

**Statement by H.E. I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja
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to the United Nations, WTO, and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**On behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
at the General Debate of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2010 Review Conference of the States Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Geneva, 28 April 2008**

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Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Members of the NAM States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Before proceeding, let me congratulate you on your election to the Chair of the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2010 Review Conference. NAM is optimistic that under your able stewardship, this crucial Prepcom Meeting would yield positive and tangible outcomes that will pave the way for a successful 2010 NPT Review Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

We are gathering here in the midst of worrying times. Regrettably, there has been a regression on the global nuclear disarmament agenda. Unilateralism and non-compliance have threatened the well established international principles of multilateralism and international law. In this regard, we would like to point out that the NAM Heads of State or Government on numerous occasions have expressed their strong concern at the growing resort to unilateralism. They have underlined that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the UN Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues. The global community needs to come together, and work hard to realize a world where our and the coming generations can live without the fear of nuclear armaments.

The NAM States Parties will continue to strive for attaining an equitable world peace and security, and urge everyone to join hands for working through multilaterally agreed mechanisms, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the UN Charter. The NPT review process provides for just a multilateral framework, which we should take full advantage of.

We reaffirm our long-established and principled positions on the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as contained in the documents of the various NAM summits and conferences on this subject. The NAM States Parties remain fully committed to their obligations and commitments under the NPT, and the agreements reached among States Parties at the Review Conferences in 1995 and 2000.

Mr. Chairman,

We had presented NAM Working Papers on nine specific questions for the consideration of the States Parties to the NPT at the last Prepcom Meeting. Those documents continue to represent a comprehensive reflection of our views on the operation and functioning of the Treaty, and the implementation of the commitments and outcomes of the 1995 Extension and Review Conference, and the 2000 Review Conference.

We believe the due response to those questions is fundamental for preserving and respecting the Treaty. The Working Papers also contain recommendations for the consideration by States Parties to the Treaty. We firmly believe that the recommendations presented by the NAM States Parties to the NPT would contribute towards strengthening the review process and the full implementation of the provisions of the Treaty. Furthermore, these will be very important to advance the prompt and full implementation of the decisions and resolution on the Middle East adopted during the 1995 Conference, as well as the Final Document agreed by consensus at the 2000 Review Conference, in particular "the unequivocal undertakings" of the nuclear-weapon States and the 13 practical steps for total elimination of their nuclear weapons.

I again invite all delegations to study the Working Papers presented by our Group and engage in a constructive dialogue with the Group on elements contained therein.

The NAM States Parties regard the three pillars of NPT; nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, as vital to an invigorated Treaty that benefits all mankind. We stress that this review cycle should focus equally on the three pillars of the NPT. The lack of balance in the implementation of the NPT threatens to unravel the NPT regime. Despite an increasingly interdependent nature of our world, the NWS unfortunately continue to believe in the importance of nuclear weapons. The overwhelming evidence from the study of conflicts shows that unilateral security paradigms underpinned on the nuclear weapons cannot assure security. Rather they act as an inducement to those who do not possess such destructive weapons, creating ripe conditions for arms races.

It is most unfortunate that the NWS and those remaining outside the NPT continue to develop and modernize their nuclear arsenals, imperiling regional and international peace and security, in particular in the Middle East. The recent developments, in this regard, illustrate a trend of vertical proliferation and non-compliance by NWS towards their commitments under Article VI of the NPT. In addition to the adoption of destabilizing new nuclear postures and the modernization and development of new types of nuclear weapons, we received with concern a recent announcement made by a NWS on the addition of a new nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarine to its nuclear arsenals. This is indeed a great setback.

We must all call for an end to this regression through rejecting nuclear deterrence and placing a ban on all forms of nuclear weapon testing with a view to their total elimination. To this end, the Review Conference should call for developing a specific timeframe for the implementation of Article VI and a mechanism to verify the compliance of NWS with their obligations.

Mr. Chairman,

The last Review Conference regrettably failed to produce a final document, in part due to the lengthy discussions and disagreement over procedural matters. That took away precious time from considering the review of the operation of the Treaty, and the implementation of the commitments and the outcomes agreed by consensus at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, and the 2000 Review Conference. We must learn from the previous shortcomings. Let us now move constructively towards an early consensus on the remaining procedural issues so that we can efficiently commence the review of the operation of the Treaty, and the outcome of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, and the 2000 Review Conference.

Here, I would like to recall that the Heads of States and Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement in the 14th Summit in Havana had underlined their concern at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons, and of their possible use or threat of use. They had expressed deep concern over the slow pace of progress towards nuclear disarmament, and the lack of inaction by the NWS. We must remember that they had also underscored the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to develop research, produce, and to be able to use the nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination, and in conformity with the Treaty.

NAM calls upon all States Parties, NWS, and NNWS, to recognize the importance of the full and non-selective implementation of the Treaty in nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, which I repeat are the three pillars of the Treaty. The NAM States Parties remain fully convinced that the NPT is the paramount instrument in the efforts to stop the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as an essential foundation for pursuing nuclear disarmament.

The NPT seeks to ensure a balance between the mutual obligations and responsibilities of the NWS, and that of the NNWS. It should be clear that the indefinite extension of the NPT does not imply the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the NWS.

We all recognize that there are concerns about nuclear weapons proliferation, both vertical and horizontal. There are fears for the possibility of accidental use by NWS, theft or the acquisition by terrorist individuals or groups of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices, and using them for terrorist acts. If the States Parties want to curtail the proliferation of nuclear weapons, they must also be prepared to accept that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. We stress also that pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear weapon States parties to the Treaty should be undertaken as a matter of priority.

NAM, whose members make up the large majority of the States Parties to the NPT, considers achieving the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction globally, in particular nuclear weapons as an absolute necessity. We reaffirm the need for all States to fulfill their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament, and to prevent the proliferation of WMD in all its aspects. It cannot be emphasized enough that the ultimate objective in the disarmament process remains that of general and complete disarmament.

As we know, the NPT also provides for the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The NAM States Parties to the Treaty once more avow the inalienable right of States Parties to engage in the research, production, and use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes without discrimination. The free, unimpeded and non-discriminatory transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes must be fully ensured. Nothing in the Treaty should be interpreted as affecting this right.

As it was emphasized in the Final Document of the NPT 2000 Review Conference "each country's choices and decisions in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be respected without jeopardizing its policies or international cooperation agreements and arrangements for peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its fuel-cycle policies." The provisions of Article IV of the Treaty are very explicit in this regard, therefore leaving neither room for reinterpretation of the Treaty nor setting conditions for the peaceful use of nuclear energy by NNWS. Undue restrictions imposed on developing States parties to the Treaty has caused damages which should be remedied.

NWS, in cooperation among themselves, and with NNWS, as well as with the States not Parties to the Treaty, must refrain from sharing of nuclear know-how for military purposes under any kind of security arrangements. Without exception, there should also be a 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, scientific or technological fields to States, which are not Parties to the Treaty. The recent developments in particular the nuclear cooperation agreement signed by a NWS with a non-party to the NPT is a matter of great concern, since in accordance with that agreement nuclear materials can be transferred to un-safeguarded facilities in violation of Article III, paragraph 2 of the NPT which stipulates that cooperation of each State Party to the Treaty in providing equipment or material for peaceful purposes is not possible "unless the source or special fissionable material shall be subject to the safeguards required by" the NPT. The 1995 decisions and principles and objective of nuclear non-proliferation further strongly confirms comprehensive safeguards as a condition for cooperation with non NPT parties in the nuclear field.

Mr. Chairman,

There have been a number of recent efforts aimed at strengthening the NPT regime. But it must be seen that any effort to stem proliferation should be transparent, and open to participation by all States. The access to material, equipment and technology for civilian purposes should not be restricted.

Another important component of the NPT is the contribution of nuclear-weapon free zones (NWFZ) towards attaining the objective of global disarmament. We believe that all efforts aimed at establishing NWFZ should be supported. In this regard, NAM welcomes the signing of the Treaty on a NWFZ in Central Asia in September 2006 by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. We consider the establishment of that zone as an effective contribution to strengthening the regional and global peace and security.

The NAM States Parties reiterate their support for the establishment of NWFZ in the Middle East. To this end, we reaffirm the need for a speedy establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East, in accordance with the Security Council resolution 487 (1981), and the relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted by consensus. We further recall that the 1995 resolution on the Middle East was an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the basis on which the NPT was indefinitely extended and that the resolution remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved.

The NAM States Parties recall that the 2000 NPT Review Conference had reaffirmed the importance of Israel's accession to the NPT, and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive IAEA safeguards, for realizing the universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East. In this respect, NAM once again requests the establishment of a subsidiary body to Main Committee II of the 2010 Review Conference, for considering and recommending proposals on the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference.

With regard to Article X of the Treaty on the right of "withdrawal", NAM believes that the Treaty is very clear on this issue. We recall our position on this issue when it was raised for the first time in 2005. "NAM States Parties to the NPT consider that proposals on this issue go beyond the provisions of the NPT. NAM Member Countries believe that the right of "withdrawal" of member States from treaties or conventions should be governed by international treaty law."

Mr. Chairman,

The peoples everywhere cannot risk the derailing of the NPT regime. All of us owe it to our respective constituencies that we, as responsible members of the international community, continue to seek ways and means to ensure that the NPT remains a cornerstone for establishing the international peace and security. In this respect, we should reactivate our collective efforts vigorously towards the accession of the remaining three non-State Parties to the NPT that possess nuclear weapons as non-nuclear weapon States and without any condition.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my Group would like to call on delegations to work towards strengthening the NPT regime with a view to the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the dangers associated with it. The stakes have never been greater. On behalf of the NAM States Parties to the NPT, I assure all Member States that our Group would constructively and actively work to produce concrete outcomes of this important PrepCom Meeting.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.