STATEMENT

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Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations
On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

United Nations Third Conference to Review Progress
Made in the Implementation of the Programme of
Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit
Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

New York, 18 June 2018
Mr. President,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. I would first like to congratulate you on your election as the President of the Review Conference, as well congratulate all officers of the Conference, and assure you of our constructive engagement in the upcoming deliberations.

3. Member States of the NAM are deeply concerned over the illicit trade, transfer, and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread to unauthorized recipients in many regions of the world with its wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences as well as the close link between terrorism, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

4. The Movement reaffirms the need for all States to respect international law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the sovereign equality of States, territorial integrity, the peaceful resolution of international disputes, non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States and the inherent right to individual or collective self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the principles listed in the 2001 UN-PoA, including the right of each State to manufacture, import and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs.

5. The Movement wishes to highlight that the mandate of the Conference is to review the implementation of the PoA and stresses the
importance of preserving the value of the PoA as the only consensual instrument in the UN context to combat illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects.

6. The Movement recalls that according to article 6(e) of the ITI, weapons are illicit if they are transferred without a license or authorization by a competent national authority.

7. The Movement emphasizes that States bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALWs in all its aspects and, accordingly, should intensify their efforts to identify the problems associated with such illicit trade and find ways of resolving them. In this context, the Movement stresses in particular the urgency and importance of international efforts and cooperation aimed at combating this illicit trade simultaneous from both a supply and demand perspective.

8. The Movement stresses that fulfilling this objective effectively is dependent on, among other things, the national capacity of each State, including the availability of the required financial resources, technical capabilities and technological means.

9. NAM underlines the need for the full and effective implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, the purpose of which, inter alia, is to promote and facilitate international cooperation and assistance in marking and tracing and to enhance the effectiveness of, and complement, existing bilateral, regional and international agreements to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. The Movement is of the view that the proposals regarding the
possible application of certain advanced technologies in the context of
the ITI requires in-depth discussions among the experts to fully assess
the technical and economical impacts of such proposals and their
feasibility. The Movement further stresses that according to article 7
of the ITI, the choice of methods of marking, tracing and record-
keeping of SALWs is a national prerogative.

10. The Movement reaffirms the vital importance of the Programme of
Action as a robust essential universal document in mobilizing the
political will at the international level to address the multi-faceted
challenges of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. NAM,
therefore, strongly calls for the full, balanced and effective
implementation of the program of action. Against this background, the
Movement stresses that international assistance and cooperation is
essential to that end. In the view of NAM, there is an urgent need to
intensify efforts to promote international cooperation and assistance.
The Movement also urges all States to mobilize resources and
expertise as well as to provide assistance to strengthen the full and
effective implementation of the PoA. Accordingly, NAM underlines
the importance of rendering actual and continued unconditional and
non-discriminatory assistance to developing countries, upon their
request, to promote their capacity to fully and effectively implement
the provisions of the Programme of Action.

11. The Movement is of the view that the availability of international
assistance to support the implementation of the Programme of Action
is still not sufficient and does not commensurate with the needs of the
affected countries, taking into account the growing magnitude of the
illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and the
danger it continues to pose. The adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of such international assistance should be ensured.

12. In view of the essential importance of international cooperation and assistance in promoting the implementation of program of action, Movement has submitted a Working Paper containing its recommendations on this subject for consideration and incorporation in the outcome document of the Review Conference.

13. The Movement emphasizes that the lack of the required technical knowledge and expertise is one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the PoA and ITI by developing countries, and accordingly calls for practical measures to overcome this challenge.

14. Taking into account the importance of rendering actual and continued unconditional and non-discriminatory assistance to developing countries, upon their request, to promote their capacity to fully and effectively implement the provisions of the Programme of Action, the Movement will attach great importance to result-oriented decisions by this Review Conference that meets this objective.

15. In line with the proposals contained in its working papers submitted to previous Review Conferences of the Programme of Action and to the Biennial Meetings of States, the Movement continues to propose the establishment of a United Nations fellowship programme on small arms and light weapons as a practical measure to improve the technical knowledge and expertise of developing countries required for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

16. To this end, NAM has submitted a working paper with recommendations on the establishment of a UN Fellowship
Programme on Small Arms and Light Weapons for developing countries, to train relevant officials nominated by their respective governments in areas related to the implementation of the PoA – for consideration to be included in the final outcome document of the Review Conference.

17. Likewise, NAM will vigorously follow the issues related to transfer of technology and equipment to developing countries to improve their capacity for effective and full implementation of the PoA and ITI.

18. NAM will continue its constructive engagement to ensure that this Review Conference is successful in promoting increased practical implementation of the PoA.

Thank you.