Statement by
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Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Indonesia
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

First Committee General Debate
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Mr. Chairman,

1. I congratulate you on your election along with other Bureau members on theirs. The Movement assures you of its full cooperation.

   In the interest of time, I will read NAM positions on selected issues. A document containing all NAM positions can be found on the Papersmart system

2. NAM is concerned by the increasing global military expenditure, whose reduction should devote more resources to sustainable development.

3. NAM remains concerned at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons as well as the lack of progress shown by the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) in eliminating their nuclear weapons. NAM expresses concern at the plans by NWS to modernize their nuclear arsenals including new delivery vehicles, as provided for in the military doctrines of some NWS, including the latest United States Nuclear Posture Review, that set out rationales for the use of such weapons against non-NWS. NAM is deeply concerned at the abrogation of some previously agreed arms control and disarmament agreements.
4. Reaffirming NAM principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains the agreed highest disarmament priority for the UN, NAM strongly calls upon the NWS to comply with their legal obligations and undertakings urgently, and eliminate their nuclear weapons totally, in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner. All modernization or extension to their nuclear weapons related facilities should also cease immediately.

5. Pending the achievement of total elimination, a universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and legally binding instrument to effectively assure all non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons must be concluded, as a high priority.

6. A UN High-level International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, as decided through the General Assembly resolutions, should be convened. Noting the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, NAM hopes that when entered into force, it would contribute to furthering the global objective of nuclear weapons' total elimination.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Nuclear weaponization danger is exacerbated by non-establishment of Middle East Zone free of Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). It is disappointing that due to opposition by the US, the UK and Canada at the 2015 NPT Review Conference, consensus on process to establish that zone was not achieved. The non-implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East undermines the NPT credibility; balance between its three pillars; as well as the reality that NPT extension is linked inextricably to the 1995 Resolution's implementation.

8. Welcoming the Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other WMD, whose first session will be held in November 2019 under the
chairmanship of Jordan, NAM calls upon all States of the Region to participate actively in this conference, negotiate in good faith, and conclude a legally-binding Treaty on the Zone.

9. Non-proliferation derives its legitimacy from the larger objective of nuclear disarmament. Both are mutually reinforcing and essential. NAM emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements.

10. Non-proliferation policies should not undermine the inalienable right of States to acquire, have access to, import or export nuclear material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes. Further, in the context of Resolution 1540 (2004), any Security Council actions should not undermine the UN Charter, existing WMD multilateral treaties, and international organizations established in this regard, as well as the General Assembly where all Member States’ views should be taken into account.

11. NAM recalled successful conclusion of nuclear negotiations between Iran and E3/EU+3, resulting in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in July 2015, adopted by Security Council resolution 2231. NAM called for its full implementation by all its participants.

Mr. Chairman,

12. The development and deployment of Anti-ballistic missile (ABM) defense systems and threat of weaponization of outer space have also aggravated threats to international security with the ABM Treaty’s abrogation bringing new challenges. NAM remains seriously concerned at the negative security consequences of strategic missile defense systems, which trigger arms races and lead to further development of advanced missile systems and an increase in nuclear
weapons.

13. NAM rejects the declaration by the US that “Space is a war-fighting domain” or “next battlefield.” Welcoming relevant General Assembly resolutions, NAM calls for commencement of substantive work in the CD, inter alia, on the prevention of arms race in outer space (PAROS). Taking note of the draft treaty on “Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force Against Outer Space Objects” (PPWT) which is a good basis for discussion, NAM calls for negotiations towards adopting a legally binding instrument on PAROS.

Mr. Chairman,

14. NAM strongly rejects the illegal use of new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to the detriment of its Member States. Cyberspace should enable full realization of ICTs potential. NAM welcomes the convening of an open-ended working group (OEWG) acting on a consensus basis, to continue, as a priority, to further develop rules, norms and principles of responsible behavior of States and ways for their implementation.

15. NAM emphasizes the need for the OEWG to continue studying the possibility of regular institutional dialogues; how international law applies to the use of ICTs by States, as well as confidence-building measures and capacity-building. NAM notes the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE), in its 2013 and 2015 reports, that international law, and, in particular, the UN Charter is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment.

16. There is an urgent need to pursue legally binding instrument on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS). The issues surrounding LAWS should be deliberated thoroughly
in conformity to international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law. NAM States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) welcome the consensus adoption of the 2019 Report of the GGE on LAWS.

17. NAM is concerned by unilateral coercive measures that impinge on the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import or retain conventional arms. No undue restriction should be placed in this regard.

18. Finally, NAM is seriously concerned at erosion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. NAM is firm in its belief that with political courage and working together cooperatively on the basis of international law and UN Charter, the First Committee can contribute tangibly in building a more secure and peaceful world.

Thank you.

(1,295 words)