



THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Dang Hoang Giang
Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations
at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to
commemorate and promote
the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
New York, 26 September 2022

Mr. President,

We are meeting today to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. This year's meeting, however, takes place against the backdrop of heightened nuclear risk. We have heard time and again recently that the dangers of miscalculation and thus direct confrontation are at the highest level in decades. There remain nearly 13,000 nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons continues to play a major role in the strategic doctrines of many states. The NPT Review conference last month yet again could not arrive at an outcome that could have at least maintained the momentum.

Achieving global nuclear disarmament is one of the oldest goals of the United Nations. Unfortunately, the goal is still far from being achieved.

Mr. President,

We appreciate the efforts made by the President of the General Assembly in convening this annual meeting of the Assembly to “enhance public awareness and seek deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament matters”. Accordingly, I would like to stress the following points:

First, nuclear disarmament rests upon an international environment conducive to building trust, confidence and friendship among nations. Only with further efforts toward these ends will we be able to lay the foundation for much needed progress in the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons. Further confrontation and exclusion will serve no one's interests.

Second, in parallel with such efforts, upholding international law and fulfilling relevant international obligations of states should be a priority. The NPT must be implemented in a balanced and comprehensive manner, especially Article VI. The universalization of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is another critical measure.

Third, pending more substantial reduction of nuclear weapons, their increase must be prevented. Dialogue and arrangement for arms control and reduction among nuclear weapons states is therefore urgently needed. Negotiations of a fissile material treaty should commence sooner rather than later.

Fourth, nuclear disarmament education will be a key contribution. Younger generations – our future leaders, need to be equipped with a deep knowledge of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons. Doing so will be a major catalyst for future progress in nuclear disarmament.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm Viet Nam's consistent policy of supporting nuclear disarmament, toward the total elimination of these weapons. Viet Nam will continue to strictly implement its obligations under all major relevant treaties, including the NPT, CTBT, TPNW and the Treaty of Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ).

We are always ready to join collective efforts of the international community towards a world without nuclear weapons.

I thank you./.