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**66th Session of the
General Assembly**

**Statement by
Delegate of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations**

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Thematic Debate: Conventional Weapons

First Committee

New York, 19 October 2011

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement.

At the outset, the Movement reiterates its founding principles, and also reaffirms the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms for their self-defence and security needs. The Group expresses its concern about unilateral coercive measures, and stresses that no undue restriction should be placed on the transfer of such arms.

NAM recognises the significant imbalance in the production, possession and trade in conventional weapons between the industrialised and NAM States, and calls for a significant reduction in the production, possession and trade of conventional weapons by the industrialised states with a view to enhancing international and regional peace and security.

NAM remains deeply concerned over the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world. The Movement recognises the need to establish and maintain controls over private ownership of small arms. It calls on all States, in particular major producing States, to ensure that the supply of small arms and light weapons is limited only to Governments or to entities duly authorised by Governments and to implement legal restrictions and prohibitions preventing the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons. NAM encourages all initiatives by States to mobilise resources and expertise as well as to provide assistance to strengthen the full implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects.

NAM emphasises the importance of a prompt and full implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA), and in this regard, stresses that international assistance and cooperation is an essential aspect in the full implementation of PoA. It expresses disappointment at the inability of the UN Conference to Review the Progress made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All its Aspects, held in New York, from 26 June to 7 July 2006, to agree on a final Document. NAM notes the fourth Biennial Meeting of States held in New York, from 14 to 18 June 2010, which considered the national, regional and global implementation of the PoA. The Movement encourages all States to consider, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Final Document of the aforementioned Meeting, while emphasising that the procedure followed to adopt the BMS 4 Final Outcome should not represent a precedent for the future. The Movement reaffirms the total validity of the PoA and encourages NAM delegations to coordinate efforts in the UN with a view to reaching agreement on a follow-up to the PoA in order to ensure its

full implementation. The Group calls for the full implementation of the international instrument to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner the illicit small arms and light weapons, which was adopted by the General Assembly.

Mr. Chairman,

NAM continues to deplore the use, in contravention of international humanitarian law, of anti-personnel mines in conflict situations aimed at maiming, killing and terrorising innocent civilians, denying them access to farmland, causing famine and forcing them to flee their homes eventually, leading to de-population and preventing the return of civilians to their place of original residence. The Movement calls upon all States in the position to do so, to provide the necessary financial, technical and humanitarian assistance to landmine clearance operations, the social and economic rehabilitation of victims, as well as to ensure full access of affected countries to material equipment, technology and financial resources for mine clearance.

NAM States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Mine Ban Convention) invite those States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention.

Furthermore, NAM States Parties to the Convention on Prohibition or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW) and its Protocols encourage States to become parties to the Convention and its Protocols.

The Movement also recognises the adverse humanitarian impact caused by the use of cluster munitions and expresses sympathy with the cluster munitions-affected countries. It calls upon all States in a position to do so, to consider providing the necessary financial, technical and humanitarian assistance to unexploded cluster munitions clearance operations, the social and economic rehabilitation of victims, as well as to ensure full access of affected countries to material equipment, technology and financial resources for unexploded cluster munitions clearance. NAM takes note of the continued consideration of the issue of cluster munitions in context of the CCW. While recognising different views on the issue, NAM States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, invite those States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention.

NAM underlines as well the importance of the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 65/55, taking into consideration the possible harmful effects to

human health and the environment, caused by the use of weapons and munitions containing depleted uranium.

Regarding the subject of a future Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the Movement recognises the need to address the problems relating to unregulated trade in conventional weapons and their diversion to the illicit market. Considering that such risks can fuel instability, international terrorism and transnational organised crime, NAM supports that international action should be taken to address the problem. There should be respective responsibilities for both exporters and importers to address the current situation, based on the principles established in the UN Charter, and in a non-discriminatory manner.

In view of the complexity of the issues of conventional arms transfers, further consideration of efforts within the UN framework, to address international trade in conventional arms transfers is required on a step-by-step basis in an open and transparent manner to achieve, on the basis of consensus, a balance that will provide benefit to all, with the principles of UN Charter at the centre of such efforts.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.