



Statement

Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

Thematic debate “Disarmament machinery”

First Committee

72nd Session United Nations General Assembly

New York, 24 October 2017

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. NAM remains concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. The Movement is determined to continue promoting multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in these areas and as the only sustainable approach to address these issues, in accordance with the UN Charter.
3. NAM reaffirms the importance of the Conference on Disarmament (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 without any further delay taking into account the security interests of all States. In this regard, the movement reaffirms the importance of the principle contained in the final document of the SSOD-I that “The adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage”.
4. The Group welcomes the efforts made by the CD Presidents from NAM member states towards resumption of the CD’s substantive work in 2017. NAM takes note of the deliberations and discussions on substantive issues that were held during the CD’s 2017 session. While welcoming the efforts made during the 2017 session of the Conference on Disarmament on its program of work, the Movement encourages all CD member states to demonstrate the necessary political will so that the CD fulfills its negotiating mandate.

5. NAM reaffirms the importance and relevance of the UNDC, with universal membership, as the sole specialized and deliberative body within the UN multilateral disarmament machinery, to consider various problems in the field of disarmament and submit concrete recommendations to the General Assembly. NAM welcomes the adoption by consensus of the recommendation of the Working Group II of the UNDC entitled “Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons”. NAM calls upon all Member States to achieve a consensus next year in the Working Group of the UNDC entitled “Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons”.
6. Enhancing the effectiveness of UN disarmament machinery is a shared objective. Based on its existing rules of procedure and methods of work, this machinery has produced landmark treaties and guidelines. NAM believes that the main difficulty lies in the lack of political will by some States to achieve progress, particularly on nuclear disarmament.
7. For its part, NAM stands ready to engage constructively on the advancement of the issues on the UN disarmament agenda and the ways and means of strengthening the disarmament machinery. NAM underscores the importance of the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, as it would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the disarmament process, and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favor of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons. In this regard, the Movement welcomes the successful convening of two substantive sessions

in 2016 and one substantive session in 2017 of the Open Ended Working Group on SSOD-IV chaired by Ecuador, which agreed on the objectives and agenda of the SSOD-IV.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Expressing its deep concern on the continued lack of adequate representation from NAM countries in United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the Movement requests the Secretary-General and High Representative to undertake steps to ensure balanced and equitable representation in that office.
9. NAM also stresses that the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) should be adequately strengthened and its research and information functions accordingly extended, as provided for by the final document of SSOD-I.
10. The Movement would like to draw attention to the resolutions that it is presenting in this cluster, as follows:
 - United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament; and
 - Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

And welcomes support on them.

11. In closing, the Movement underscores that since the display of political will is fundamental to an effective performance by the disarmament machinery, it urges all countries to work together, cooperate further and tangibly demonstrate their commitment to ensure that the disarmament machinery will once again and in not too distant a future unleash its potential to advance peace and security for the entire world. Thank you.