STATEMENT

by

H.E. Mr. Daniel Ionita State Secretary for Strategic Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania any other arms control or nonproliferation agreement. What is more, the Non-Proliferation Treaty has stood the test of time remarkably well, having had an almost unparalleled contribution to making our world a safer place. And this work must continue.

That is why we consider that the 2015 RevCon must be an opportunity for States Parties to renew and intensify their commitment to the NPT, and to look for further means to strengthen the framework of nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. There is still room to achieve a realistic outcome, by encouraging a positive agenda and identifying the right strategies to implement the 2010 Action Plan.

Madam Chair,

On its part, Romania remains strongly committed to effective multilateral disarmament and non-proliferation mechanisms. My presence here, representing the Government of Romania, stands as proof of the great importance my country attaches to enhancing the multilateral disarmament agenda.

Achieving a successful RevCon in 2015 is a priority for Romania. We expect that the Review Conference will provide us with a solid outcome, showing real and effective progress on all three pillars of the NPT. My country had the privilege to chair the Second Preparatory Committee in

nonproliferation regime, in particular to overcome the challenges posed by a few countries that have violated their international nonproliferation obligations. Our common security would be profoundly affected if additional countries crossed the nuclear threshold.

We share the opinion that the Middle East deserves a comprehensive solution, including the elimination of all categories of weapons of mass destruction and a peace settlement in the region. The Conference on the establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear and other Weapons of Mass-Destruction was planned to be held before the end of year 2012. This schedule turned out to be too ambitious. Nevertheless, participating states have continued preparations and have taken constructively part in the process through informal consultations. Continued efforts are needed to achieve this objective, but without conditioning the political success of the RevCon of the developments on this issue.

We also acknowledge the essential contribution of the Nuclear Weapons Free Zones to the advancement to regional security and bolstering the global nonproliferation regime. In this