STATEMENT BY
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THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

AT

THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF
THE 60TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York, 3 October 2005
Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour and privilege to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. Allow me, first of all, to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this Committee. We remain confident that with your able leadership and vast experience, our deliberations will reach positive conclusion and forward recommendations to the General Assembly. NAM will extend its full support and cooperation in facilitating your task of presiding over this important Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

3. NAM strongly underlines and reaffirms that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the UN Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues. Therefore, we are not satisfied with the decisions contained in the Outcome Document of the recent UN Summit given that not all of our concerns and interests were reflected in the text. In this regard, NAM is deeply disappointed with the omission of the section on Disarmament and Non-proliferation from the Outcome Document.

4. We missed another opportunity to articulate the necessary political will and determination with a view to set a new direction and to address these critical issues facing the international community. This is another setback for the cause of disarmament and non-proliferation after the failure of the NPT Review Conference held last May.

5. We, therefore, stress the importance of the First Committee of the General Assembly and other multilateral disarmament machinery, in particular the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) and the Conference on Disarmament (CD), in dealing with questions of disarmament and other related international security issues. We also underline the need for strengthening the disarmament machinery as forums for deliberation and negotiation in a balanced, constructive and comprehensive manner in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and multilaterally negotiated treaties, agreements and conventions.

6. In view of these overwhelming considerations, we encourage all States to work closely and constructively to fully utilize the forthcoming substantive sessions of the Open-ended Working Group mandated to consider the objectives and agenda of SSOD-IV. The convening of the SSOD-IV can set the future course of action and a balanced approach to reach new consensus in arms control, disarmament, non-proliferation and related international security matters, including to undertake a comprehensive review of the disarmament machinery.

Mr. Chairman,

7. NAM remains alarmed by the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD). We underscore that the responsibility for managing and achieving worldwide economic and social development as well as effectively responding to threats to international peace and security, must be shared among all nations of the world and exercised multilaterally. In this context, the United Nations must play the central role as the most universal and representative intergovernmental organization.

8. NAM emphasizes that progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects is essential to strengthening international peace and security, and we appeal to all States to pursue and intensify multilateral negotiations, as agreed by consensus in the Final Document of the SSOD-I, with a view to achieving nuclear disarmament under effective international control and strengthening the international disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation regimes.
9. NAM reiterates its principled position that nuclear disarmament remains its highest priority, and underscores its deep concern over the lack of progress towards accomplishing the total elimination of nuclear arsenals by nuclear-weapon-States. We also express our serious concern that the development of new types of nuclear weapons is in contravention with the assurances provided by nuclear-weapon-States at the conclusion of the CTBT.

10. NAM believes that the efforts of the international community directed at non-proliferation should be parallel to the simultaneous efforts aiming at nuclear disarmament. We further believe that the most effective way of preventing terrorists from acquiring weapon of mass destruction is through the total elimination of such weapons. In this context, we underline the need for the threat posed by terrorists acquiring weapon of mass destruction to be addressed within the framework of the United Nations and through international cooperation consistent with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and international law.

11. NAM emphasizes the need to respect the inalienable rights of developing countries to engage in research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. We confirm that each country’s choices and decisions in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be respected without jeopardizing its policies or international cooperation agreements and arrangements for peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its fuel-cycles policies.

12. NAM reaffirms the need for all States to fulfill their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in all its aspects. NAM reiterates that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament.

13. NAM also reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. Therefore, pending the total elimination of such weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally-binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon-States should be pursued as a matter of priority.

14. NAM remains deeply concerned over the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of SALW and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world. We also emphasize the importance of early and full implementation of the UN Programme of Action on SALW.

15. Furthermore, NAM underlines the need to ensure that any action by the Security Council does not undermine existing international treaty regimes on weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons and of international organizations established in this regard, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) as well as the role of the General Assembly.

16. Finally, let me conclude by reiterating the need for all States to demonstrate their necessary political will during this session of the First Committee. In this regard, NAM will actively and constructively participate in the deliberations and negotiations, including by submitting its resolutions and decisions.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.