



## **Opening Remarks of Argentina at the IPNDV Annual Plenary Meeting Sydney, Australia - December 5, 2022**

*Delivered by Mr. Leandro Waisman*

First of all, let me congratulate the Government of Australia for holding this Plenary meeting of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV), whose last face-to-face meeting took place in December 2019.

Argentina values and reaffirms its commitment to nuclear disarmament, in this case through the IPNDV. The result of this commitment was the holding of the Buenos Aires Plenary in November 2017, where Phase I concluded.

Argentina has more than 70 years of experience in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and mastery of the complete nuclear fuel cycle. It is part of a solid Argentina-Brazil safeguards system such as ABACC, with more than 30 years of experience. Argentina has a strong commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and focuses its efforts on moving towards complete nuclear disarmament, in a verifiable, transparent and irreversible manner.

Argentina has traditionally expressed a broad approach to the development of actions and initiatives in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms regulation. In these fields, Argentina has had an active participation both regionally and globally, defending the role of multilateralism in general and that of the United Nations in particular, to address the challenges posed by the various aspects of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

Argentina considers that weapons of mass destruction constitute one of the main sources of threats to world stability, and in this sense adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is considered the cornerstone of the regime of non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. The Presidency of the Tenth Review Conference of the NPT has been an example of that commitment. The Presidency of the Nuclear Suppliers Group for the period 2022-2023 is another example of our vocation for dialogue and the search for consensus, in a world in need of balance and practical solutions where verification becomes an imperative for coexistence.

Argentina supports the work of the IPNDV regarding the study of the technical challenges in the field of nuclear disarmament, covering the production of fissile material and its control and the production, deployment, storage and final disposition of nuclear warheads. We have been present during phases 1 and 2, and we hope to support the process concerning





phase 3, with the understanding that this will allow the obligations arising from the NPT to be fulfilled in a concrete and effective way.

Argentina understands that progress in disarmament -one of the three pillars of the NPT- will improve the international situation regarding non-proliferation, another of the pillars- and will grant nuclear development for peaceful purposes the third pillar- an adequate framework of trust and transparency. In this context, Argentina reiterates its support for any measure that promotes the complete elimination of nuclear weapons under the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verification of nuclear disarmament measures.

