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Statement by

Indonesia

On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

At the Thematic Debate of the First Committee
On Cluster 2: Other Weapons of Mass Destruction

New York, 19 October 2012

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Mr. Chairman,

1. I am privileged to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. Mindful of the threat posed to humankind by the existing weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and underlining the need for the total elimination of such weapons, the Movement reaffirms the need to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and therefore supports the necessity of monitoring the situation and triggering international action as required.
3. NAM States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention reaffirm that the effective contribution of the Convention to international and regional peace and security can be enhanced through full, balanced, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all its provisions. They also reaffirm the importance of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention and in this connection call on the developed countries to promote international cooperation for the benefit of States Parties through the transfer of technology, material and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and the removal of all and any discriminatory restrictions as they are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention.
4. NAM States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention express serious concern that certain possessor States Parties could not comply with their obligations regarding the total destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles within the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012. While stressing that such cases of non-compliance endanger the credibility and integrity of the Convention, they urge all possessor State Parties to take every necessary measure with a view to ensuring their compliance with the Convention in order to uphold its credibility and integrity. They further express disappointment that, to date, the obligation of total destruction of all chemical weapons has not been met, and reaffirm that verification of the destruction of all the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles as well as old chemical weapons and abandoned chemical weapons shall continue to be the top priorities of the OPCW.

5. NAM States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention declare their firm conviction that international support to provide special care and assistance to all victims suffering the effects of exposure to chemical weapons is an immediate humanitarian need that requires urgent attention by the States Parties and the OPCW and in this context, welcome the establishment of an International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and a voluntary Trust Fund for this purpose.
6. NAM States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention also welcome the decision on Components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention adopted at the 16th Conference of the States Parties of the CWC and consider it as a positive step towards achieving the goal of the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.
7. NAM States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention reaffirm that the possibility of any use of bacteriological agents and toxins as weapons should be completely excluded, and the conviction that such use would be repugnant to the conscience of humankind. They recognized the particular importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for a legally binding Protocol and universal adherence to the Convention and in this regard 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.
8. NAM States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention welcome the outcome of the Seventh Review Conference and in particular its decision to include cooperation and assistance as one of the Standing Agenda Items, with particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X. They welcome also the Conference's decision to establish a database system to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange of assistance and cooperation among States Parties, and the establishment of a Sponsorship Programme, funded by voluntary contributions from States Parties, in order to support and increase the participation of developing States Parties in the meetings of the intersessional programme in the framework of the BTWC.

Mr. Chairman,

9. NAM is presenting a draft resolution “Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol” for which it calls on all delegations’ support.

10. NAM calls upon all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions. NAM also calls upon those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.