

(Mr. Benhima, Morocco)

Besides dispelling all the concerns about environmental damage, a nuclear test ban would undoubtedly increase the chances of success at the NPT Review Conference for which preparations are already under way; the NPT is, in the eyes of the international community, an essential tool for the maintenance of peace and security. The ban would also illustrate the will of all nuclear Powers to embark upon general and complete nuclear disarmament, which alone can free humanity from this terrifying weapon whose use is a denial of the highest values of civilization.

Pending the attainment of this object, the non-nuclear-weapon States are entitled to demand and obtain suitable assurances against the threat or use of such weapons. For this reason we favour the swift adoption of a legally binding international instrument.