

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. The Movement reaffirms its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which is its highest priority, and remains extremely concerned at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use. The situation in the realm of nuclear disarmament continues to be characterized by an alarming impasse. The nuclear-weapon-States have not made progress in eliminating their nuclear weapons. The role of nuclear weapons in security policies of the nuclear-weapon-States has not diminished. Nuclear weapons States are modernizing their nuclear arsenals and planning research on new nuclear warheads, or have announced their intention to develop new delivery vehicles for nuclear weapons. The Movement is deeply concerned by this dismal state of affairs as a result of non-compliance by NWS with their legal obligations and unequivocal undertakings.
3. The international community has waited too long for the realization of the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the launching of negotiations on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament. It has become obvious that the existing approach adopted by nuclear weapon States, the so-called step-by step approach, has failed to make concrete and systematic progress towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Despite the tangible and indisputable positive developments on nuclear non-proliferation in the past decades, forward movement on nuclear disarmament continues to be held hostage to misguided notions, including strategic stability. It is time to take a new and comprehensive approach on nuclear disarmament.
4. NAM reiterates that the United Nations High-level International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, to be convened in 2018, as decided through the General Assembly resolutions, would provide an important opportunity to review progress made in nuclear disarmament and to further promote this noble objective.
5. The Movement takes note of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear

weapons, leading towards their total elimination. It is hoped that, when entered into force, the Treaty could contribute to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

6. The Non-Aligned Movement, which has always remained at the forefront of disarmament, while taking note of the recent adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on further nuclear disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as called for by the General Assembly resolution 71/71.
7. NAM stresses the importance of enhancing public awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination, including through the observance of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
8. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the greatest threat to peace and security posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and those military doctrines of the nuclear-weapon-States and NATO that set out rationales for the use or threat of use of such weapons against non-nuclear-weapon-States. Such doctrines cannot be justified on any grounds.
9. NAM once again renews its strong call upon the nuclear-weapon States to fully and urgently comply with their legal obligations and unequivocal undertakings to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons without further delay, in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner.
10. The Movement also calls on the nuclear weapon States to immediately cease their plans to further modernize, upgrade, refurbish, or extend the lives of their nuclear weapons and related facilities.
11. NAM reaffirms the urgent need for conclusion of 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 under any circumstances as a matter of high priority, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons in an irreversible, transparent, and verifiable manner, which remains the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use. NAM expresses concern that despite this long-standing request by non-nuclear-weapon States to receive such legally binding assurances no tangible progress has been achieved.

12. NAM also reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the assurance that they will never be produced again, is the only absolute guarantee against the catastrophic humanitarian consequences arising from their use.
13. Furthermore, NAM calls upon the Nuclear Weapon States to reduce immediately the operational status of nuclear weapons, including through complete de-targeting and de-alerting in order to avoid the risks of unintentional or accidental use of such weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

14. The Movement reaffirms its principled positions on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. NAM believes that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing and are essential for strengthening international peace and security. Non-proliferation derives its legitimacy from the larger objective of nuclear disarmament. Pursuing non-proliferation alone while ignoring nuclear disarmament obligations is both counterproductive and unsustainable. NAM emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements.
15. NAM States Parties to the NPT regret the failure of the 9th NPT Review Conference to reach consensus on a final outcome document despite the efforts made by NAM delegations, and calls upon the NWS to demonstrate political will to enable the 2020 Review Conference of the NPT to have concrete recommendations towards achieving nuclear disarmament, the ultimate objective of the NPT.
16. NAM reaffirms the inalienable right of each State to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy, including the

sovereign right to develop full national nuclear fuel cycle, for peaceful purposes without discrimination. The Movement once again reaffirms the sovereign right of each State to define its national energy policies. NAM stresses that any decision on multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle shall be made by consensus and without prejudice to the inalienable right of each State to develop a full national nuclear fuel cycle.

17. NAM strongly rejects, and calls for the immediate removal of any limitations and restrictions on exports to developing countries of nuclear material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, consistent with the provisions of relevant multilateral treaties. In this regard, NAM stresses that the technical cooperation and assistance provided by the IAEA in meeting the needs of its Member States for material, equipment and technology for peaceful uses of nuclear energy shall not be subject to any conditions incompatible with its Statute.
18. NAM also stresses the significance of achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, including by all Nuclear Weapon States, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament. The Movement reiterates that if the objectives of the Treaty were to be fully realized, the continued commitment of all States signatories, especially the NWS, to nuclear disarmament would be essential.
19. This year, the Movement will once again table the updated version of the draft resolution titled "Follow-up to the 2013 High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament." NAM seeks the support of all Member States on this draft resolution.
20. Finally, the Movement would like to stress that on its part, it remains ready to engage constructively with all countries to help fulfill the collective vision of a world free from all nuclear weapons. This vision can only be realized if the required political will and action is clearly demonstrated by all parties.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.