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UN says nuclear annihilation is one mistake away – 4th August, 2022

Level 0

We live in difficult times. We have a pandemic, a cost of living crisis, and climate change. There is another danger - nuclear war. The UN said a small mistake could lead to war. This is because tensions are high in Ukraine, Korea, and the Middle East. The UN said we are "lucky" to have avoided nuclear war.

The danger is at a very high level. The UN warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding...away from nuclear [war]." It hoped the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty would help the world. It said: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." The risk of nuclear war is growing.

Level 1

We live in difficult times. We have a pandemic, a cost of living crisis, and a changing climate. The UN has warned of another danger - nuclear war. It said one small mistake could lead to war. This is because international tensions are "reaching new highs". Ukraine, Korea, and the Middle East are possible flashpoints. The UN said we are "lucky" to have avoided nuclear war. However, it said luck was not a strategy to stop global tensions.

The UN said the danger is at a level not seen in many years. It warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding...away from nuclear annihilation." The UN Secretary-General said the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty should help the world. He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." There are almost 13,000 nuclear weapons around the world. The risk of nuclear war is growing.

Level 2

These are troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, and a changing climate. The U.N. has warned of another danger - nuclear annihilation. The UN's Antonio Guterres warned that one small mistake could lead to a nuclear war. He said international tensions were "reaching new highs". He said Ukraine, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East were possible flashpoints. He said we are "lucky" so far to have avoided nuclear conflict. However, he said luck was neither a strategy nor a shield to stop global tensions "boiling over into nuclear conflict".

Guterres painted a worrying picture. He said the world is in danger at a level not seen in decades. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding...away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. He said now was the time to get the Treaty to "help the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." There are almost 13,000 nuclear weapons around the world. The risks of nuclear proliferation are growing."

Level 3

The world is experiencing troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, a changing climate, and record heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that one small mistake could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new highs". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky so far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict."

Guterres painted a picture of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a chance to strengthen" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world...at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing."

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