Forum	General Assembly One – Disarmament and International Security
Issue	Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations
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Introduction

Although most global conflicts today seem to be palliated, the reality tells a different story. Humans have constantly developed deadly weapons, so-called Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), including nuclear, chemical, radiological and biological weapons. The proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, especially nuclear weapons, is posing a significant threat to the International Peace and Security. Despite the fact that numerous declarations have proclaimed that nuclear power, especially weaponries and nuclear energy, are only to be developed and rarely to be used, constant threats have triggered a number of devastating incidents.

Nuclear weapons have been favourable and have been used in a myriad of wars and conflicts due to the simple fact that the devastating impact they trigger is exponentially greater than any other forms of weapons. In addition, they leave the affected region to be full of radiation for more than a decade which can be very detrimental not only to the human population, but also to the environment. Furthermore, once nuclear weapons are used, it becomes impossible to control as the explosion and its thermal waves cover a wide range of region, and the radiation diffuse in every direction in a blink of an eye. As a result, innocent and untargeted civilians are intermittently affected.

Despite the fact that if well-developed, nuclear energy can be a renewable and sustainable energy source which can effectively solve the current issues regarding to the scarcity of energy resources, nuclear energy also pose a great threat since the power plants have to be under inspection and be monitored from dawn ’til dusk, and it is highly detrimental if the power plant becomes erroneous; such as the Takashimaya incident. As such, the necessity of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations must be emphasised and taken into deeper consideration in order to maintain the global peace and international security.

Definition of Key Terms

Weapons of Mass Destruction

Weapons of mass destruction refer to nuclear, radioactive, biological or any other weapons that are capable of causing widespread death and a significant level of harm within the human population.

Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear weapons are explosive as destructive force is exerted from the nuclear fission or a combination of fusion and fission alike. With no regards to the diversity of forms of nuclear weapons, they are capable of releasing vast amount of energy which eventually leads to a significant blast.

Nuclear Proliferation

According to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), nuclear proliferation is the dissemination of any and all fissionable material, military nuclear technology, and relevant information.

World Peace Council

The World Peace Council is one of the earliest peace organisations. It originated from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union through the Soviet Peace Committee after the World War II. The World Peace Council proclaimed its Stockholm Appeal, calling for the complete ban and prohibition of nuclear weapons, in 1950.

Nuclear-free Zone

A nuclear-free zone is a designated area where all forms of relevant nuclear activities even including nuclear power plants are banned. However, there are several exceptions, such as the radiopharmaceuticals in nuclear medicines and the nuclear technologies in Particle Physics.

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, or the INF Treaty, initially was an agreement made between the Soviet Union and the United States in 1987, and later, in 1991, between the Russian Federation and the United States. It was agreed upon by President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gobachev on the 8th of December 1987, in Washington. In spite of the failure to take sea-launched missiles into consideration, it has successfully called for the eradication of all nuclear and conventional missiles, including the launchers; which eventually led to an elimination of 2,692 missiles by May, 1991.

START I and New START Treaty

The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or the START Treaty, was a bilateral treaty the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the United States of America, which was agreed upon in June, 1991. Undergoing several attempts of the implementation, it finally succeeded in removing 80% of existing nuclear weapons by 2001.

Background Information

Global Nuclear Disarmament

For the past few decades, a myriad of attempts to achieve global nuclear non-proliferation have been arisen and implemented. For instance, several international organisations have gathered together to promote full nuclear disarmament such as the Global Zero, an unbiased group of leaders from different nations inaugurated in 2008 which aims to achieve eradication of all forms of nuclear weapons; and the International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament – international conference organised by the Norwegian Government with the help of the Nuclear Threat Initiative and Hoover Institute - which was held in Oslo.

In spite of the efforts and attempts taken to achieve global nuclear disarmament, nuclear weapons still pose great threats to the International Security as several nations, in particular, Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), have shown evidence of potential nuclear activities, such as the Uranium Enrichment Programme and Nuclear Tests respectively.

Inauguration of Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament

Trinity, the first ever nuclear weapons test conducted by American scientists in 1945, inaugurated the Atomic Age. Following the Trinity, on the 6th of August, the first usage of nuclear weapons against human population took place in Hiroshima, Japan – named Little Boy. Notably, the explosion and its thermal waves triggered significant deaths and destruction, destroying 50,000 buildings and killing 75,000 people approximately. As such the global demand on Nuclear Arsenals and Weapons grew exponentially.

The environmental issues with regards to nuclear power and radiation first arose amongst the public in 1945 as a result of the Hydrogen Bomb Test which contaminated Japanese Sea and affected local Japanese fishing boats. This eventually led to a widespread awareness of issues of nuclear weapons among the public which triggered several Disarmament Movements.

Disarmament Movements

The first disarmament movements occurred in Japan soon after the Hydrogen Bomb Test. The protests led to convergence of Japanese Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, which is an opposition to the nuclear tests, and gained notable support as 35 million signatures on petitions against the usage of nuclear weapons were obtained.

Soon after, the first Aldermaston March – a marching event where advocates of Nuclear Disarmament protest for 4 days – was held in the United Kingdom in order to support the Campaign of Nuclear Disarmament. In addition, in the Unites States, 30,000 women protested in order to oppose the decision of the siting of Cruise Missiles in the local region.

Government's efforts towards anti-proliferation

The United States and the Soviet Union held the Reykjavik Summit in 1986, which led the INF Treaty and the START Treaty to be implemented. This also triggered United States and Russian Federation to agree upon the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty by the end of the Cold War.

Key Issues

Tension between states with and without possession of nuclear weapons

There have always been major and minor issues arisen during the process of negotiations among the member nations of United Nations, and in particular, nations possessing nuclear weapons and the nations with absence of nuclear weapons. The most distinct issue that UN has to face is the noncompliance of non-nuclear weapon states. The noncompliance of non-nuclear weapon states not only undermines the most fundamental objectives of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), triggering further dissonance among member states, but also leaves significantly negative impacts on the future progress of disarmament movements.

Peaceful usage of Nuclear Energy

The disarmament movements have also opposed the potential possibility of peaceful usage of Nuclear Energy although the NPT enables all member states to freely access the use and development of peaceful nuclear technology. As the global demand on renewable and clean energy is skyrocketing exponentially, many nations crave to be fossil fuels-independent and seek for renewable and sustainable energy sources; which eventually led to the maintenance of closed nuclear fuel cycle among several nations. However, the

increased amount of nuclear fuel cycle activities are posing significant burden to the IAEA safeguard system, which is responsible for constraining the diversion of materials for military nuclear activities.

The issues of Iran and DPRK

Iran and DPRK are both notorious for their violation of the IAEA and NPT respectively. As such, tensions have arisen among Iran, DPRK and other states in support of nuclear disarmament, such as USA. DPRK violated the NPT agreements by continuously developing their plutonium separation technology and Uranium Enrichment Programmes, resulting themselves to be withdrawn from the NPT in 2003; although the legitimacy of their withdrawal is still highly controversial. They have conducted three nuclear tests from 2006 to 2013, causing the UNSC Resolution 2094 to condemn them and tighten sanctions upon them. However the legitimacy from the withdrawal from the treaty is still highly contested.

On the other hand, Iran violated IAEA's agreements by persistently developing its Uranium Enriched Programmes, causing the IAEA and UNSC to express concerns upon them and to sanction them. As such, the representatives from Iran, France, China, Germany, Russia, and the United Kingdom gathered together and conducted a peace talk on November, 2013 in order to reach consensus on Non-Proliferation in Iran, with exchange of sanctions relief.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

United States of America (Nuclear Weapon State)

Although the disarmament movement was in vogue in the early 2000s, the George W. Bush administration advocated to production of practical nuclear weapons which was eventually denied by the U.S. Congress.

In 2007, despite the controversies, U.S. officials Henry Kissinger, George Shultz, Bill Perry, and Sam Nunn proposed to shift the priorities back to the eradication of nuclear weapons. Soon after, the United States has planned to ensure the security of nuclear materials globally. The most supportive programme in the US was the Cooperative Threat Reduction Programme (CTR), which carries out several other innovative non-proliferation programmes.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

As DPRK withdrew from the NPT in 2003, they have proclaimed that they developed their own nuclear weapons in 2009. In October 2006, DPRK succeeded their first nuclear test, and in the following year, the

DPRK government declared their possession of nuclear weapons. Also, more nuclear tests have been carried out in 2009 and 2013. As such, being supported by the IAEA, several reports claimed that DPRK has fully gained nuclear power. As of now, the DPRK is against the anti-proliferation movements and they aim to continue their nuclear development programme in spite of the sanctions put on to them.

Iran

Iran's nuclear programmes consist of several research sites, two uranium mines, a research reactor, and uranium processing facilities. Iran agreed upon the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1970, leading all of their relevant projects to be subjected to the verification by the IAEA. However, Iran's Uranium Enrichment Programmes began to be suspected in the 2000s as several evidences showed they are not for peaceful usage of nuclear energy which eventually led to an investigation by the IAEA in 2003. Due to their violation towards NPT agreements, the UNSC suspended Iran's nuclear development programmes.

IAEA

The International Atomic Energy Agency is an international organisation aiming to promote the peaceful usage of nuclear energy. Their main objective is to prohibit any and all usage of nuclear energy for military purposes, including nuclear weapons by ensuring the implementation of safeguards which will verify that the nuclear energy is not used for military purposes.

Timeline of Events

Date	Events
July, 1968	**Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)** NPT was signed on the 1st of July. It aims to prevent the dissemination of nuclear weapons and relevant technology by promoting the cooperation among member nations towards the peaceful usage of nuclear energy. The treaty was officially started its implementation in 1970. In May 1995, the NPT Parties gathered to collaborate on the extensions of the Treaty by eliminating the time limits set on it. By August 2016,

	191 states have admitted the treaty except DPRK, which officially withdrew from the NPT in 2003. The treaty only recognises 5 states as nuclear weapon – states: US, UK, Russia, China, and France.
January, 1998	**The U.N Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)** UNODA was established in January 1998 as a department of the United Nations Secretariat, under Secretary-General Kofi Annan's conduct to reform the UN. The main objective is to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
June, 1998	**U.N Acts Passes Resolution 1172** The UNSC passed Resolution 1172 which criticised the nuclear tests conducted in India and Pakistan as they posed a great threat towards the NPT, global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. The resolution urged that the countries to become member parties of the NPT in order to avoid sanctions.
December, 2009	**U.N Acts Against Iran's Nuclear Program** In spite of the fact that Iran proclaimed that their development of Uranium Enrichment Programmes is for peaceful nuclear technology and as energy resources and so did not violate the NPT, the UNSC demanded Iran to halt any and all forms of programmes. In addition, sanctions on Iran were increased due to the allegations of sales of Uranium to Iran from Kazakhstan.

Relevant UN Treaties and Events

- **Resolution 1172, 6 June 1998 (S/RES/66/1172)**
- **Resolution 61/70, 29 February 2006 (A/RES/61/70)**

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

Despite the fact that the NPT has been successful as nearly 200 member states have agreed upon the agreements and have implemented several necessary disarmament regulations, the development of fuel cycles and the growing demand of nuclear energy are posing significant threats to the global peace and the international security once again.

Although several intermittently argue that the nuclear weapons act as effective defensive mechanism, the growing threat of the potential nuclear proliferation in the Middle East and the DPRK should be mitigated as soon as possible.

Possible Solutions

Non-discriminatory Universal Reduction of WMDs

All member nations should agree upon the non-discriminatory universal reduction of WMDs. By reducing the overall numbers of WMDs, especially nuclear weapons, the potential possibility for nations in the Middle East, such as Iran, and the DPRK to develop their nuclear technologies and to utilise them will be diminishing. The physical security of nuclear weaponries, knowledge associated with any of the technological development of them and the illegal means of trading should also be assured.

Stricter national guidelines

On the basis of the international guidelines such as the 1540 Resolution, all of the member nations should further discuss about stricter national guidelines in terms of controlling the development of WMDs, especially those of nuclear weapons. Moreover, all member nations should implement the legislations as soon as possible.

Reaching consensus

All member states should be encouraged to have peace talks regularly in order to reach an universal consensus for improving the loopholes within the NPT and IAEA. For example, the issues regarding to the sophistication of nuclear technologies, especially those of nuclear energy, have not been fully addressed by any conventions. Also, the relevant environmental issues, such as the disposal of radioactive materials used in nuclear power plants, should be concerned and reached to an agreement among all member nations.

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