



**Statement by H. E. Ambassador Vinicio Mati**  
**Permanent Representative of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament**  
*Geneva, 30 August 2016*

Mr. President,

Since this is the first time that I am taking the floor under your Presidency, allow me to congratulate you on your appointment and on the way you have conducted our work. I can assure you of my Delegation's full support and cooperation.

I would also like to thank you for circulating the draft report of the 2016 CD session. We believe it accurately reflects the developments in the CD during this year and do not have any objections to its adoption.

Mr. President,

I also take this opportunity to join the previous speakers in expressing Italy's concern relating to the latest ballistic missile launch by the DPRK from a submarine towards Japan.

Such a launch constitutes a further provocation and threat to international peace and security, and another open violation of relevant Security Council resolutions, which we strongly condemn.

We call on the DPRK to abandon all its existing nuclear and ballistic missile programmes in a complete, verifiable, and irreversible manner, and to refrain from any further provocative actions. Furthermore, we urge the DPRK to return to the NPT and IAEA Safeguards at an early date as well as to sign and ratify the CTBT.

Thank you, Mr President