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Statement by

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on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

**at the General Debate of the First Committee
on All Disarmament and International Security Agenda Items**

New York, 3 October 2011

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Mr. Chairman,

1. I feel great privilege to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. At the outset, let me felicitate you and other Bureau members on your election, and assure you of the full support and cooperation from NAM.
3. NAM views the First Committee as an essential component of the UN disarmament machinery and remains committed to working to strengthening it.
4. As consistently reaffirmed by NAM Summits and Ministerial Conferences including the 16th NAM Ministerial Conference held in Bali in May 2011, NAM underscores the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and reiterates its determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.
5. NAM expresses concern at the threat to mankind and survival of human civilizations, in particular international peace and security, posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and by their possible use or threat of use. The Movement stresses that much more needs to be undertaken to realise a world free from nuclear weapons. NAM urges States, particularly the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS), to accelerate efforts to fulfil their obligations on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects.
6. NAM reaffirms the "Statement on the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons", adopted by the 16th NAM Ministerial Conference held last May in Bali, in which the Movement reiterated its call for an international conference to identify ways and means of eliminating nuclear weapons, at the earliest possible date, with the objective of an agreement on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, to prohibit their

development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and to provide for their destruction.

7. NAM underscores its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the related issue of nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects. NAM stresses that the efforts aimed at nuclear non-proliferation should be in parallel to the simultaneous efforts on nuclear disarmament. The Movement believes that the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament should lead to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. All States should fulfill their respective undertakings concerning disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons.
8. In this regard, all States need to pursue in good faith intensified multilateral negotiations, as agreed by consensus in the Final Document of the SSOD-I, to achieve general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.
9. NAM reaffirms the inalienable right of developing countries to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy, including the right to nuclear fuel cycle, for peaceful purposes without discrimination. The Movement continues to note with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology, for peaceful purposes persist. NAM emphasises that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements. Non-proliferation control arrangements should be transparent and open to participation by all States, and should ensure that they do not impose restrictions on access to material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries for their continued development.
10. NAM States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) are concerned over the lack of concrete progress by the NWS in implementing their obligations under the Treaty, and their unequivocal undertakings to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to complete nuclear disarmament. NAM States Parties to the NPT call on NWS to implement their obligations under the Treaty and undertakings, as reaffirmed by successive NPT Review Conferences, including the 2010 NPT Review Conference.
11. NAM States Parties to the Treaty are convinced that it is vital that the action plans adopted by the 2010 NPT Review Conference on nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and on the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle-East are implemented.

12. NAM reaffirms its long-standing position that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. The Movement underlines the necessity to start negotiations, as soon as possible, in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention. Pending the total elimination of such weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally-binding instrument on security assurances to all non-nuclear-weapon-States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, should be pursued as a matter of urgent priority.
13. NAM stresses that reductions in deployments and in operational status, as provided for in the New START, cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons. In this context, NAM calls on the United States and the Russian Federation to apply the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to such cuts, to reduce their nuclear arsenals, both warheads and delivery systems, thus contributing to the fulfillment of their nuclear disarmament obligations and facilitating the realisation of a world free of nuclear weapons at an earliest date.
14. NAM remains deeply concerned at the strategic defense doctrines of NWS, including the "NATO Alliance Strategic Concept", which not only set out rationales for the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, but also maintain unjustifiable concepts on international security based on promoting and developing military alliances and nuclear deterrence policies.
15. In this regard, NAM calls upon the Nuclear-Weapon States to eliminate the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines, and policies. NAM emphasizes the significance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and international verifiability to such measures. NAM States Parties to the NPT call on Nuclear-Weapon States to report the measures they undertake in this regard to the NPT Review Conferences and the meetings of their Preparatory Committees.

Mr. Chairman,

16. Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the detailed plan of action on "the Middle East, particularly implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East" in the "Conclusions and Recommendations for Follow-on actions" of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, NAM States Parties to the NPT strongly urge the UN Secretary-General and co-sponsors of the 1995 Resolution, in close

consultation and coordination with the States of the region, to take immediately the necessary measures required to convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.

17. NAM States Parties to the NPT express deep concern over the delay in the implementation of the measures contained in the Action Plan adopted by the 2010 NPT Review Conference on the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, in close consultation and coordination with the States of the Middle East. They strongly urge the United Nations Secretary-General and the three co-sponsors of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East to start immediately, in close consultation and coordination with the States of the Middle East, the full implementation of the Action Plan on the Middle East. In this context, NAM States Parties to the NPT stress the importance of the immediate appointment of a facilitator, the designation of a host country, and the confirmation of the exact date of the Conference in the year 2012, in close consultation and coordination with the States of the Middle East.
18. NAM reaffirms its support for the establishment in the Middle East of a nuclear-weapon-free zone, in accordance with the Security Council resolution 487 (1981), and paragraph 14 of the Security Council resolution 687 (1991), and the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions adopted by consensus. Pending the establishment of such a zone, NAM demands Israel to accede to the NPT without delay, and to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards. The Movement also calls for the total and complete prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel.
19. NAM continues to consider the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones created by the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, Central Asia and Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as positive and important measures toward attaining the goal of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

20. NAM recognizes the need to enhance the effectiveness of the UN disarmament machinery. In this context NAM notes that the main difficulty of the disarmament machinery lies in the lack of true political will by some States to achieve actual progress, including in particular on nuclear disarmament.

21. While there is a need to enhance the effectiveness of the UN disarmament machinery, it is important to recall the achievements arrived at by the international community through the UN disarmament machinery, in particular key legal instruments, resolutions, guidelines and other crucial documents. It thus remains important to preserve the nature, role, and purpose of each part of this important machinery.
22. NAM remains steadfast in fully supporting the multilateral disarmament agenda and strengthening the UN disarmament machinery. It is high time that all countries work together, cooperate more, and bring to bear their respective political capital to revitalise this crucial machinery. Promoting the work of the UN disarmament machinery hinges on creating a suitable political environment, taking into account the security interests of all States rather than changing "rules of procedure".
23. NAM reaffirms the importance of the CD as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, and reiterates its call on the CD to agree by consensus on a balanced and comprehensive program of work by, inter alia, establishing an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament as soon as possible and as the highest priority. NAM emphasizes the necessity to start negotiations without further delay on a phased program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention. NAM reaffirms the importance of the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.
24. NAM noted the adoption of the Program of Work for the 2009 session (CD/1864) by the CD on 29 May 2009 which was not implemented. NAM calls on the CD to agree by consensus on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work without further delay.
25. NAM encourages the CD to consider appointing a Special Coordinator on the Expansion of the Membership of the CD, as early as possible, with a view towards examining the possible expansion of its membership, in accordance with its rules of procedures.
26. NAM also reaffirms the importance and relevance of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) as the sole specialised, deliberative body within the UN multilateral disarmament machinery. We continue to fully support the work of the UNDC and expresses regret that UNDC was unable to reach agreement on recommendations on its agenda items during substantive sessions of its two

previous cycles ending in April 2008 and April 2011 due to the lack of political will and inflexible positions, in particular of certain Nuclear-Weapon States despite NAM's constructive role and concrete proposal throughout the deliberations, especially in the working group on "Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons".

27. In view of the Movement, the UNDC can be highly effective, especially in the field of nuclear disarmament. The Movement expects that, with reinvigorated political will, the UNDC can agree at its upcoming cycle on concrete recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.
28. NAM reaffirms the paramount importance and continued validity of the consensus final document of SSOD-I and its contribution to international disarmament agenda and machinery within the United Nations. In this context, NAM reiterates its support for the convening of SSOD-IV with a view to consolidate the multilateral disarmament agenda and machinery within the United Nations.
29. NAM stresses the significance of achieving universal adherence to the CTBT, including by all Nuclear-Weapon States, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament. The continued commitment of all State signatories, especially the NWS to nuclear disarmament is necessary, if the objectives of the CTBT are to be fully realised.
30. The Movement reiterates that improvement and modernization of existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons by NWS is in violation of their legal obligations and their respective unequivocal nuclear disarmament undertakings and calls on them to end all such measures in full transparency, in fulfillment of their obligations and as a contribution towards a nuclear-weapon-free-world.
31. The Movement reiterates its continued concern over the current difficult and complex situation in the field of disarmament and international security. In this regard, NAM calls for renewed efforts to resolve the current impasse in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects. In this context, NAM stresses that nuclear disarmament, as the highest priority established by SSOD I and as a multilateral legal obligation, should not be made conditional on confidence building measures or other disarmament efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

32. NAM is deeply concerned at the increasing global military expenditure, a substantial part of which could otherwise be spent on promoting international development efforts and eradicating poverty and disease. The Movement further stresses the importance of the reduction of military expenditures, in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments. The implementation of the principle of undiminished security for all is crucial.
33. NAM States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) call for its comprehensive and effective implementation and stress the significance of the establishment of its verification mechanism. In this regard, NAM States Parties to the BWC recognise the particular importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for a non-discriminatory legally binding protocol, and universal adherence to the Convention and in this context urge the party rejecting the resumption of the negotiations for such a protocol to reconsider its policy towards this Convention in the light of persistent request of other parties.
34. NAM States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) reiterate the importance of meeting the 2012 final extended deadline of the Convention for total destruction of chemical weapons, and note with serious concern that two of the major possessor State Parties have indicated that they would not meet this deadline. They strongly urge the possessor States Parties to take all necessary measures to accelerate their destruction operations in order to meet the final extended deadline. Any eventualities where the final deadline is not met should be addressed in a manner that does not undermine integrity and credibility of the Convention or lead to rewriting or reinterpreting of its provisions. They reaffirm the significance of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the CWC, and stress the need for full, balanced, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the convention.
35. NAM stresses the need for a multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive, transparent, and non-discriminatory approach toward the issue of missiles in all its aspects, as a contribution to international peace and security. In this connection, NAM emphasizes the need to keep the issue of missiles in all its aspects on the agenda of the UN General Assembly and supports the efforts to be continued within the UN to explore further the issue of missiles in all its aspects. NAM further stresses the importance of contribution of peaceful uses of space technologies, including space launch vehicle technologies, to human advancement. NAM also reaffirms that any initiatives to address the issues related to delivery systems for weapons of mass destruction should be conducted through inclusive

negotiations in a forum where all States could participate as equals. NAM stresses the importance of the security concerns of all States at regional and global levels in any approach to the issue of missiles in all its aspects.

36. NAM remains concerned over the explosive remnants of Second World War, particularly in the form of landmines, which continue to cause human and material damage and hinder development in some NAM countries. We call on the States primarily responsible for laying these mines and leaving explosives outside their territories during Second World War, to cooperate with the affected countries and provide mine action support to affected countries, including with information exchange, maps indicating the locations of mines and explosives, technical assistance for mine clearance, defrayal of the costs of clearance and compensation for any losses caused by mines-laid.
37. It must be stressed that the social and economic rehabilitation of victims, as well as full access of affected countries to the needed material, equipment, technology and financial resources for mine clearance, are crucial for their wellbeing and progress. We call upon all States in a position to do so, to provide the necessary financial, technical and humanitarian assistance to landmine clearance operations upon request.
38. We are concerned on the adverse humanitarian impact caused by the use of cluster munitions. In this regard, we reiterate NAM's principled position on the central role of the UN in the area of disarmament and arms control. We note that the Convention on Cluster Munitions entered into force on August 1, 2010.
39. NAM States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its Protocols encourage States to consider becoming party to the Convention. They further note that negotiations on proposals regarding the draft protocol on Cluster Munitions are under way in the CCW.
40. NAM reaffirms the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms for their self-defense and security needs. NAM expresses its concern at unilateral coercive measures and emphasizes that no undue restrictions should be placed on the transfer of such arms.
41. NAM also remains deeply concerned on the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in various regions of the world. In this regard, the Movement stresses the implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects (PoA), which it considers to be the main framework for addressing the issue of the illicit trade in these weapons. We stress that international assistance

and cooperation is an essential aspect in the full implementation of the PoA and encourage all countries to assist the countries in need for resources and expertise to implement the PoA.

42. In conclusion, the Movement stresses the importance of political will in addressing international disarmament issues. On its part, NAM remains committed to working actively and constructively with all Member States to tangibly advance the work of the First Committee. In this regard, NAM will be submitting the following resolutions and decisions, for which support from all delegations will be much welcomed and appreciated:

- Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.
- Relationship between disarmament and development.
- Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control.
- Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.
- United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament.
- Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.
- Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD IV)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

