



**Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**

**11th Review Conference of the Parties**

**New York, 27 April – 22 May 2026**

**Statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador Leonardo Bencini**

**Subsidiary Body III**

***6 May 2026***

Chair,

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by Cyprus on behalf of the European Union. I will add a few remarks in my national capacity.

The current review cycle was established at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference. More than three decades later, we should agree on concrete ways to enhance coordination, continuity and efficiency. We think several good ideas were already discussed during the Working Group on the strengthening of the review process in 2023 and this Review Conference could be the opportunity to endorse some of them.

Enhanced transparency, including through strengthened reporting mechanisms, the submission of national implementation reports, and their consideration, contributes to building confidence and trust among States Parties. Italy attaches particular importance to transparency. In this regard, we have submitted our national report as a conference document for this Review Conference.

The level of detail contained in national reports varies significantly. The development of a standardized reporting template, based on the 2013 model and following best

practices, would contribute to enhancing the comparability of information, especially for nuclear-weapon States.

With regard to nuclear-weapon States and their commitments under Article VI, reports should highlight achievements in nuclear disarmament as well as outline concrete plans for future actions. Adequate time should be allocated for the consideration of these reports in a dedicated and inclusive session, not only at Review Conferences but also, as appropriate, during Preparatory Committee meetings, thereby enhancing accountability. In this respect, we welcome the joint declaration by France, the United Kingdom and the United States, on, among other things, the establishment of a new mechanism for enhanced transparency and accountability in the review process so as to ensure an interactive discussion on the national implementation reports of nuclear-weapon States but also non-nuclear-weapon States willing to do so.

In terms of the structure of the review cycle, we see broad agreement that the NPT process can and should be made more effective and efficient and should avoid duplication. We should adjust the mandates of the Main Committees and PrepCom meetings to achieve a clearer allocation of responsibilities. The central non-proliferation articles, I, II, and III, should be assigned to Main Committee II, while Main Committee I could focus on Article VI, and Main Committee III on Article IV. Regional issues should be assigned to one committee only, and other Treaty provisions could be addressed by Main Committee III. Concurrently, we should preserve and when appropriate expand opportunities to address cross-cutting issues in dedicated sessions. In addition, the third Preparatory Committee meeting could be given the mandate to establish subsidiary bodies for the Review Conference and decide on the topics ahead of time.

Finally, we think it would be valuable to have a "President's Bureau" established at an early date, comprising the President-designate of the Review Conference and the chairs of the Preparatory Committee meetings, to ensure continuity and cohesion across the entire review cycle.

Thank you, Chair.