

Mr Chair,

1. Spain is honoured to deliver this statement on behalf of the members of the Stockholm Initiative for Nuclear Disarmament: Argentina, Canada, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.
2. The Stockholm Initiative is a diverse cross-regional and bridge-building coalition of engaged non-nuclear-weapon States that share an unwavering commitment to support the NPT. Despite national specificities and differences in security policies and priorities, Stockholm Initiative countries have come together to find ways to advance, with a realistic approach, nuclear disarmament, in order to reach our ultimate common goal: a world free of nuclear weapons.
3. The Stockholm Initiative remains committed to contribute to a successful NPT Review Cycle. We underline the urgency to fully implement the NPT, including Article 6 on nuclear disarmament. We stress that existing commitments under the NPT remain valid, and obligations must be met. In order to built trust and advance disarmament objectives, we urge all nuclear-weapon States to immediately implement measures necessary to reduce the risk of the use of nuclear weapons, especially in light of the deteriorating international security environment, ongoing violations of international law, and irresponsible nuclear rhetoric.
4. The Stockholm Initiative has previously presented proposals to help to reduce international tensions, improve global security, foster confidence among states and strengthen the NPT. Allow me to recall, in particular, our "Stepping Stones for Advancing Nuclear Disarmament" working paper in 2020, as well as "A Nuclear Risk Reduction Package" working paper in 2022 and "Stepping up efforts: toward a successful review cycle" for the 2024 NPT PrepCom.
5. Since previous proposals were acknowledged and received formal alignment from other NPT states parties, we have been encouraged to work further and present for the current 2025 PrepCom two working papers, which include practical recommendations for consideration of other Member States.
6. Members of the Initiative have presented a "Steps for Negative Security Assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States" which provides practical recommendations taking into account the shared interest of non-nuclear weapon states to reaffirm and strengthen security assurances from nuclear-weapon states, as well as strengthen overall confidence in the global non-proliferation regime. Negative Security Assurances are an important element of risk reduction that contributes in practice to increasing confidence and trust.
7. Members of the Initiative have also put forward "Navigating the potential impact of emerging technologies on nuclear disarmament", which stresses the importance of developing a better understanding of emerging technologies and taking meaningful steps to reduce associated risks,

as well as harnessing the opportunities for a more effective and efficient non-proliferation and disarmament regime, including recommendations to achieve this goal.

8. While our Initiative focuses specifically on disarmament, we reaffirm the interlinkages and mutually reinforcing nature of all three pillars of the NPT: disarmament, non-proliferation, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology. Attention should be equally given to the implementation of the three pillars.
9. We also remain committed to promoting broad dialogue, building bridges and mitigating polarisation to built trust, as enablers to further progress on disarmament.
10. The Stockholm Initiative is convinced that the engagement of the younger generations is vital to the success of disarmament efforts. Moreover, we reiterate our commitment to promoting the meaningful and effective participation and leadership of women in nuclear disarmament, and to integrating diverse gender perspectives.
11. We acknowledge the valuable contribution that other cross-regional disarmament initiatives such as the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), make to further advance in strengthening the implementation of the NPT.
12. We invite all NPT States Parties to study our working papers and the proposals therein, and we welcome further discussions on how further progress on nuclear disarmament.

Thank you Mr. Chair.