**POSITION PAPER**

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**COMMITTEE**: United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

**COUNTRY**: Canada

**AGENDA**: Reducing Nuclear Danger

Canada, a parliamentary democracy, ranks among the highest in international measurements of government transparency, quality of life, economic freedom, and education. A highly developed country, Canada is part of several major international and inter-governmental institutions including the UN, NATO, G7, G20, Non-Proliferation Treaty, etc.

Canada strongly advocates non-proliferation and a categoric approach to nuclear disarmament. This approach involves having all states join the NPT, bringing the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) into force and negotiating a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT). Canada is also taking steps to prevent communities from acquiring nuclear weapons, technology and knowledge, both through Canada’s Weapons Threat Reduction Program and through implementing commitments arising from the Nuclear Security Summit process.

Canada seeks to prevent States from acquiring nuclear weapons, decreasing the number of nuclear weapons worldwide, and eventually irreversibly eliminating them.

The only way to completely eliminate nuclear risks is to eliminate nuclear weapons from the planet.

1. No first use: to begin a nuclear war by being the first to use nuclear weapons in a conflict.
2. Sole authority: This system of control isn’t the right way to handle launch decisions. Other stakeholders could securely be included in the decision, providing checks and balances and a basic defence against mistakes, accidents, miscalculations, and recklessness.
3. De-alerting: nuclear-tipped missiles that are kept on “hair-trigger alert” show an incoming nuclear attack and launches them even before the attack is confirmed as real. Taking these missiles off hair-trigger alert (or “de-alerting”) would immediately remove the risk of a mistaken or accidental launch, while preserving our ability to retaliate with missiles on submarines hidden at sea.
4. Smarter spending: Making a tremendous investment of money and effort to maintain and replace the nuclear arsenal with new weapons is avoidable. Instead country should refurbish the existing weapons where possible, and make any necessary replacements without enhancing capabilities.
5. International Agreements: Reducing the risk of nuclear war requires domestic policy changes within countries, as well as cooperation and verified, mutual agreements between countries. Effecting treaties and agreements through diplomacy and dialogue has shown to have a strong track record in reducing arsenals and warfare