications, and possibly provide for fact-finding missions to ensure transparency and impartiality.
- c) **Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building:** The collective experience of the five established NWFZs, representing over 100 UN Member States, provides a rich pool of knowledge. Somalia advocates for systematic knowledge exchange and capacity-building initiatives, which can be structured through regular briefings and joint workshops, to learn lessons concerning the negotiation, elaboration, and implementation of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

In conclusion, Mr. President,

The establishment of a Middle East NWFZ is not just a political necessity it is a moral imperative. Success in this endeavor can pave the way for enhanced cooperation in security, trade, and development across the region. We call upon all stakeholders to seize this moment and work collaboratively toward practical, sustainable solutions. We urge regional and international actors to facilitate dialogue, uphold commitments to disarmament, and prioritize collective security.

Somalia reaffirms its full support for the objectives of this Conference. We stand ready to engage constructively, contribute meaningfully to discussions, and work alongside fellow Member States to realize the shared vision of a Middle East free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

I Thank you.