Thank you Mr. Chair,

Nepal aligns itself with the statement delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Nepal is a staunch supporter of disarmament and non-proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction. Their existence poses existential threats to humanity. Nepal reaffirms its principled position that the universal peace and security can only be ensured through the time-bound, general and complete disarmament of all weapons of mass destruction.

Nepal is free from all types of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery system. It neither manufactures, imports or exports any weapon of mass destruction nor does it intend to do so.

Nepal is committed to implementing disarmament-related international treaties, conventions, and programs of action to which the country is a party.

Mr. Chair,

The use of weapons of mass destruction by whomever at whatever circumstances against innocent people is deplorable. It is a crime against humanity. The perpetrators should be held accountable.

As a State party to Chemical Weapon Convention (CWC), Nepal has been careful in regulating the cross-border movement of chemical goods. The existing legal mechanisms of Nepal have successfully administered the import and export of dual-use chemicals.
Nepal expresses its satisfaction over the effective operation and verification mechanism of the CWC as well as on the promotion of the use of chemicals for peaceful purpose.

We also hope that the Fourth Review of CWC to be held next month will be an important opportunity to further strengthen the treaty.

There is an urgent need for a universal, non-discriminatory, and legally binding mechanism to tackle the issue of biological threats. Moreover, the lack of verification mechanism has hampered the effective implementation of the Convention. Nepal recognizes the importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for adopting a legally binding Protocol dealing with all Articles of the Convention, in a balanced and comprehensive manner.

My delegation also underscores the need to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction through effective international measures.

**Mr. Chair,**

Despite their unwavering commitment to disarmament and non-proliferation, some least developed countries still lack adequate technical and financial resources as well as enforcement capability to comply with the provisions of different disarmament-related treaties and resolutions. Others are unable to fulfill their periodic reporting obligations due to lack of technical capacity. Their capacity building to fully implement the treaties and conventions would greatly strengthen the international mechanisms against WMDs. This fact underscores the importance of international cooperation and support. Therefore, Nepal calls for the promotion of international cooperation for strengthening the institutional capacity of the countries to support disarmament and non-proliferation. International cooperation is also required, for example, as per the provisions of CWC and BTWC, to promote the peaceful use of dual-use materials for the benefit of the humanity.

In conclusion, **Mr. Chair,** I would like to reiterate Nepal's unflinching commitment to the general and complete disarmament of all weapons of mass destruction.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.