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**Statement by
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Delegate of
the Republic of Indonesia
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

**Thematic Debate:
Other Disarmament Measures and International Security**

New York, 22 October 2008

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to introduce the following draft resolutions and decisions, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), for the consideration of the Committee. These texts reflect our efforts to tackle very important and relevant issues, and the necessity to seek the required political will to advance the cause of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects.

Under the cluster, "Other disarmament measures and international security", NAM is tabling the following four draft resolutions:

First, a draft resolution L.20 entitled, "**Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and nonproliferation**", under agenda item 89 (m). NAM believes strongly in multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as the only sustainable way of addressing disarmament and international security issues. NAM also believes that it is critical for the General Assembly to adopt such a resolution in order to reflect our continued conviction of the role of the United Nations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. NAM underscores multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope.

Second, a draft resolution, contained in document L.21 on "**Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control**", under agenda item 89 (n). NAM considers that the continued sustainability of the global environment is an issue of utmost importance, especially for coming generations. We should collectively endeavor to ensure that necessary measures are taken to preserve and protect the environment especially in the formulation and implementation of agreements concerning disarmament and arms control. We call upon all Member States to ensure the application of scientific and technological processes in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related fields without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

Third, with regard to a draft resolution, contained in document L.23 on "**Relationship between disarmament and development**", under agenda item 89 (aa), NAM believes that the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection cannot be denied. NAM is concerned at the increasing global military expenditures, which could otherwise go into development, poverty eradication and the elimination of diseases, particularly in the developing countries. NAM reiterates the importance of exercising restraint in military expenditure, so that human and financial resources thus saved can be used for the on-going efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In this connection, NAM welcomes the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship

between disarmament and development, and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context. We consider it important to follow up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. In that regard, we invite Member States to provide to the Secretary-General information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries.

Fourth, under item 89 (p), NAM tables a draft resolution entitled “**Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium**”, as contained in document L.26. Depleted uranium (DU) is a chemically toxic and radioactive compound, which is used in armour piercing munitions because of its very high density. There is not yet a clear understanding of the full impact that fine particles of DU may have on the human body. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have all stated that more research is needed with respect to the immediate and/or long-term health or environmental effects of DU munitions. In this connection, the draft resolution reflects a legitimate concern of the international community on the possible impacts of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium.

Compared to the previous resolution adopted last year, this draft resolution contains two additional PPs and four OPs. In addition to taking note of the opinions expressed by Member States and relevant international organizations on this issues, as reflected in the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 62/30, the resolution invites Member States and international organizations that have not yet done so to communicate their views to the Secretary-General with regard to the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment.

Further, it requests the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment. It also encourages Member States, particularly those affected States to facilitate those studies and research in this issue. Finally, the resclution requests the Secretary-General to submit an update report in two years time at the 65th session of the General Assembly.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, the Non-Aligned Movement hopes that all delegations will be able to join us in supporting these four draft resolutions that my delegation has just introduced.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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