Statement
H.E. Ambassador Yusra Khan
Deputy Permanent Representative

Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Preparatory Committee for the Second Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons In All Its Aspects

New York 19 March, 2012
Madam Chairperson,

At the outset, we congratulate you and other officers on their election to the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee.

We are confident that under your able leadership, the Committee will achieve fruitful outcome by paving the way to realising an effective Second Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons In All Its Aspects.

Indonesia assures you, and other delegations of its constructive engagement in contributing to attaining a positive and results-oriented Preparatory Committee.

My delegation associates with the statement made earlier on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The illicit use of small arms and light weapons has wrecked untold human and material destruction globally. The lethal power of these weapons in exacting heavy losses, and hindering social and economic progress in many regions is self-evident.

It is time that all members of the international community implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA SALW) in an effective manner.

Indonesia reaffirms the validity of the Programme of Action (PoA), and stresses the importance of its continued and full implementation, as well as that of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI).

The Second Review Conference on PoA in August and September 2012 will be crucial in taking stock of the SALW issues in a comprehensive manner, and coming up with appropriate steps on shortcomings.

The prevention, combat, and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons is a wholesome endeavour, to be undertaken persistently at the national, regional, and global levels with utmost vigour.
But this endeavour can succeed when there is also greater international cooperation and assistance in the implementation of the PoA and ITI.

While Indonesia appreciates the enhancement in international cooperation and assistance in recent years, it sees a clear room for improvement, particularly for the countries and regions where the required capacities are lacking. In this regard, it fully ascribes to the presented NAM Working Paper.

The work at this Preparatory Committee and the UN August Conference needs to be guided by these imperatives so that the enabling of the implementation of the PoA and ITI is done meaningfully.

A proper preparation for the Conference, as well as its full implementation are thus essential to promoting efforts nationally, regionally, and globally.

Supporting a full and robust implementation of the PoA and ITI, Indonesia also underscores the right of each State to manufacture, import and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs.

Indonesia stresses also a firm upholding of the fundamental rights of States as the right to territorial integrity and right to political independence with non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs of States with full respect for the established international law and the UN Charter.

Madam Chairperson,

As we deliberate for the Review Conference, it is extremely important that we all work together and cooperate. Controlling and eradicating the menace of illicit small arms and light weapons necessitates a concerted action.

Indonesia has long been cognisant of this, and apart from taking robust national actions, it has vigorously worked regionally and internationally to bolster efforts and support for the PoA.

Continuing this role and to contribute to ensuring a successful Second Review Conference, just on 5th and 6th of this month, we convened a regional Meeting in Bali,
Indonesia on the “Implementation of the UN Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons all its aspects: Looking towards the 2012 Review Conference.”

This regional meeting reaffirms the importance of regional contributions to the national and local efforts in addressing the serious threats to security and humanity posed by the illicit trade in SALW.

It is important to highlight one of the conclusions from the regional meeting that further recognition of the provision of assistance and cooperation amongst member States is essential in ensuring the successful implementation of the PoA.

To conclude, Madam Chairperson, Indonesia reiterates its determination to working with all Member States to helping achieve a concrete result of our Preparatory Committee.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.